Multi Directional Forklift

Used Side Loader Forklift Orange - Side loader forklifts are ideal for lifting long and heavy materials in narrow locations such as warehouse aisles, loading docks, lumber yards, etc. Side loaders have earned their name due to their design and the way they transport, load and unload items. Benefits of Side Loader Forklifts v Standard Forklifts It is common for forklifts that rely on the standard counterbalance design to potentially become unstable when unloading or loading heavy items. The side loader forklift can tackle these awkward loads including timber and extensive pipes with greater stability. Excessive loads including pipes, steel or timber can be handled easier thanks to the design of having the load face the direction of travel. Side loaders gift the operator with an unobstructed view. This is often compromised on standard forklifts with the tines or front-carrying load design. Since the loads are transported along the side of the forklift instead of across the front, the side loader can travel easier through narrow aisles and doorways. The load may have to be lowered or raised to get past obstacles that can increase the chances of destabilizing and cause dangerous tip-overs. Side loaders eliminate the need for much of that maneuvering. Operating in narrow warehouse locations is much safer and more accurate with side loaders. Many models can lift up to 12K lbs. while traveling at speeds higher than 5 miles an hour. There may be the ability to have travel speeds programmed. Programmable travel speeds are useful for allowing operators to match speed for particular jobs. Types of Side Loader Forklifts Class 2 - Electric Motor Narrow Aisle Trucks The Class 2 Electric Motor Narrow Aisle Trucks are where the side loader forklifts are classified. This classification, as the title description suggests, encompasses forklifts that operate in narrow aisles and are powered by an electrical source. Excellent for operating in loading docks and warehouses, these units rely on narrow aisle configuration and are moved between close quarters common for storing lumber, bar stock, laminate and carpet. These machines are used for feeding machine tools and rack storage. The narrow aisle units are popular in warehouses as they offer a sleek design that saves on storage. These units are efficient at loading and unloading. Class 2 side loader forklifts have been designed to take up less space by the forklift truck. This allows increased efficiency and speed when moving, loading and unloading in narrow aisles. Because they are designed primarily for indoor facility use, their electrical power source also means that the harmful emissions that would accumulate from the use of an internal combustion engine are eliminated. Internal Combustion Engine Side Loader Forklifts The Class 2 forklifts only apply to side loaders that use electric power. Units that do not rely on electricity do not fall into this category. Side loaders are found in timber and lumber yards and pipe and steel yards for transporting long and heavy loads. They can move items from flatbed trucks, stack items in blocks or racking. Exterior side loaders need to work outside and on uneven surfaces. Internal combustion models are common. These units rely on pneumatic tires for better transportation. Side loaders are especially popular for these types of applications because the weight and length of materials being handled mean that the side loader forklift can maneuver between narrow stacks, piles or aisles to pick up the long load in their middle which is crucial for loading long items and safely transporting them. Side Loader Forklift Design Side loader forklifts can be either sit down units or stand on machines. Stand On Side Loader Forklifts Stand-on side loaders are often seen in interior locations. It consists of a platform area that is surrounded by controls and usually found in the middle of the machine. There are many advantages to the stand-on design. The stand on side loader does not require a seat for the operator which allows for a smaller cab design. This means the forklift has a smaller footprint which is an advantage when maneuvering around tight, high-traffic areas. There is better visibility for the operator when working in a standing position, particularly while operating the machine backward. While standing, the operator can turn their body to see the back of the forklift truck while in reverse. In a sit-down machine, operators need to twist their neck and back to get a clear view. There are more safety and operator comfort in the stand-up side loaders, ensuring better visibility and less potential for damage or injury. Finally, the

operator in a stand on forklift is able to enter and exit the cab quicker than a sit down forklift which can increase workplace efficiency in some applications. Sit Down Side Loader Forklifts Sit-down loaders are more popular than standing loaders. Much like the stand on side loader, the sit down design has a cab usually located at the center of the truck. Sit-down forklifts have a raised platform and a seat that faces the control panel of the machine. Operator comfort is one of the main advantages of the sit-down side loader. The operator is able to control the forklift from a resting position which decreases operator fatigue which increases productivity. Customizable Features Because of the wide range of jobs that use side loader forklifts, the side loader is available in customizable bed lengths. Custom applications can be met on the job with a sixty-inch extension to further the reach of standard bed length side loaders. However, when customizing a side loader feature such as the bed length, consideration must be given to the width of aisles at the relevant jobsite as guide rails and aisles may need adjusting to accommodate the extra sized forklift, which is likely to affect budget and productivity. Multidirectional abilities are one of the most popular features of these machines. Crab steering on side loaders refers to having two wheels function independently from the other wheels. Crab steering allows the unit to travel in all four directions by changing the direction of the wheels. The side loader can fit into close quarters and narrow spaces without needing to make huge turns or adjustments. The smaller turning radius increases safety while decreasing damage to product and facilities. Efficiency is further achieved by lessening the space and time required to travel around the job. Several other features on side loader forklifts are often customized based on jobsite application. Customizable options include lift capacities, lift mast heights, tine length, mirrors, lights and more. Certain features are also adjustable, allowing for further customization of the side loader for the particular job application. Travel speed, acceleration time, load limits and breaking force can all be set allowing further job efficiency and increased workplace safety. For all of the above reason, the side loader forklift has become the most popular option for workplaces where space is limited and long loads are involved.