

# FEM RACKING AND SHELVING PRODUCT GROUP

(European Racking Federation)

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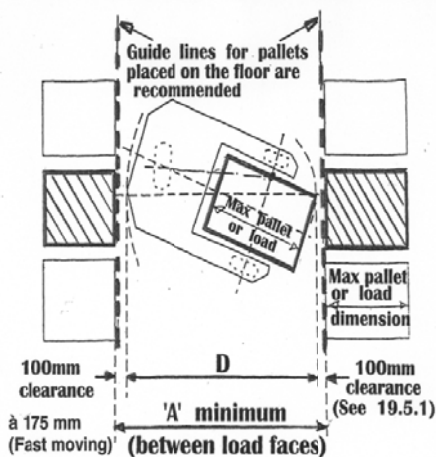
## ERF Info 01

## Storage Equipment Information Bulletin No. 1 (September 2009)

### RESPONSIBILITIES OF SUPPLIERS AND USERS OF PALLET RACKING



**Reach truck  
(up to approx. 12 m)**



**Required aisle width 90°  
turning industrial truck**



**Lift truck collisions  
Not-Allowed**



## 1. INTRODUCTION

This FEM Storage Equipment Information Bulletin No. 1 is primarily addressed to USERS and SUPPLIERS of pallet racking.

Its purpose is to increase the market's awareness of User and Supplier responsibilities and thereby to

- help improve operational safety;
- reduce the mistreatment of storage equipment;
- provide a list which will help Users and Suppliers with any difference of opinion, dispute or litigation they may have with a supply, and, as a consequence, reduce avoidable and unnecessary costs for both Users and Suppliers.

It is purposely written in simple language for the benefit of readers of all backgrounds to facilitate understanding by all. It is in line with the requirements given in:

EN 15635: "Steel static storage systems – Application and maintenance of storage equipment

Other relevant standards published in the EN series "Steel Static Storage Systems" are:

EN 15512: Adjustable pallet racking systems  
– Principles for structural design

EN 15620: Adjustable pallet racking systems  
– Tolerances, deformations and clearances

EN 15629: The specification of storage equipment

EN 15878: Terms and definitions



## 2. USER RESPONSIBILITIES

- a. Specifying the location and environment of the storage facility, eg., dry, unpolluted, internal or external, exposed to chemicals, wind , snow, seismic conditions, operating temperature: ambient, cool or cold;
- b. The floor strength and stiffness, and for making known any site restrictions, eg., access, emergency exit areas, man-hole covers, sloping floors, services piping and units, special floor finishes;
- c. Supplying details of the goods to be stored, for example: shape, size, weight, packaging, and handling activity levels (through-puts) if appropriate;
- d. The suitability of the handling equipment employed;
- e. Providing details of the material handling equipment eg.: type, capacity, lift height, safe operating aisle width, any imposed loads to which the storage equipment may be subjected;
- f. Ensuring that pallets or other types of unit loads are lifted vertically onto and off beams, pallet support rails, decking, and not dragged or drawn across them;
- g. Specifying or providing rack protection components where needed;
- h. Ensuring that all loads and stacks are stable;
- i. Preventing stored items from projecting into the aisles;
- j. Keeping operating aisles clear;
- k. Ensuring any spillages are immediately cleared up;
- l. Providing appropriate heating and lighting over the storage area;
- m. Ensuring the storage installation is regularly inspected and maintained, any damaged components repaired or replaced with identical new parts of the same manufacture, where possible;
- n. Being familiar with, and capable of, identifying the “Green”, “Amber”, and “Red” rack damage levels, and knowing what actions to take for each of these conditions;



- o. The provision of personnel, trained in the use of the material handling equipment and in the storage capabilities of the racking and / or shelving, to operate the storage facility safely;
- p. Ensuring that the detailed assembly and installation erection instructions provided by the storage equipment supplier are correctly implemented when the installation of the equipment is undertaken by the user or a contractor appointed by the user (erection of this equipment by the supplier or manufacturer is always the preferred option);
- q. The observance of the national and local regulations.

### 3. SUPPLIER RESPONSIBILITIES

- a. Providing, specifying and supplying the technical limitations of the storage equipment;
- b. The provision of a layout drawing, where appropriate, showing and dimensioning the positions of the racks, clearances, and operating aisles;
- c. Providing the user with information on the range of rack protection equipment available;
- d. Offering a racking erection service with an installation hand-over certificate on completion;
- e. Providing ongoing technical advice, eg., when there is a change of use, change of load, or a reconfiguration of the rack geometry;
- f. Providing advice on the need for regular inspection checks;
- g. Explaining the “Green”, “Amber”, and “Red”, damage levels and what action to take for each condition;
- h. Retaining the ability to supply replacement parts;
- i. Supplying load notices in approved safety colours, which provide information on the limitations of the storage system.

*The recommendations and advice contained in this Information Bulletin are based on information that has been collected by ERF from its members. They represent what is, as far as ERF is aware, the best available data at the time of publication.*

*The suitability of this Guidance Note must be determined by the judgement of the person applying it in accordance with the conditions in which use is envisaged and subject to all relevant statutory requirements.*

*ERF accepts no responsibility for the recommendations; advice, statements and conclusions expressed or implied and give no warranty, representation or assurance with respect to the accuracy or validity of the same.*

