

Back Saving Pallet Level Loaders Win Accolades from Workers

About Southworth

Southworth Products Corporation is the world's largest manufacturer of ergonomic materials handling equipment for vertical lifting and work positioning, designed to improve worker productivity while reducing the potential for worker injuries.

Whether you're lifting and positioning work, handling pallets, working with parts in containers or transporting loads, Southworth has a lift table, pallet positioner, pallet lifter, container tilter, portable lift table or stacker to make the job faster, safer, and, easier.

We also employ the largest most experienced engineering staff in the business so a custom engineered solution is always an option.

SOUTHWORTH

making work faster, safer, and easier since 1890

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“Feeding the drums required a lot of nonstop stooping and bending.”

Newspaper Plant Manager

Growth & Impact



Workers maintain correct posture



Sore back complaints virtually eliminated



Productivity gains justified additional purchases

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Roll-on level loaders raise/lower pallets to safe working heights and reduce worker injury



The Problem

Preprinted newspaper inserts are fed into inserting drums at the rate of 25,000 per hour at the newspaper plant. At that speed, a pallet load of 14,000 inserts goes down pretty fast. “Feeding the drums required a lot of nonstop stooping and bending.” Installing, new equipment like a roll-on Level Loader has virtually eliminated back complaints.

The Solution

The equipment consists of a pallet-size, three-sided steel box, open at one end for receiving and removing pallets. A foot switch that raises or lowers the platform to maintain the most convenient height for loading and unloading newspaper inserts.

An adjustable platform containing an empty pallet is raised to the proper position for loading inserts from conveyors. The platform is then lowered in stages, always maintaining the ergonomically correct loading level. Once a pallet is unloaded, it is removed from a pallet truck and is used to reload the level loader.

The fact that pallets can be rolled on or off the adjustable platforms with a hand pallet truck was especially important since the newspaper’s inserting equipment is located in a confined area much too small for the use of forklifts

“We have installed 12 of the units and they’ve worked out so well I anticipate getting 12 more. Do the guys like them? If we were to take this equipment away, our people would be very unhappy.”

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