



Kelley Lift Tables Play Vital Role in Commercial Floor Mat Manufacturing Process

Features and Benefits

- Robust, heavy-duty lift design holds up well under high-performance and demanding manufacturing conditions.
- High degree of dependability based on the number of years in service.
- Five horsepower continuous duty motor and 8,000 lb. weight capacity easily handles 1,500 lb. oven tray frame, tray and rubber material for oven curing.
- Full 71-inch height to reach topmost opening in curing ovens.
- 26-second raise/lower time ensures efficiency, optimal productivity as well as accurate lift operation.
- Velocity fuses on all cylinders to prevent uncontrolled descent.

Industry Group:

Lift Manufacturers Product Group (LIFT)

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Kenneth Whatley, Maintenance Supervisor, M+A Matting

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8,000 lb. capacity Kelley lift tables raise trays at M+A Matting to the appropriate height for rubber material to enter ovens for curing prior to further commercial floor mat production.

The need for durable and dependable lift tables plays a vital role at M+A Matting’s commercial floor mat manufacturing facility in LaGrange, Ga.

To cure raw rubber material before it moves on to other floor mat production processes, employees lay pre-cut rubber sheets stacked up on pallets inside 12 large 1,500 lb. metal tray frames. One tray rests on ball-bearing rollers inside each tray frame which then sits on each Kelley KLT59-8 lift table at 32 inches above the floor.

The tray frames and lift tables are positioned directly in front of tall rubber curing ovens which feature four narrow horizontal openings at different heights. Each lift table elevates its tray frame containing its tray with rubber sheets to the right opening on the adjacent oven. The oven then automatically pulls the tray along with its rubber sheets directly into the designated oven opening for curing.

Previous tables failing

Up until 13 years ago, M+A Matting’s previous lift tables were not holding up to manufacturing demands. According to M+A Matting Maintenance Supervisor Kenneth Whatley, the former lift tables’ pins, bearings, bushings, rollers as well as their frames were wearing out and falling apart.

Rather than incur the high cost of ongoing maintenance and repairs, M+A Matting replaced its failing lift tables

with more durable Kelley lift tables. With a five horsepower continuous duty motor that produce an efficient 26-second raise/lower time, each 48- x 102-inch table has an 8,000 lb. capacity, stands 12 inches in its lowest position and 71 inches at its highest position.

Safety measures protect employees

For employee safety, the lift tables include velocity fuses on all cylinders to prevent uncontrolled descent. M+A Matting also uses either a light curtain (the lift stops when an employee or other obstruction breaks the beam) or a rubber bump guard switch around the table's perimeter which performs a similar safety function.

Employees use a touch screen to raise and lower the lift tables. When a table reaches the correct height, a button lights up on the screen indicating the lift should stop at a specific oven opening. "Each lift's 26-second raise/lower time not only impacts our productivity and efficiency, its travel speed is slow enough so that employees don't overshoot the designated oven opening," says Whatley.

Whatley also adds that he likes the way M+A Matting's newest lifts are built: "The replacement lifts are very beefy, dependable and we haven't had any problems with them in the 13 years they've been in operation."



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