



Gorbel Work Station Cranes Help Distribution Center Improve Productivity

Features and Benefits

No interference with forklift traffic

Increased productivity

Able to achieve shift goal of 20 pallets completed

Industry Group: Monorail Manufacturers Association, Inc. (MMA)



Application

This customer was a manufacturer who received a multi-year contract from a large national retailer to supply retail products for regional distribution centers. The manufacturer was required to build individual pallet orders on a per-store basis for thousands of locations. This required the company to dedicate an inhouse order picking “store” to palletize the requests of individual retail locations. The company wanted a lift assist system that would allow 2 workers per shift to build 20 pallets (240 cases) per worker hour in a work cell measuring 100' x 40'.

Challenges

This application posed several challenges for this customer.

- There was a high potential for Muscular Skeletal Disorders and fatigue due to the repeated bending and twisting involved in loading the cases onto the pallets.
- The cases were large and ranged in size from 50 up to 200 lbs, so the lifting system would need to be flexible enough to handle this range.
- The building was not designed to handle any load on its ceiling joists, so a ceiling mounted system wouldn't work. However, the palletizing was done in

an area with considerable lift truck traffic, so a freestanding system could not take up huge amounts of floor space.

Gorbel's Solution

The customer installed a Gorbel freestanding side by side crane with two lift tube systems with custom case feet and extended control handles. This Gorbel freestanding crane was an ideal solution because it supports 2 separate 100' x 18.6', 250 lb capacity bridge crane systems, yet it shares a common floor mounted support frame with no center columns. With fewer columns, there is less interference with fork truck traffic.



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