

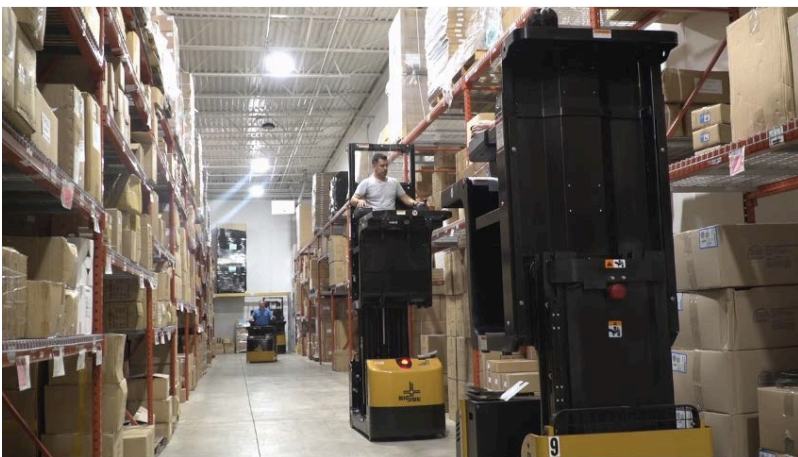


# Ideas @ work

## PDQ / ERP

**P** DQ / ERP located in St Charles, IL is one of the nation's largest suppliers of appliance parts, and completes over 3,000 picks to fill more than 400 orders per day. Having already moved from a smaller location in nearby Batavia, IL, PDQ / ERP's continued growth forced them to maximize their current warehouse storage by going up to 12 feet high while planning for further expansion into the space next door. PDQ / ERP had phased out dangerous rolling ladders in favor of Crown WAVs for order picking, but Operations Manager Oscar Davila soon discovered limitations with his equipment. "The WAVs made it a lot easier for people to pick orders, but one of the issues I had was it wasn't strong enough and it didn't go high enough for me," he said. Mr. Davila attended the PROMAT show in Chicago to evaluate different manufacturers of access vehicles hoping to find a unit that would safely reach his top tier of stock.

This brought him to the Big Joe equipment showcase, where he had the opportunity to see their J1 Joey first hand. "What I liked about it was it was steadier and beefier. It could also go higher than the WAV, to me that was our solution to be more efficient and safe," said Davila. PDQ / ERP conducted in-house testing of the J1 Joey and found that the performance and capabilities of the unit perfectly suited the needs and pace of their crowded facility.



**"My operating costs have gone down. I have less pickers, but I have more packers because a few pickers are now able to keep more packers busy. We haven't had any insurance claims (as opposed to ladders) so that impacts our operating cost, too."**

**ISSUE:** Rapid growth forced goods to be overstocked at over 12 feet high, making existing Crown WAVs obsolete due to their height and carrying capacity limitations.

**SOLUTION:** PDQ / ERP made the switch to the J1 Joey, in a big way. "We liked it so much that we bought two of them and then a year later I bought another two and then the following year another two, that's what my budget allowed me," said Davila. "Early this year I bought two J2s and now I'm in the market for four more." The J2s are being used to fill positions and lower stock in the aisles. Their ease of use and superior maneuverability has relegated PDQ / ERP's standard forklifts to the loading dock.

**RESULTS:** After purchasing their first two J1 Joeys, Davila has continued transitioning his operations over the past 4 years based on the improved capabilities of the Big Joe machine. "The drivers love the Joey because they feel safer and they can do more work in one lift," said Davila. He points to the J1 Joey's stability at max height versus the WAV as a major difference between them that the operators prefer, "you can feel it when you're up high and you have to move from one position to the other without coming down. The Joey feels more secure, it doesn't wobble and the WAV has that tendency to wobble once you're up high."

Driver preference for the Joey over the WAV, along with the J1s performance advantages made Davila institute many changes including reorganizing his equipment positioning strategies. "We have aisles that we have the fast moving items and that's where we have the Joeys," he explained. "The tendency is that we'll pick more out of these aisles in quantity wise and weight, so for that the Big Joe that is ideal. For the slow moving items, that's where we now have the WAVs."

Other advantages that Davila has noticed with his fleet of Joeys are longer run time and better battery life. "I get more time out of the Big Joe, the charge lasts longer and so do the batteries," he said. "I have had Joeys for three years and I haven't had any problems with the batteries. With the WAVs I have replaced a few batteries and that becomes highly expensive." He also remarked about the exceptional reliability, uptime productivity that he has gotten from his Joeys. "My operating costs have gone down. I have less pickers, but I have more packers because a few pickers are able to keep more packers busy. We haven't had any insurance claims (as opposed to ladders) so that impacts our operating cost, too."

Since making the initial switch to the Joey, PDQ / ERP has committed to completely phasing out the Crown WAVs.



# Ideas @ work

J1 JOEY



**The J1 JOEY combines attributes of elevated work platforms, order pickers and tuggers into a compact vehicle design.**



## **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 and hurt less.**

## **ABOUT THE J1 JOEY:**

- + **Safety** – Reduce exposure to worker injuries compared to ladders
- + **Productivity** – Complete 2x as much work as compared to ladders
- + **Capability** - Carry up to 2x the load weight of other vehicles
- + **Capability** - Tow up to 2,500lbs with the optional tow hitch
- + **Capability** - Elevate operators as high as 192" on the J1-192

## **Key features:**

- Electronic power steering with infinitely variable speed control
- Finger tip controls integrated into vehicle guardrails
- Premium steel I-beam mast construction and steel frame
- 180 degree articulating driveline with 72" minimum turn radius. The Joey can can be driven at height to move from task to task. Travel is provided by a high efficiency AC drive motor that can be programmed through the on-board LCD dash, while power comes from a standard 224AH AGM maintenance free battery pack that supports opportunity charging from a standard 120v outlet or a lead acid industrial battery and external charger which is required on the J1-192.