

Seed stack and storage made easy

With Loadlift

By Roger Hart



Never mind the season, the South Island Seed Dressing and Storage Company in Ashburton is a very busy place.

To cope with the constant arrivals and departures of large quantities of a very diverse range of grains and seeds for dressing, bagging, storage and dispatch, a fleet of specialised forklifts is needed.

There's a couple of heavy duty Patrick Lifters to handle the colonies of containers sited around the complex, plus Atlet Double Deep Reach Trucks for stacking.

The Atlet UHS 200 reach trucks lift 1350kg seed boxes double deep to a height of 7300mm. These reach trucks are ergonomically designed for maximum comfort and this is backed by the operators who specifically commented on the speed, comfort of the Atlet equipment. Atlet reach trucks designed for specialist applications such as narrow aisle, high lift (up to 11 metres), double deep and drive-in racking applications.

The backbone of the mechanized labour force however, is the horde of ten Nissan forklifts, which takes care of most of the day-to-day operations. Of these, the company retained two of its earlier 30 Series Nissans, which continue to efficiently carry out their allotted tasks.

The other eight are new Nissan 1F's leased from Loadlift NZ on full service leases, which cover everything except the cost of fuel and accidental damage. They are serviced on site at monthly intervals by Loadlift's visiting mechanics.

Prior to the leasing arrangements, Loadlift had developed a very good working arrangement with the company and were well aware of the specialised work the forklifts need to do.

This, combined with the proven reliability, ease of use of the older Nissan J0 model and the raft of improvements included in the new 1F Series, meant South Island Seeds were keen to continue their association with Nissan Forklifts. The 1F's tight turning radius of either 2230mm or 2330mm received special mention.

Of the eight new 1F's, six are rated to lift 3000kg and the other two 2500kg. All have 3.1-litre, four cylinder QD 32 Nissan diesels with direct injection, three-way catalytic converters and resulting low emissions.

These very quiet engines are rated at 38kW at 2000rpm and there's 186Nm of torque at 1800rpm, which they demonstrated as being more than adequate, even when lifting or rotating the heaviest seed boxes.

Mast and fork heights or specialised fittings for the Nissans



vary, depending on their designated tasks. Standard masts are 3000mm - although options allow a peak of 5500mm - while fork spread ranges from 250mm to 1000mm. The latter have tilt ranges of twelve degrees forward, six degrees back and the load centre is 500mm.

Getting into position on the comfortable, supportive and adjustable seat is easy.

With the steering column having tilt adjustment, the operator can easily set things up to their liking. The fork/lift controls are where expected and there's plenty of clear space for the very car-like foot controls. The F/R lever has a nice short, direct action, while the handbrake is conveniently placed.

The safety cage uprights are slim with minimal intrusion to side and rear views, while there's a clear view forward between the masts.

Other safety features include the low centre of gravity, the rubber dampers at the front for both stability and handling, sway control, a mast lock systems and occupant-off-the-seat power cut-off.

The multi functional digital dash shows the fuel remaining, engine temperature, time, speed, PIN-access for security, as well as a self-diagnosis and service reminder system; all of which is easily read over the small diameter steering wheel.

Access to the engine for routine checks and servicing is gained through the wide-opening cover .

Other Nissan 1F's come in lift capacities from 1500kg to a maximum of 3500kg.

There are petrol and LPG options available for the complete range. They all have pneumatic rubber tyres for both operator comfort and to suit both inside and outside work.

Further options available include side shifts, fork positioners, hinged and rotating forks. Nissan has also recently released the additional option of automatic mast tilt leveling. This feature includes an electronic load scale, which can be viewed on the 1F LCD display.

Thanks to Brent Clarke of the South Island Seed Dressing and Storage Company, for the very informative tour and photo opportunities.

To find out more about made-to-measure Nissan 1F Series Forklifts and the Atlet range of warehouse equipment, contact your local Loadlift branch.

Editor's note: It has come to our attention there may have been a factual inconsistency regarding the distribution of Atlet stacker product in our previous edition. Cargo magazine respectfully acknowledges Loadlift NZ Ltd as being the New Zealand distributor for the Atlet range of products.

SPECIAL OFFER:

Hardly used sliding draw units – tested by Cargo magazine last month.

Suit an Extra-Cab ute and most vans in the rear door.



Usually \$3350 + GST, fitted.
Special deal \$2250.00 + GST
Hurry! One unit only.

CAMCO ROLAWORX

PH 0800 663 500

admin@rolaworx.co.nz