

Kraftwerks Newsletter June 2023

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It's no secret that proper inventory management is critical to streamlining warehouse operations. A key factor in managing your inventory lies in how you store and retrieve it, and that means choosing the right racking system.

Selecting the right racking system will help you manage and effectively utilize space by leveraging vertical space while organizing stock. The decision though, is tough. There are a lot of choices and considerations. Here are some racking basics to help you decide.



Planning Considerations

- Budget estimated cost per pallet (while ensuring racking system meets all your needs)
- Floor Utilization ability of racking system to maximize warehouse floor space
 Storage Utilization amount of space you can utilize in the racking system; depends on
- Storage Utilization amount of space you can utilize in the racking system; depends on quantity, size, & weight of inventory
 Forklift Accessibility ability to accommodate forklifts used for bulky cargo (consider ais
- Forklift Accessibility ability to accommodate forklifts used for bulky cargo (consider aisle width required for forklifts to maneuver)
- Versatility ability of racking system to accommodate a wide range of goods
 Inventory Management order of inventory retrieval required (FIFO, LIFO, FILO)

What Type of Systems Are There?

- Block Stacking uses no racking equipment; pallets stacked on floor in rows; uses expansive floor space; higher risk of environmental damage (pests, moisture)
- Selective Racking lower density; inexpensive and versatile; accommodates products of any volume, weight, or size; good for high SKU counts; FIFO
- Double Deep Racking lower density, requires special equipment (extendable forks); good for storing items of same stock; good for low to medium SKU counts; FILO
 Drive-in Racking higher density; allows forklift to drive into racking to place/remove pallets
- atop side rails (vs. horizontal beams); good for storing large amounts of similar products with similar pallet sizes in limited space; good for high SKU counts; LIFO
 Pallet Flow Racking higher density; uses a combination of rollers/components and the power of gravity; good for storing high volume items; good for low SKU counts; FIFO

• Push Back Pallet Racking - higher density; front loading/unloading; uses gravity and rolling

'carts' to store/retrieve pallets; eliminates need for multiple aisles; maintains good selectivity;

good for storing similar items; good for medium to high SKU counts; LIFO
 Narrow Aisle Racking – higher density; smartly uses floor area & roof height; good for high SKU counts; FIFO; not forklift accessible

What Are Some Components of Racking Systems?

- Upright Frames weight-bearing vertical steel posts that connect to horizontal beams
 Horizontal Beams front & back beam shelves horizontally mounted to upright frames (step or
- box style)
 Braces horizontal & diagonal bars welded to uprights for support & strength
 Baseplates (footplates/footpads) connect upright frame to floor
- preventing them from falling through
 Clips (universal safety drop pins, beam locks, beam connector locks) small fasteners that secure horizontal beams to uprights

• Crossbars (support bars) – placed between horizontal beams to support pallets or materials

- Decking material placed on pallet shelves/beams to support loads of different sizes & weights as well as for safety; chosen based on carton, pallet load requirements, & weight limits
 Sprinkler Systems in-rack sprinklers may be required (vs. overhead sprinklers) in order to meet National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) standards
- netting, stop beams, guardrails, & enclosures

• Safety Accessories - row end & post protectors, column guards, backing panels, safety

How do I Know I'm Choosing the Right Installer? Insured and uses trained, experienced installers

- OSHA-10 certificationStrong safety recordProject manager onsite
- Installation plan conforms with Racking Manufacturing Institute (RMI) industry standards
 Works to keep facility open during installation
 Ensures post-installation inspection meets RMI industry standards
- The professionals at Kraftwerks check all the installer boxes. We have the experience to plan and

complete your installation and we'll ensure it's not only versatile, efficient, and durable, but that it meets your needs and lands within (or under) budget.

Plus, Kraftwerks is certified to perform pallet rack inspections. If you have racking in place, we can inspect it and provide a report with noted damage and a quote for suggested repairs. We have the

tools to make certain your racking installation is done right!



Kraftwerks Pallet Rack & Racking Systems



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