



Ideas @ work

District Brew Yard

District Brew Yards located in Chicago, IL is a new concept in the Craft Brewing industry. It opened in the spring of 2019 as Nation's the first brewing cooperative. Four breweries are housed under one roof, using a dedicated production team, cellar team and packaging team. Brands are then featured in the tap room. Each brand has their own Pour-Your-Own "Beer Wall" allowing you to easily sample as many beers as you like. "A lot of people think it's all about putting on your rubber boots and brewing, but so much of the craft industry is dependent on the ability to develop a brand. To succeed you have develop what the consumer likes, you have to talk to the consumer and figure out what sells." said Greg Lamacki, COO at District Brew Yards. "We give the brewers the opportunity to separate the production from selling with our co-op concept."

District Brew Yards produces around 500 barrels (1,000 kegs) of beer per month consisting of 40 – 44 different SKUs depending on seasonal varieties for the four co-op members: Burnt City, Around the Bend, Bold Dog and Casa Humilde. Kegs are palletized and stored in a four-tiered cooler with the top-level of racking set at 10'. To service the taproom, DBY personnel are constantly accessing pallets from the tiers, removing individual kegs and then replacing the pallets in the racks. "We tried using our riding forklift, but the cooler was too small, and full to operate it efficiently in there, it was next to impossible. There was always the risk of running into something." said Lamacki. "I knew we needed a different type of stacker that would work in the tight space." He turned to Big Joe Regional Master Distributor Illinois Material Handling for assistance in selecting a truck and appropriate options for their specific use.

District Brew Yards uses a S22 Walkie Stacker to manage over 40 SKUs of palletized kegs on 4 levels in their cooler.

"I had a good idea about what we needed: it had to be a stable, maneuverable and tremendously safe truck, that could stack and pick off a 10' high shelf," he said, "and IMH was Johnny on the spot. They arranged for us to demo a new Big Joe S22. We demoed it for 2-3 days and bought it. It never left our building and we didn't look at any other units!" The S22 is used almost exclusively in the cooler to handle the palletized kegs, freeing the riding forklift up to handle material handling operations on the production side. "It has allowed us to be more structured in our operation and its much safer to use in the cooler."

DBY now has six people trained to operate the S22. "Everybody loves it," Lamacki said, "it has made it so much simpler to manage the cooler. We are more organized, efficient and safer, stocking more kegs at height thanks to 'Joe' ... that's what we call it. Everything has been positive with it, it works as expected or better!"





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S22 Walkie Straddle Stackers

S22 Walkie Stackers are compact & versatile solutions for narrow aisles and general material handling.



S22 Stackers are available with rigid or adjustable forks and a Mono Mast with 62" of lift height. Two Stage Telescopic Mast models feature adjustable forks with lift heights from 96" to 116".



BIG JOE MISSION:

We believe that we can help North American businesses improve their results and the quality of their workers lives by providing simple innovative material handling products and genuine responsive support. Big Joe equipment focuses on supporting customers changing needs related to how they Move, Stack & Access materials in their operations with the goal of helping companies and their workers Move More & Hurt Less.

ABOUT THE S22:

S22 2,200lb. capacity standard model with maximum lift heights from 62"-116". An easy to use and maintain truck that is a good choice for general material handling, stacking and work positioning in tight areas. S22-62R forklift model also available for use with skids, general work positioning and transportation.

TILLER ARM CONTROLS

Offset steering arm provides excellent line of sight for operators. Right angle stacking in aisles as narrow as 60".

Travel, lift, and lower functions are located in the ergonomic operator handle. All operator controls are accessible without having to lift the hand from the handle.

Angle grips are designed to allow easy operation with either hand. Wrap around guard, reversing switch, thumb control, and horn are standard. Low mounted tiller arm offers excellent operator comfort and minimum steering effort.

FRAME AND MAST

All steel construction welded rigid steel chassis for added durability. Adjustable forks on pin style carriage. Forks are adjustable from 8" to 29.5" OD. Standard fork is 42" long x 4" wide x 1.5" thick

S22-62 non-telescoping mono mast with single lifting chain, adjustable mast rollers. Chrome plated lift cylinder provides smooth lift/lower operation and long life.

Three inch wide adjustable straddle legs for ease of operation in racked aisles. Four position adjustment allows for preset outrigger dimensions to fit various sized pallets. Straddle leg inside dimension (ID) can be set at 38" to 50" in 4" increments.

Fully enclosed wheel guard and flush mounted axles prevent wheel and axle damage during normal use.

TWO STAGE MAST

S22-96/116 telescoping high visibility mast and inner rail, clear view Plexiglas mast guard, dual lifting chains, adjustable mast rollers. Chrome plated lift cylinder provides smooth lift/lower operation.