

Very Narrow Aisle Forklift

Used Very Narrow Aisle Forklift Santa Clarita - Warehousing solutions often focus on layout and space saving solutions in order to cut down on costly square footage and decrease travel time required to transport goods throughout the warehouse and loading dock areas. Very narrow aisle solutions allow for more space to be dedicated to the storage of goods because less space is required for aisle access. Configuring the warehouse is known as warehouse optimization. Warehouse Optimization There are several significant benefits of implementing very narrow aisle warehouse optimization. Since very narrow forklift trucks have been designed to take up significantly less space, warehouse aisle widths can be reduced to half the width needed by traditional forklifts. Numerous narrow aisle forklifts deliver better stacking heights to increase the storage capacity on a square foot basis. This means that costs are decreased because less warehouse space is necessary for the same amount of stock than if a standard aisle configuration were used. Most urban locations have expensive square footage; therefore, reducing costs is a benefit to warehouses and their business. When planned carefully and properly, it is possible to increase warehouse storage area by up to 80 percent by implementing a very narrow aisle width configuration. Very narrow aisle design facilitates greater product access and more rack faces. Reduced travel time for storing items and gathering products are some of the key benefits to this warehouse layout as more products are found in an accessible location. It is common for warehouses to use a very narrow or narrow aisle layout. Narrow aisles are usually those that use less than 11 feet of aisle width. These widths reduce even further to roughly 6.5 feet for very narrow aisles. Both of these aisle widths provide significantly increased storage opportunities. Standard forklifts can have issues with turning in these aisle widths. These challenges are met by using very narrow forklifts to gain access and complete tasks. It is necessary to know the dimensions of the aisle when selecting a forklift for a certain job. Taking note of the proper dimensions will save valuable time and money by avoiding the mistake of acquiring a forklift that will not work in the intended application. It is essential to take any columns, posts or utilities into account before deciding a type of narrow aisle forklift design as these can block access.

Very Narrow Aisle Forklift Trucks Very narrow aisle forklift trucks are almost always powered electrically, usually by rechargeable battery. These very narrow aisle trucks are more commonly available as stand-up riders, which helps increase productivity and operator comfort. The most popular kinds of very narrow aisle forklift trucks include turret or swing-mast, end-control riders, order pickers and reach trucks.

Reach Forklift Trucks The reach trucks were created as a type of rider stacker forklift but can be modified specifically for narrow aisle usage. The reach trucks developed their name from their forward-reaching actions to get a load. There are two types of reach trucks: the moving mast and the moving carriage. The moving carriage works by raising and lowering the carriage and the driver. The moving mast works by raising and lowering the forks along the mast, while the operator stays at ground level. The moving mast reach truck is generally considered the safer of the two types of reach trucks. These machines rely on a kind of jointed framework known as a pantograph system that enables the operator to place a load or reach the load without moving the machine.

Order Pickers Order pickers have been designed and developed specifically for use in picking orders from high, typically hard-to-reach racks. Order pickers are specific for lighter stock items that can be lifted by hand. These order pickers work by lifting the operator up to the level of goods in order to identify and pick the specific item or items necessary to fill an order.

End-Control Riders End-control riders are machines that pick loads up at floor level and move the items horizontally as opposed to lowering or lifting over numerous heights.

Turret or Swing-Mast Forklift Swing-mast or turret very narrow aisle forklifts feature an articulating swivel mast that pivots. The mast swivels allowing pallets to be placed on either the left or right of the forklift.

Guided Very Narrow Aisle Trucks Very narrow aisle forklift trucks can be guided by rail or wire down the aisles. Because the forklift is guided, thereby reducing the possibility of the forklift bumping racks while moving down the aisle, the aisles can be extremely

narrow. Rail-guided applications use special rails set into the floor on either side of the aisle, funning the length of the location and curving around the edge. The forklift is fitted with special wheel guides that slide into the rails, preventing the forklift from moving outside the rail guards. Running down the center of the aisle, wire-guidance forklifts rely on floor wires instead of rails. These wire-guides work along the same principle as the rail guards except that the narrow aisle forklift is fitted with a wire-guide system that allows it to communicate with the floor wires which effectively steer the forklift, preventing it from straying outside of an allotted range.

Work Site Considerations Certain essential considerations need to be dealt with before using a narrow aisle configuration. Because these very narrow aisle configurations include very tall racking systems, the condition of the floor and the construction of the racks must be done properly in order to avoid potentially disastrous outcomes. Four specific areas need to be perfectly prepared before a racking system can be implemented including a level floor, plumb racks, any floor cracks need to be repaired and the floor's load capacity must be accurate. These locations need to be maintained and monitored continuously.

Level Floor Due to the racking system height, any minor floor slope can gravely impact how plumb the racks are, particularly over time if loads are placed and removed repeatedly on the racks. The height of the racking system means that any minute floor slope can have a negative impact on how straight the racks are, especially over time when loads are continually removed and placed on the racks. Without this foundation of a level floor, the stability of the racks could be jeopardized.

Crack Repair When there are floor cracks found, they need to be assessed and immediately fixed for safety concerns. The level of the floor can become unstable with cracks when they are only 3/8 inches wide. They will need to be filled properly with material as hard as the rest of the floor.

Floor Load Capacity The floor needs to meet specific minimum requirements prior to a narrow aisle configuration. Minimum flooring requirements include concrete measuring three thousand psi and rebar distributed evenly three to four inches below the surface. Depending on the configuration and load requirements, extra reinforcements may be necessary.

Plumb Racks Of great importance is the proper installation of the racking system. If installed improperly, there is a great chance of rack failure. All racks need to be plumb and this is one of the most vital aspects of correct installation. Rack shims are recommended to make sure the racks are plumb within one inch at the thirty- foot rack height. Dangerous racking failure can occur if the above steps are not taken. Employees can become hurt or killed in the event that racking failure occurs. Goods can be damaged along with forklifts and other equipment. These measurements are vital to the success of installing a safe and productive narrow aisle configuration.