Very Narrow Aisle Forklift

Used Very Narrow Aisle Forklift Fullerton - 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. Extremely narrow aisles offer more storage space since there is less space needed for aisle access. These warehouse configurations are often referred to as warehouse optimization. Warehouse Optimization Several benefits can be enjoyed for adding very narrow aisle warehouse optimization such as more storage space for the facility. 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. 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. In most urban areas where square footage is very costly, this is a huge benefit to warehouse operations. 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. 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 usually use an aisle width of approximately 6.5 feet across. Both of these aisle widths provide significantly increased storage opportunities. Standard forklifts can have issues with turning in these aisle widths. 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. 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. Taking note of any utilities, columns or posts is necessary before choosing a particular narrow aisle forklift design to maximize warehouse optimization and safety. 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. There are different very narrow aisle forklift designs such as order pickers, reach trucks, wing-mast or turret and end-control riders. Reach Forklift Trucks Reach trucks were designed as a version of the rider stacker forklift but specially modified for use in narrow aisles. This machine earned its name by its ability to reach its forks to secure a load. The moving mast and the moving carriage are two types of reach trucks. The moving carriage functions by lowering and raising the carriage and the operator. 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. 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. These machines are used for picking up lighter stock that can be moved by hand. They lift the operator up to reach the goods by identifying and choosing certain items to create an order. End-Control Riders End-control riders are used to pick loads located at floor level and transport the load horizontally, rather than lift or lower loads from various heights. Turret or Swing-Mast Forklift Swing-mast or turret very narrow aisle forklifts feature an articulating swivel mast that pivots. 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. Thanks to the guide rails, the possibility of crashing into racks is greatly reduced. In rail-guided models, sets of rails are placed into the floor on each side of the aisle. They run the length of the aisle and also curve around the aisles' edge. Wheel guides on the forklift slide into the floor rails to stop the machine from traveling out of bounds.

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 To use a narrow aisle configuration, there are some key considerations that need to be made. 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 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 a level floor foundation, the rack stability could be compromised. Crack Repair Cracks in the floor ideally should be fixed once they are noticed to ensure everyone's safety. 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. 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 Installing the racks safely and correctly is vital for the entire system. Rack failure can happen if they are improperly installed. All racks need to be plumb and this is one of the most vital aspects of correct installation. Rack shims can help the rack stay plumb to one inch at the height of thirty feet. 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.