

Space-Saving Shop Storage System

When Ryan Stauffer built a new shop he wanted a storage system that would keep things neat and organized, without taking up a lot of wall space. So he and friends Austin Stauffer and Dolen Schweitzer got together and built a vertical, space-saving “mobile-aisle” shelving system. They introduced it at the recent Husker Harvest Days farm show near Grand Island, Neb.

The Levrack system is designed to work with existing pallet rack storage systems, or be installed as a self-contained system. Six rolling shelving units are contained inside a 12-ft. square steel frame that bolts to the floor. The 7-ft. tall, 4-ft. deep shelving units ride on rollers in an overhead rail, allowing them to be easily pushed from side to side. A pallet rack above them can be used to store larger items such as pumps and gearboxes.

The 18-in. deep shelves in each shelving unit face inward toward each other. There’s a 29-in. wide opening, or “mobile aisle”, between any pair of shelving units that creates access to the shelves on either side of the aisle.

“It keeps your shop looking nice and tidy and provides a lot of capacity without taking up much space. The shelving units roll easily, even when loaded, and require no motors or complex parts,” says Ryan. “We call it the Levrack because when you roll the shelving units from side to side it almost looks like

they’re floating off the ground, or levitating. The shelves are rated at 1,200 lbs. and the pallet racking is rated at 3 1/2 tons so it has a lot of capacity.”

According to Ryan, “The system always looks clean because the shelves are turned inward so that no one sees your mess. We use boltless shelving that can be easily adjusted up or down. If you want, you can pop the shelves out and use the space to store rakes and shovels and so forth. A pegboard on the front and back side of each shelving unit works great to organize small tools.”

Ryan says that after he built the shop, at first he was going to build a parts room. “However, we always had this idea in the back of our head about using a mobile aisle shelving system. Unfortunately all the ones we found were quite expensive and required a track in the floor, which wouldn’t work well in a farm shop because of gravel and dirt. Then one day we were standing under a pallet rack shelving system inside another shop and looked up. We thought we might be able to design hanging shelving units that roll from above.”

According to Ryan the system is completely customizable, as the shelves and framework are sold separately.

“For example, for one customer we replaced the shelves in one shelving unit with a toolbox and workbench and installed



Space-saving Levrack shelving system keeps things neat and organized. Six rolling shelving units ride on rollers in an overhead rail, allowing them to be easily pushed from side to side. Overhead pallet rack can be used to store larger items.

a bolt bin in the adjacent shelving unit, with LED lights added above the aisle,” says Ryan. “Eventually we plan to introduce systems for garages, but for now we’re focusing on the farm and industrial side.

The front side of the shelving units is available in either galvanized sheet metal or

diamond plate steel.

A standard 12-ft. sq. Levrack storage system sells for about \$5,300 plus S&H.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Ryan Stauffer, 2840 O Street Road, Seward, Neb. 68434 (ph 402 875-9466; www.levrack.com; ryan@levrack.com).

Clamp-On Torch Striker

“It always stays on your welding torch, folding out of the way when you’re done using it. People can’t believe how handy it is,” says Greg Morehead about his new Flip N Striker.

The 5-in. long, clamp-on aluminum unit is hinged at the bottom and fitted with an electric striker on top. There’s a pull-out trigger about half way down.

To light a torch you just fold the unit all the way up and pull on the trigger. It causes a mechanism to strike an embedded piezo crystal, which produces a small spark that

ignites the torch. The unit is then folded back out of the way.

“It saves a lot of time spent looking for a striker and is safer than using a cigarette lighter,” says Morehead. “It’ll strike about 30,000 times before it wears out, and water doesn’t affect it.”

The Flip N Striker sells for \$39.95 plus S&H.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Greg Morehead, 16348 River Road, Plattsmouth, Neb. 68048 (ph 402 510-3185; www.flipnstriker.com; mgmorhead@msn.com).



To light torch you fold striker all the way up and pull on the trigger. Unit folds out of the way when you’re done using it.

Wilkes & McLean Suppressor is an in-line device that absorbs sound and, by reducing pulsations, reduces wear and linkage.



Add-On “Suppressor” Makes Hydraulics Run Smoother, Quieter

The Wilkes & McLean Suppressor can reduce the noises, vibrations and wear found with large hydraulic systems. The in-line device absorbs shocks and suppresses noise, reducing pulsations, wear and leakage. “The Suppressor can be installed anywhere hydraulics are used,” says Ben Finfrock, Wilkes & McLean. “It is used on a lot of large agricultural and construction equipment.”

The suppressor is nitrogen charged and easily recharged as needed. According to Finfrock, how often it needs to be topped off depends on how often the hydraulics are used, as well as what they are used for and the type of fluid used.

The Suppressor is only 8 1/4 in. long, making installation easy. “Suppressors are sized by system flow and pressure as well as the size of the hydraulic line,” says Finfrock.

Finfrock says the company’s Suppressor ranges in price from \$280 to \$800. The company sells them direct as well as through distributors. He says several large equipment manufacturers are testing the suppressors for possible factory installation.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Wilkes & McLean, Ltd., 600 Estes Ave., Schaumburg, Ill. 60193 (ph 847 534-2000; toll free 877 534-6445; info@wilkesandmclean.com; www.wilkesandmclean.com).

Sliding Tool Trays Can Be Doubled Up

You can customize pickup bed storage with “SlideZilla” sliding tool trays that can be stacked 2-high, with one between the wheel wells and one above.

Elevated trays are 58 in. wide and come in short (42-in.), medium (65-in.) and long (75-in.) lengths. The long tray comes with one of 2 rail kits to fit medium or long beds. The short and medium trays come with one of 3 kits for short, medium and long truck beds.

The trays slide on 6 roller bearings on a powder-coated steel frame. Tray decks are made from marine-grade plywood with a rubberized skid-proof surface. The elevated trays fit just below the top edges of the truck bed sides.

Long trays can extend up to 66 percent past the end of the truck bed, providing access to items stored beneath the elevated bed. The medium tray extends 60 percent, and the short tray extends 40 percent.

Lower trays are 48 1/2 in. wide with 4-in. high sides, a 1,000-lb. capacity, and fit 6 1/2 and 8-ft. beds. They can be mounted separately or together with the Elevated Sliding Tray, leaving 15 in. of clearance for storage.

All trays come with multiple lockouts



“SlideZilla” sliding tool trays can be stacked 2-high, with one between the wheel wells and one above.

and tie-downs for securing the trays and stored items. They are available from dealers online and off. Dealer 4wheelonline.com offers frames for the Elevated Sliding Trays from \$339.95 to \$354.95. Elevated Sliding Trays to fit the frames are priced from \$419.95 to \$649.95. Lower trays, which come completely assembled, are priced from \$819.95 to \$849.95.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, SlideZilla, 1966 Sterling Ave., P.O. Box 579, Elkhart, Ind. 46516 (ph 574 293-1581; www.slide-zilla.com).