

Kelley Dock Lift a Much Better Solution for Body Care Product Manufacturer's New Warehouse in Utah

Equipment Focus: Kelley KHDL Series Dock Lift

Adaptability and flexibility are two of the most important characteristics of any successful business. Founded in 2014, [Cosset Bath & Body](#) (Cosset) has experienced its share of changes as the company continues to grow.

Based in South Salt Lake City, Cosset manufactures an extensive line of therapeutic bath bombs as well as other body care products. The company operates three retail locations in Utah, has a presence in more than 100 grocery stores, and also sells its products online.

10% decline not a good idea

Requiring more warehouse space to meet expanding product demand, Cosset moved its warehouse operations to a new location in 2020. Unlike Cosset's previous warehouse facility which had two loading docks with levelers, the company's new warehouse did not have the right set up for a shipping/receiving loading dock operation.



Cosset initially considered installing a new loading dock along with a trailer decline of roughly 10 percent, but local Kelley distributor [HOJ Innovations](#) had a much different idea.

"The architect for what was a retrofitted former office building recommended a traditional loading dock with leveler along with a 10 to 12 percent concrete approach decline for trailers," said Nick Wills, HOJ Innovations. "But we knew that wasn't safe and had to come up with a better solution."

Wills also added that a forklift trying to negotiate a 10 percent decline on a wet flatbed trailer while handling a 2,500 lb. pallet of finished goods or raw materials is simply a bad practice from start to finish.



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Impacts & Results



End User Focus: *Increased Efficiency*

Less reliance on a forklift has led to faster, more efficient loading and unloading.



Key Impact: *Improved Safety*

Level dock lift provides a safe, stable work platform for handling pallets of finished product or raw materials.



Financial Benefit: *Cost Savings*

Reduced need for forklift training minimizes the risk of worker compensation claims due to injuries.

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Rather than a traditional loading dock with a dangerous decline approach, HOJ Innovations instead recommended a dock lift.

"We can roll multiple displays at one time onto the dock lift which is not something you can do with a forklift. Without the dock lift, it would be difficult to load and unload our displays."

Taryn Reaves, Warehouse Manager – Cosset Bath & Body

"We've installed a lot of dock lifts for state liquor stores in Utah, so we're very familiar with this type of application," Wills shared.

Cosset installed a 20,000 lb.-capacity [Kelley KHDL Series Dock Lift](#) with a 102" wide x 144" long platform, safety handrails, and chains along with two bollards with bumpers on each outside corner of the dock lift. The dock lift sits inside of a pit inside of a concrete-poured apron that on the far end is eight inches above the grade of the warehouse floor.

Dock lift contributes to increased efficiency

Before Cosset installed the dock lift, the company used a forklift to load and unload trailers one pallet at a time.

Personnel had to use a pallet jack to run pallets of either incoming or outgoing shipments from one end of a trailer to the other which was a slow process. In addition, with the forklift tied up for loading and unloading, it wasn't available to move raw goods or finished products inside the warehouse.

"A forklift requires special certification for our personnel which is an all-day process," pointed out David Danzig, Cosset's Founder & CEO. "In contrast, a pallet jack involves a minimal amount of training and is much safer than a forklift. The Kelley dock lift has reduced our need to rely on a forklift for loading and unloading when it can be put to better use on the warehouse floor."



Now, multiple times each day, a forklift can place up to four pallets of finished goods at a time onto the dock lift resulting in a faster and more efficient loading process overall.

Once the dock lift is raised to trailer floor height, a pallet jack is then used to finish moving the pallets of finished goods onto a trailer. For raw material deliveries, the reverse occurs as up to four pallets are moved onto the dock lift, lowered to the warehouse floor level, and then moved into the warehouse with a forklift.

According to Taryn Reaves, Cosset's Warehouse Manager, the company also uses the dock lift for loading and unloading grocery store displays. "We can roll multiple displays at one time onto the dock lift which is not something you can do with a forklift," Reaves emphasized. "Without the dock lift, it would be difficult to load and unload our displays."

Wills further explained that Cosset was pleased about not being required to force a dock leveler into its warehouse application when a dock lift was the better solution. "It's awesome that we have a partner in 4Front Engineered Solutions ([Kelley](#)) that offers the types of products that can meet a variety of needs and applications," he concluded.

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