

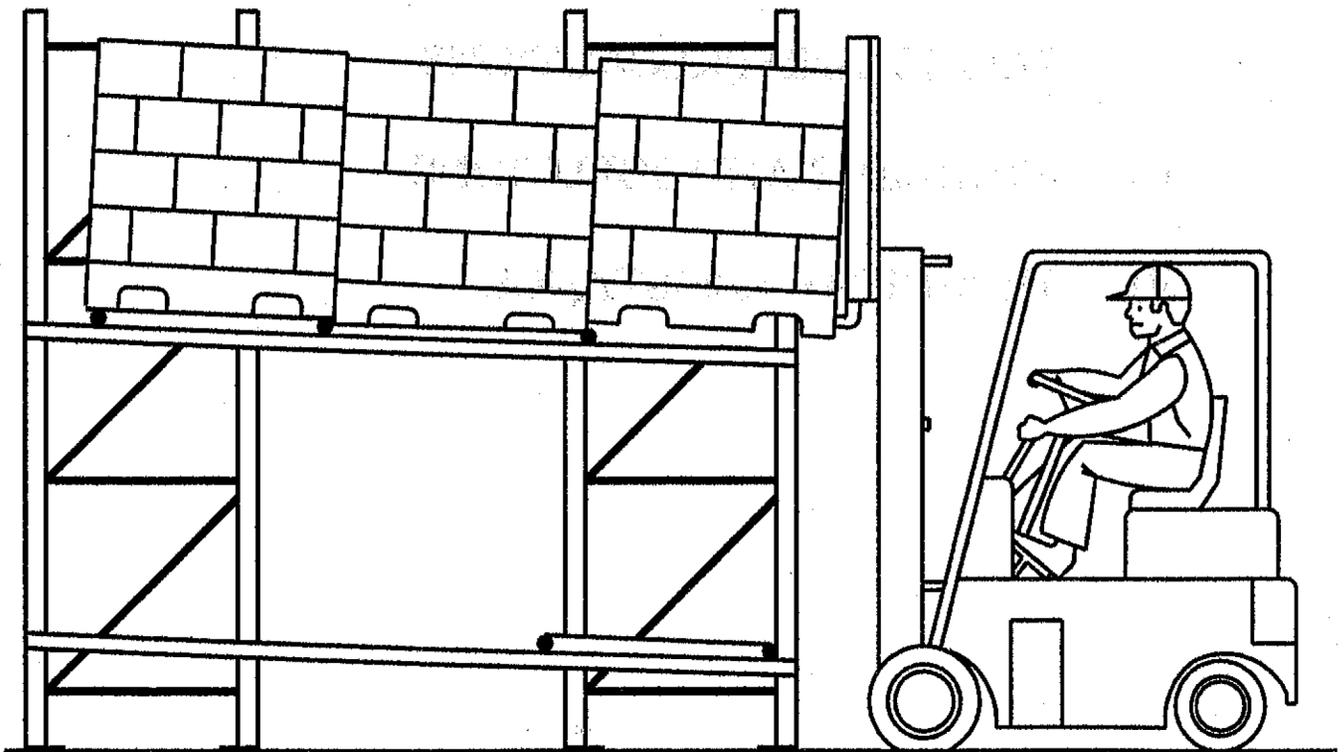
IMPORTANT: CUSTOMER & OPERATOR TO READ THIS MANUAL PRIOR TO USE!

RIDGULRAK

OPERATOR GUIDE FOR

PUSH-BAK[®]

STORAGE SYSTEMS



PUSH-BAK OPERATOR GUIDE

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I. INTRODUCTION



This operator guide provides the knowledge needed for the use of the Push-bak® storage system. The entire operator guide should be read prior to use. The successful use of this system will depend on the knowledge and skill of the forklift operator.

II. GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF SYSTEM

Ridg-U-Rak Push-bak® storage systems are used to store pallets of goods two or more deep between aisles. The pallets are loaded onto carts. The carts are nested to provide a low profile and are linked when extended. There may be as little as one or as many as eight carts, depending on the depth of the system. The carts have steel flanged wheels that roll on rails that run from the aisle to the rear of the system. After the first cart is loaded with a pallet the forklift operator can simply push the first pallet back to expose the second cart for pallet storage, then push the second cart back to expose the third cart and so on. When the last pallet is in position the safety stop (also called target plate) will not be visible. The last pallet is loaded directly onto the rails, therefore a three cart Push-bak system will allow for four pallet storage positions. When a pallet load is retrieved at the aisle, the other pallet loads automatically advance to the aisle.

NOTE: On all Push-bak® systems, the forklift is the only braking present. Use caution when backing out with a retrieved pallet load.

III. USE OF PUSH-BAK® STORAGE SYSTEM



On the bottom cart of the Push-bak® system at its front and center is a safety stop. The safety stop acts as a height gauge. When placing a pallet the operator knows that if a pallet is high enough to clear the stop it will not prematurely move the waiting cart. In addition the stop acts as a "lane full indicator": When the last cart has been pushed back the stop has been hidden behind the front pallet. Since the stop is not showing the operator knows the lane is full. This safety stop not only helps the operator place pallets it helps assure his safety. If the operator has his forks in an improper tilt position the stop catches the bottom of the pallet and strips it away. The load is prevented from falling into the aisle. The stop also prevents pallets from shifting forward toward the aisle after they have been loaded.

To load the system the operator places the first pallet on the top cart. Pallets two through nine (depending on the system depth) are loaded by pushing the previous pallets up a slight incline placing the last pallet directly on the rails.

When a pallet is removed the remaining pallets move down to fill the space nearest the aisle. **NOTE: On all Push-bak® systems, the forklift is the only braking present. Use caution when backing out with a retrieved pallet load.** All lanes of the Push-bak® system are 100% loaded from the aisle without affecting any other adjacent lanes above or below at any time.

IV. SAFETY AND PRECAUTIONS



If a pallet board breaks causing a jam, a foreign object on the rail stops the movement of carts or any other malfunction occurs, the procedure below must be followed!

1. **DANGER!** Do not attempt to repair a malfunctioning Push-bak® lane from within that lane. Serious injury may occur!
2. Rope off the area or park a forklift in front of the malfunctioning lane.
3. Unload at least one adjacent lane. Unloading a lane on both sides may be necessary depending on the situation.
4. Immobilize the pallets in the affected lane by using a suitable means of blocking, attaching a cable to the carts, etc.
5. From the adjacent lane(s) remove the foreign object, unload and remove the broken pallet and its load or make any necessary repairs.
6. Remember to always work safely.

V. PROBLEMS AND SOLUTIONS



1. The carts and rails must periodically be cleaned and foreign materials removed. If neglected the cart movement may be erratic or restricted and permanent damage may occur.
2. If while pushing the pallets back with the forklift movement is restricted or stopped, check for foreign material on the rails or a broken or kicked out board. If this occurs follow the procedure in "SAFETY AND PRECAUTIONS" above.
3. If when loading a pallet into the system the cart(s) move prematurely simply lift or tilt the load and they will return to their proper location(s).
4. When removing a pallet load from the system it could be stripped off of the forklift by the safety stop. If this occurs tilt the forks to avoid contact with the bottom of the pallet and the safety stop.

VI. TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE



If after reading this, guide you are experiencing difficulty in the use of the Push-bak® system, please call Ridg-U-Rak at (814)-725-8751. If we receive a call from a person on site with a cellular phone, we can sort out questions or difficulties, usually without delay.

