

Very Narrow Aisle Forklift

Used Very Narrow Aisle Forklift Bakersfield - Warehousing needs greatly focus on space-saving techniques and layout to maximize expensive square footage and decrease travel time needed to get goods from the loading docks and from point A to point B. Narrow aisles need specific solutions to allow goods to be accessed and stored properly. More space can be given to storage as less space is needed for accessing the aisle. These warehouse configurations are often referred to as warehouse optimization. Warehouse Optimization Implementing very narrow aisle warehouse optimization is a huge benefit of warehouse optimization. One of the most important benefits is the increased storage space. 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. Certain models of very narrow aisle forklifts can increase the square foot storage capabilities by delivering greater stacking heights. Very narrow aisle forklifts can greatly reduce costs compared to traditional forklifts since the same amount of stock takes up less space in the warehouse. Square footage is costly in urban areas and any way to reduce warehousing costs can save a company money. Adding a very narrow aisle width system can increase storage up to eighty percent when planned properly. In addition, a very narrow aisle layout allows for more rack faces as well as better access to products. This usually equates to less travel time gathering and storing product as more product is located within a smaller, more accessible area. 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. Very narrow aisles reduce the aisle width further to around six-and-a-half feet. Both of these aisle widths provide significantly increased storage opportunities. However, they also create challenges when turning within the aisles using forklifts for stocking and order picking. A variety of very narrow forklifts have been designed to easily maneuver in narrow aisles. When selecting a forklift for a job application, it is essential to know the aisle dimensions. Having the right aisle dimensions will save money and time instead of purchasing the wrong forklift that won't be able to conquer the applications. Finally, it is critical that any utilities, posts or columns are taken into account before settling on a specific narrow aisle forklift design as these may affect access to aisles by some forklifts or prevent warehouse optimization. Very Narrow Aisle Forklift Trucks Rechargeable batteries are typical for powering very narrow aisle forklift trucks and most models are electric. Stand-up riders are a popular design for very narrow aisle forklift trucks. 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. This machine earned its name by its ability to reach its forks to secure 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, along with the operator. The moving mast raises and lowers the forks as the operator remains at ground level. The moving mast reach truck is generally considered the safer of the two types of reach trucks. Reach trucks use a pantograph system, a type of jointed framework, which allows the operator to reach for or place a load without the need to move the forklift itself. Order Pickers Order pickers have been designed and developed specifically for use in picking orders from high, typically hard-to-reach racks. They are used for smaller picking items that can be lifted and moved 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 Turret or swing-mast very narrow aisle forklift have a pivoting articulating swivel mast. The mast swivels to enable pallets to be positioned on the right or left side of the forklift. Guided Very Narrow Aisle Trucks Many very narrow aisle forklift trucks are able to be guided down aisles by wire or rail. 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, running the length of the location and curving around the edge. Wheel guides on the forklift slide into the floor rails to stop the machine from traveling out of bounds. The wire-guidance system requires that the wires be installed into the floor, along the center of the aisle. The wire-guides function similarly to the rail systems except the forklift has a wire-guide system to prevent the machine from traveling where it is not supposed to.

Work Site Considerations There are a few critical considerations when implementing a very narrow aisle configuration. The narrow aisle units feature tall racking systems. The floor construction and the racks need to be carefully taken into account for everyone's safety. There are four main locations that need to be ideally prepared before any racking system can be installed. These areas need to be monitored continuously including fixing cracks in the floor, ensuring the racks are straight, a level floor and an appropriate load capacity of the floor.

Level Floor Due to the racking system height, any minor floor slope can greatly 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 Cracks in the floor ideally should be fixed once they are noticed to ensure everyone's safety. 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 should meet certain minimum requirements before considering a narrow aisle configuration. The floor should have three thousand psi concrete minimum and contain evenly distributed rebar at three to four inches under the surface. Extra reinforcements might be needed depending on the load requirements and the configuration.

Plumb Racks Installing the racks safely and correctly is vital for the entire system. If installed improperly, there is a great chance of rack failure. Every rack needs to be plumb to ensure a safe system and work environment. If necessary, rack shims should be used to ensure the racks are plumb within 1 inch at the 30 foot height of the racks. Dangerous racking failure can occur if the above steps are not taken. Racking failure can kill or injure employees, damage equipment and result in horrible damage. These measurements are vital to the success of installing a safe and productive narrow aisle configuration.