## **Reach Trucks**

Reach trucks are loading machines used by varieties of establishments that keep up a warehouse facility or distribution center involving the organization of finished goods and equipment 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 efficient storage of goods that are not required immediately.

The basic reach truck uses an out rigging system installed on 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 enables the worker to grab and reposition the load over the outriggers is also included in the forks. This design offers a more even balance of the weight and allows for simpler maneuvering between the storage shelves and small aisles.

After arriving at the given shelves intended for the pallet, the hydraulics permit the forks to swing and slide the pallet into place. A reach vehicle will oftentimes fit into an aisle less than 10 feet across without any problem so long as there are no obstructions protruding from the shelving.

There are several different styles of reach truck on the market. The simplest unit is a stand up model that you can slide the forks underneath the pallet and then transfer it to a different site for storage, then slide it into place. Typically this style of reach truck is good for shelving units that are only one pallet deep. A double-reach vehicle works in the same essential manner 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 style of reach truck slides underneath the pallet and is also able to grab the sides as well. The straddle reach unit is advantageous when grasping the sides of the pallet and merchandise will not result in damage. They permit straightforward pallet retrieval of a pallet that may be 4th or 5th in line and are useful when the shelving units are within reach in more than one direction.

Manufacturing plants, warehouses and even textile companies regularly use one or more types of reach truck. They may be used to stock pallets of finished merchandise, storing provisions, materials, equipment, and to preserve the up keep of storage units is common practice. Reach trucks are incredibly straightforward equipment to maneuver to help make good use of your time and existing warehouse space.