



CASE STUDY



1 | Challenge: A custom EX-rated lift truck that could perform in a hazardous environment and is mobile and durable enough to transfer loads from an EX-rated room to a transport truck located outdoors.

A manufacturer in the plastics industry has a Division 1 rated hazardous room. This customer was using a standard lift truck that was not rated for this environment. This resulted in operations being shut down to transport magnesium barrels and maintain a safe environment.

In the manufacturing facility, magnesium barrels are filled at a station inside the Division 1 rated hazardous room. The barrels are then rotated to facilitate emptying of the contents. The barrels are then transferred to a standard lift truck outside.

The customer utilized a pneumatic lift truck to rotate the barrels. Because this truck was pneumatically powered, it was tethered to the room by an air hose and could not transport the barrels out of the Division 1 room.

The manufacturer relied on a single, non-EX rated lift truck to transport the barrels out of the Division I rated room. The process included clearing the room of all hazardous dusts, which required a few hours to complete.

The standard lift truck was then used to pick up the barrel and transport it outside. The complete process required a shutdown of operations to maintain safety and compliance with regulations.

Mobility

Remove dependence on pneumatic power attachment

Maneuverability

Rotate barrels to enable transportation and filling

Efficiency

Reduce down time and necessity to evacuate room of dust

Productivity

Run two trucks simultaneously

By choosing RICO, our customer was able to avoid costly shutdowns and increase productivity.

RICO worked in unison with their engineers to develop a solution that would fit their need for a more complete and simpler resolution, resulting in increased runtime and decreased downtime.

Tony Bartinelli
RICO Manufacturing Inc.

Mobility

Hi-Lift EX-rated lift trucks are untethered and transport loads outside hazardous rated room

Maneuverability

EX-rated lift trucks equipped with rotating barrel clamp attachment

Efficiency

EX-rated trucks eliminate down time required to evacuate room of dust

Productivity

Two trucks alternate transporting loads, increasing run time

2 | Solution:

Heavy Duty Explosion Proof high lift walkie lift truck with a rotating barrel clamp attachment.

The “high lift” designation given to our trucks indicates that the forks need to lift beyond 6” above the ground. The attachment allows the customer to rotate the barrels after filling, and transport them to a standard lift truck outside.

The manufacturer ordered two identical EX-rated lift trucks in order to run them simultaneously, several times per hour thereby increasing productivity.

With this solution, each truck enters the EX-rated room, picks up a barrel, and transports it to the standard lift truck outside for further load handling outside of the hazardous room.

RICO built the trucks with a 6,000 pound load capacity, which was more than sufficient to accommodate the 1,500 pound loads safely and securely.

Other custom EX lift trucks RICO has developed for the plastics industry include:

- **Rider Reach truck**
Load capacity of 6,000 pounds
Great for narrow applications
- **Sit-Down Counterbalanced truck**
Load capacity of 6,000 pounds
Ergonomic controls and outstanding visibility
- **Straddle Walkie**
Load capacity of 6,000 pounds
Reduced operator fatigue

Our approach to material handling is as unique as your needs. Our policy is to listen to our customers, provide customized solutions, and engineer a truck that is tailor-made to meet your specific requirements.

Key Benefits

- Increased maneuverability
- Narrow aisle stacking
- Increased operator comfort: Ergonomic controls
- Outstanding visibility
- Ease of maintenance
- RICO manufactured EX enclosures

3 | Product

▶ HLW-EX-60 | Heavy Duty EX High Lift Walkie Truck

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