Very Narrow Aisle Forklift

Used Very Narrow Aisle Forklift Alabama - Getting items from one warehouse location to another and to and from the loading docks is the focus of warehousing. Focus is often on space saving tools and the layout of the building. Extremely narrow aisles offer more storage space since there is less space needed for aisle access. Warehouse optimization consists of warehouse configurations. 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. Because very narrow forklift trucks were developed to take up less space in maneuvering, it is now possible to decrease warehouse aisle width to less than half the width required by standard forklifts. Many very narrow aisle forklifts offer greater stack height capability which further increases the storage capacity per square foot. 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. Adding a very narrow aisle width system can increase storage up to eighty percent when planned properly. 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. Very narrow aisle layouts and narrow aisle layouts are popular for warehouses. Narrow aisles are usually those that use less than 11 feet of aisle width. Very narrow aisles usually use an aisle width of approximately 6.5 feet across. Storage options are greatly increased with these aisle width options. Using a forklift for order picking and stocking can be difficult in these aisle widths, especially when turning. To meet these challenges, several different types of very narrow forklifts have been specially developed for various types of tasks to allow easier maneuvering in narrow aisle widths. 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 Very narrow aisle forklift trucks are almost always powered electrically, usually by rechargeable battery. Very narrow aisle forklift trucks are popular as stand-up riders to help increase operator comfort and productivity. 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 Reach trucks were designed as a version of the rider stacker forklift but specially modified for use in narrow aisles. It got its name by its function of reaching its forks forward to get to 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 reach truck is typically considered the safest out of the two kinds of reach trucks. Reach trucks utilize a pantograph system that is a jointed framework design enabling the driver to place and reach loads without moving the forklift. 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. Order pickers elevate the operator to the level of goods to pick and identify particular items required for filling 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 The turret or swing mast very narrow aisle forklifts have a swivel mast that pivots and articulates. Pallets can be set on either the right or left side of the forklift due to the machine’s ability to use its’ swinging mast. Guided Very Narrow Aisle Trucks Rail or wire can guide the very narrow aisle forklift trucks down the aisle securely. Since the forklift truck is guided, the chance of colliding with racks while

traversing down the aisles is very low. 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. Specific wheel guides are on the forklift. These slide into the rails to stop the forklift from moving out of the rail guards. Running down the center of the aisle, wire-guidance forklifts rely on floor wires instead of rails. Narrow aisle forklifts rely on a wire-guide system to help it communicate with the floor wires. This allows the machine to be steered by the wires, stopping it from traveling outside of the specific location. Work Site Considerations To use a narrow aisle configuration, there are some key considerations that need to be made. 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 areas which must be meticulously prepared before setting up a racking system and must be continuously monitored and maintained throughout the operation of the warehousing system: 1. The floor must be level; 2. Cracks must be repaired; 3. Load capacity of floor must be appropriate; and 4. The racks must be plumb. Level Floor Because of the height of the racking systems, any slight slope of the floor is likely to negatively affect the plumbness of the racks, especially over time when loads are continuously placed and removed 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. Cracks may affect the floor's level and, when they are approximately 3/8 inches wide, will need to be properly filled with a material at least as hard as the surrounding floor. Floor Load Capacity Minimum flooring requirements must be met before considering a narrow aisle installation. The floor should have three thousand psi concrete minimum and contain evenly distributed rebar at three to four inches under the surface. Depending on the configuration and load requirements, extra reinforcements may be necessary. Plumb Racks The racking system is essential to the whole process and needs to be installed properly. If installed improperly, there is a great chance of rack failure. One of the most important details to ensure proper installation, is that all racks are plumb. Rack shims are recommended to make sure the racks are plumb within one inch at the thirty- foot rack height. If the above measures are not taken or are improperly implemented, it is likely to cause a racking failure. Such failure is likely to result in costly damage to goods, the warehouse facility, forklifts and, worst of all, employees could be significantly injured or even killed. These measurements are vital to the success of installing a safe and productive narrow aisle configuration.