

## Reach Trucks

Reach trucks are loading devices used by varieties of businesses that preserve a stockroom facility or circulation center relating to the organization of completed merchandise and cargo on pallets which are inserted into elevated shelving units. This device provides simple and reliable retrieval of the loaded pallets at the same time as ensuring effective storage of supplies that are not needed immediately.

The basic reach truck uses an out rigging apparatus mounted to the front of the vehicle. A pair of telescoping forks that travel up and down are mounted to the out rigging. A hydraulic system which lets the operator to pick up and reposition the freight over the outriggers is also included in the forks. This design delivers a more even balance of the weight and allows for simpler maneuvering between the warehouse shelves and narrow aisles.

When loading pallets on their particular shelves, the hydraulics can be applied to slide and swing the pallet into place. This tool is small enough to fit into an aisle less than 10 feet across without many complications as long as there is nothing protruding from any shelves.

Many different models of the reach truck are available. The most uncomplicated unit is the stand-up reach style which will slide forks below the pallet and move it to a storage location then slide it into place. This type of reach truck is perfect for shelving units that are no deeper than one pallet of goods. A double-reach vehicle works in the same fundamental way as the stand-up type however uses telescopic forks that are lengthy enough to slide a pallet into shelves that accommodate two pallets. Straddle reaches are another reach truck variation. This type of reach truck slides underneath the pallet and is also able to grab the sides as well. The straddle reach unit is useful when grasping the sides of the pallet and commodities will not result in breakage. They permit straightforward pallet retrieval of a pallet that may be 4th or 5th in line and are valuable when the shelving units are within reach in more than one direction.

Warehouses, production facilities and material firms often make use of one or more styles of the reach truck. Utilizing a reach truck to store provisions, pallets of finished commodities, and in general to keep the storage area in order is a familiar practice. Easy to control, the reach truck may help make better use of both time and available warehouse space.