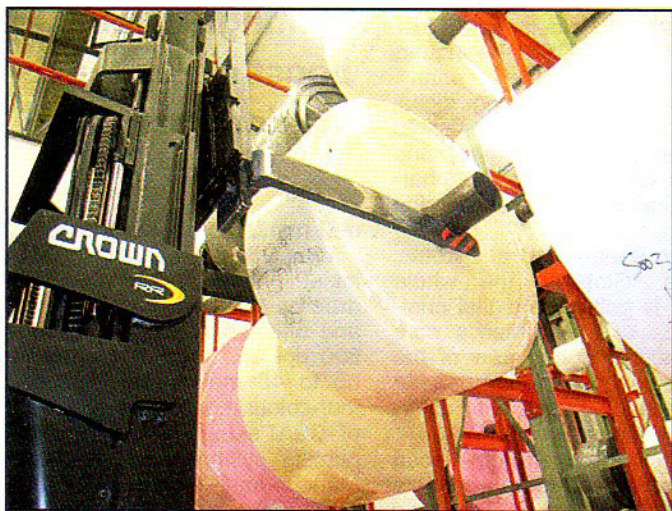


Reach truck performs dual role



by means of a multi-task control handle and which gives the operator the option to sit or stand whilst driving. This, together with a set of locally designed and custom-built rotating forks, which are manually adjustable, allows for precise handling.

The Reach Truck is able to upload the large plastic rolls with its forks adjusted at a 45° angle. This allows the reach truck to scoop the product up to sit firmly at the base of the angled forks, just in front of the carriage, for safe handling. The plastic rolls are manufactured in different sizes, so the ability to adjust the angled forks

RECENTLY Goscor Lift Truck Company (GLTC) was presented with a significant challenge by one of its clients - a packaging manufacturing concern - which it met with flying colours.

The challenge was to provide a suitable machine for an application that demanded a reach truck capable of collecting large plastic bundles in roll form, weighing in excess of 1300kg, from the company's production line then transporting them to a roll store to be stacked on a custom designed racking system up to a height of 6000mm.

Stacking the rolls is a very intricate procedure, given the minimal space the operator has to work in. Precision in the movement of the forklift and its operator, as well as the accurate placement of the product, is the key to success.

GLTC's John Petrie recommended the Crown RR Reach Truck, which has a lifting capacity of 2000kg at the required lift height of 6000mm as being ideal for the task. Add to these credentials the operator directed electronic steering system, which is directed

"inwards" or "outwards" according the products width, is crucial.

Once the plastic rolls have been transported safely to the roll store, a cylindrical-shaped metal sleeve is placed through the centre of the roll. The rotating forks are then adjusted to the standard position and locked in place. 150mm from the front tip of these forks, a recess allows the metal sleeve carrying the large roll to fit securely before the load is lifted.

When unloading, the product is lifted to the required height and placed in the exact stacking position by means of a double-deep reach action.

The forks can then be rotated from the 90° position to 0° position (normal fork type) to handle standard pallets. The rotation is manual and can be done in seconds.

"GLTC has provided a solution that enables the client to use a product that essentially performs a dual role - i.e. of a reach truck as well as a counter balance truck in challenging circumstances," concluded Petrie.