



PENNSYLVANIA FOOD BANK MOVES 7 MILLION POUNDS OF FOOD ANNUALLY WITH PROPANE FORKLIFT

FAST REFUELING TURNAROUND WITH PROPANE KEEPS NON-PROFIT PRODUCTIVE

Downtime isn't an option for the Greater Berks Food Bank. The Reading, Pennsylvania-based nonprofit distributes more than 7 million pounds of food annually to more than 300 charitable food partners across Pennsylvania's Berks and Schuylkill counties. At least half of the donations the food bank receives are fresh or frozen perishable goods, which require quick turnaround to be safely consumed by the 110,000 people who rely on food or meals from area food pantries, soup kitchens, shelters, after-school programs, and senior housing facilities. This means the food bank depends on the reliability of its propane-powered forklift.

Using a single propane-powered forklift, in addition to a small fleet of electric walk-behind pallet jacks, is more efficient in meeting the food bank's needs than using an all-electric fleet. With a 45,000 square-foot warehouse in addition to outdoor waste collection, the food bank needed a forklift fuel that required virtually no refueling time and could meet the non-stop supply-and-demand needs occurring both inside and outdoors. An electric forklift wouldn't suffice, because they require long periods of downtime to recharge and couldn't be used in Reading's humid climate, which can have more than 40 inches of rainfall annually.

EQUIPMENT FLEET PROFILE

- 1** propane-powered forklift
- 4** propane cylinders stored on-site



PROPANE HIGHLIGHTS

100% CAPACITY

on lifting and movement every time the forklift runs.

MINIMAL DOWNTIME

to change cylinders.

ZERO TIME LOST

due to power loss from low battery, or for recharging.

STABLE FUEL COSTS

throughout 12 years of propane use, while electric costs in Reading have risen.

SAFE USE

indoors and outdoors, even during inclement weather.



“TO SAY OUR WAREHOUSE EQUIPMENT GETS USED HARD IS AN UNDERSTATEMENT BECAUSE NOT ONLY ARE WE PICKING AND LOADING TO SEND OUT ORDERS, BUT WE’RE ALSO UNLOADING THAT FOOD WHEN IT COMES IN.”

DOUG LONG, MANAGER OF MARKETING AND DEVELOPMENT FOR THE GREATER BERKS FOOD BANK

“I DEFINITELY PREFER A PROPANE FORKLIFT, ESPECIALLY SINCE AT OUR FACILITY WE ONLY HAVE ONE FORKLIFT. IT’S RELIABLE. DAY IN AND DAY OUT, IT GETS THE JOB DONE.”

ADAM WINCHESTER, OPERATIONS MANAGER FOR THE GREATER BERKS FOOD BANK

FOR MORE INFORMATION

To learn about commercial propane-powered forklifts visit propane.com/industrial.

THE PROPANE EDUCATION & RESEARCH COUNCIL was authorized by the U.S. Congress with the passage of Public Law 104-284, the Propane Education and Research Act (PERA), signed into law on October 11, 1996. The mission of the Propane Education & Research Council is to promote the safe, efficient use of odorized propane gas as a preferred energy source.

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