

FAQs *(Frequently Asked Questions)*

SIDEWINDER™ ATX-3000

What is a SIDEWINDER?

SIDEWINDER is the brand name for Airtrax Omni-Directional Lift Trucks.

What does ATX-3000 mean?

ATX-3000 is the model number for the current Airtrax SIDEWINDER Electric Lift Truck that has a rated capacity of 3000 lb. (1360 kg.)

What are the advantages of Omni-Directional Technology?

Omni-Directional Technology allows unprecedented maneuverability in tight spaces. It allows the operator to maneuver materials through even the most limited of spaces. Productivity in pick and place operations soars because a lot less time is spent backing up. Warehouse storage density can be increased due to the minimal space requirement between pallets and aisles. Imagine attempting to move a 20 or 40 foot beam through a doorway with a conventional lift truck. With the SIDEWINDER, the operator simply and easily moves sideways through the doorway or down long narrow aisle ways.

Is the SIDEWINDER Lift Truck easy to operate?

Yes! It has a highly intuitive control system that can be learned in just minutes. There are two joysticks conveniently located for the right and left hands of the operator. The traction joystick controls all rotating, forward, backward, and sideways motions of the SIDEWINDER. The driver merely pushes the joystick in the direction he wants the vehicle to travel, and the further he pushes, the faster it will go (within selected mode limits). The second joystick handles all of the hydraulic movements, lift, tilt, and auxiliary functions.

What is the advantage of controlling the movements of the SIDEWINDER Lift Truck with joysticks?

The operator sits in a comfortable position with his arms on rests at his side, not hunched forward grasping a steering wheel. The joysticks require low effort compared to conventional lever controls, and cause minimal operator fatigue. With no brake, clutch, or accelerator pedals to work, the operator is free to move his legs and feet into a variety of comfortable positions. Because all of the control functions, including emergency brake and horn, are incorporated into the joysticks, the operator never has to remove his hands from the joysticks to perform different functions. The chance of damage or accident due to grabbing the wrong lever is eliminated.

What if I am Left Handed?

The standard joystick configuration puts the traction controls in the operator's right hand and hydraulic control in his left, to conform to ANSI standards. Optionally, the joystick controls can be reversed during vehicle production, to allow the purchaser to specify left hand control of the traction system.

What is the travel speed of the SIDEWINDER ATX-3000?

The SIDEWINDER ATX-3000 can move at a maximum speed of 6.2 mph. The operator can select various performance modes for the vehicle via a well placed, clearly visible key pad/display that indicates the current speed mode, and allows changing the mode simply by the push of a button.

Where can a SIDEWINDER be operated?

The SIDEWINDER ATX-3000 has been designed to work in a warehouse environment, on sealed, medium strength concrete floors or metal decks. It is a UL E rated vehicle and should not be operated in hazardous environments. It is not currently recommended for use in a freezer, however use in this application is under investigation. While it can be used outdoors in inclement weather for short periods of time, it should not be stored outside or transported on an open truck in the snow or rain.

How is the SIDEWINDER ATX-3000 at handling obstacles?

The SIDEWINDER ATX-3000 can climb out of floor holes and over obstacles in its way. It has been designed to be able to drive over obstacles up to 3 inches high. Testing has shown that the center spoke design of the Airtrax Omni-Directional Wheel is exceptionally good at shedding debris.

Does the SIDEWINDER ATX-3000 require complicated maintenance procedures?

No. The SIDEWINDER ATX-3000 has been designed to reduce maintenance procedures by eliminating numerous parts that conventional lift trucks have. Airtrax has also simplified a number of parts that the SIDEWINDER ATX-3000 utilizes.

All parts have been designed with reduced maintenance in mind. For example, our transmissions and motor bearings are sealed and lubricated for life, with the entire drive units and motors basically maintenance free.

How long do the wheels last?

You should never have to replace a wheel. Individual rollers that show cuts, chunking, cracking, cover separation or those damaged beyond use for any reason can be replaced with a new roller. Each roller is secured with a single nut, making replacement easy. Since there are many different conditions that can significantly alter roller life, Airtrax cannot specify the ultimate time it will take to wear out a set of rollers. Airtrax currently warrants the rollers for a period of one year or 2000 hours (the same as other parts) against excess wear on a pro rata basis, and against bearing, or seal failure. Cuts, chunking, cracking, or cover separation, which occur as a result of overloading or abuse, are not covered under the warranty, nor is operation in an environment that can adversely affect the polyurethane covering.

Are there other SIDEWINDER Lift Truck models beside the ATX-3000?

Currently the ATX-3000 is the only model being sold. Other models are currently under development and may be available in the future.