

Slide Strip Racking

For a manufacturer slide strip racking makes good sense. The knock down racking allows mass production at a lower cost and can be easily warehoused without taking up a lot of room.

So why doesn't BHS offer slide strip racking?

- **Installation:** Slide strip racking requires 3 to 4 times more installation time than that of modular welded racking. This is based on the erector-set type design of slide strip racking.
- **Safety:** Due to slide strips being adjusted to accommodate battery size, smaller batteries can be placed in a larger battery slot allowing the smaller battery to drop to a lower level or fall out of the rack.
- **Adjustability:** The adjustable rack is sold to the customer on the basis of future flexibility. However, most users admit that they never varied their battery models after purchasing the slide strip racking.
 - In the event that rack adjustment is required, the corrosion buildup on the strip hardware makes adjustments very difficult or impossible.
 - Often new slide strip kits are required to accommodate new battery sizes, adding additional cost.
- **Extractor Wear & Tear:** With slide strips the extractor is required to power the battery all the way into the rack and requires greater pulling power to extract the battery back out of the rack. All this equates into additional wear and tear on the arm assembly, hydraulic and electrical components. As a result increased downtime and component replacement can be expected, resulting in higher operating cost.
- **Power Consumption:** Based on the increased work required to push onto and pull from the racking power consumption will be greater.
- **Lead Roller Failure:** A common repair on slide strip stands is lead roller replacement. The design of the roller does not support the application resulting in failure and replacement of said rollers. This significantly increases operating cost of the slide strip stands compared to roller stands.
- **Increased Battery Changeout Time:** Another by-product of having to power the batteries in and out of the slide strip stands is increased battery changeout time. With roller style racking battery transfer from the extractor can be accomplished by simply utilizing the power rollers of the extractor.
- **Battery Damage:** Due to the concentrated pressure on the bottom of the battery tray by the slide strips, indentation of the tray can result. This in turn can push the battery cells up out of the tray causing inner cell damage, premature failure and additional maintenance cost.
- **Drip Pan Serviceability:** With the slide strip rack design the drip pans are bolted in place. This makes it very difficult to clean and service the drip pans when dirt, corrosion, water, etc. accumulates.
- **Smaller Foot Pad:** The foot pad of slide strip racking generally is much smaller in comparison to a typical 3/4 x 6 x 8 pad of a roller stand. This can be very important depending on the concrete specification of an application.
- **Roller Height:** Slide strip racking generally has roller heights at 12" compared to roller stands having heights of 8"-10". Most electric lift trucks, with the exception of sit-down counter balanced trucks, have roller heights of 7"-10". The higher slide strip roller heights results in additional height adjustment and longer changeout times.



This photo shows an actual slide strip installation, note that the batteries are leaning against the uprights.

