



Project Profile

Push-Back Pallet Rack enables Cooler Expansion for Growing Prepared Foods Kitchen

When valuable warehouse space is limited and physical expansion isn't an option due to footprint or cost, high-density pallet storage may be the solution. Midwest Kitchens selected RIDG-U-RAK Push-Back Pallet Rack to add an additional bay of storage to their refrigerated warehouse.

Midwest Kitchens Issue:

- Limited refrigerated warehouse space
- Increase pallet storage of food products
- Lift trucks must work with loading delivery vans

Ridg-U-Rak's Solution:

- Higher density rack storage
- 2 Deep push-back system
- 3 Pallets positions high
- Requires no special lift equipment

"They were able to increase our palletized meat products by nearly 40% while maintaining nine foot aisles and using our existing lift truck."



RIDG-U-RAK®

Push-Back Storage

Midwest Kitchens





Project Profile

With growing sales and a planned market expansion, Midwest Kitchens a regional provider of sous vide meat products, needed more storage capacity for refrigerated product. The “cooler” stores both raw and processed meats in pallet quantities, and requires ready-access to most pallet positions. The space was configured with two and half rows with up to 18 bays of 3 high selective pallet rack and two large aisles. The rows were arranged to allow the lift truck access to each pallet position. The current configuration in the cooler did not allow for more vertical space, nor adding an additional aisles for more rack.

Midwest needed to investigate increasing their storage density. *“They had the room to add another bay of rack, but not enough for another aisle. Adding an other row of selective rack in a two-deep configuration would have required costly specialized deep reach lift equipment and those lifts cannot be used to load enclosed van carriers, said RIDG-U-RAK’s Regional Sales Manager, Eric Messner... usually, they are too tall and their wheels do not work well with dock plates. So the rack systems would need to work with their existing lift truck.”*

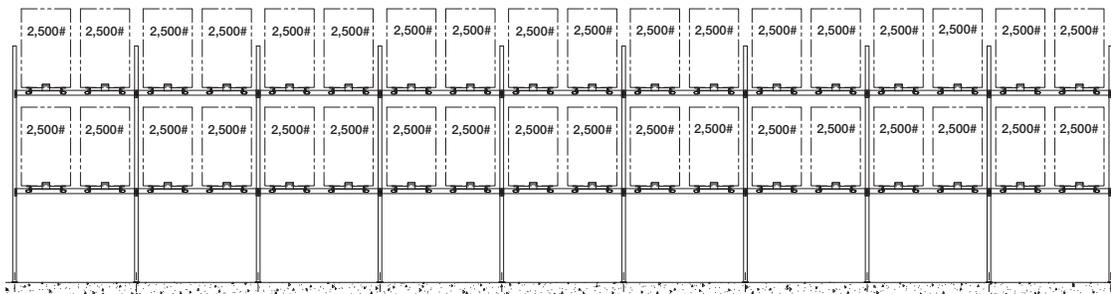
Working with Material Handling Enterprises, the local RIDG-U-RAK distributor, they reconfigured the existing pallet rack enabling them to add a complete row, 18 bays of 3 high, two-deep push-back pallet rack to maximize storage density. This allowed Midwest Kitchens to increase their palletized meat products by nearly 40% while maintaining nine foot aisles and using their existing lift truck.

About Midwest Kitchens



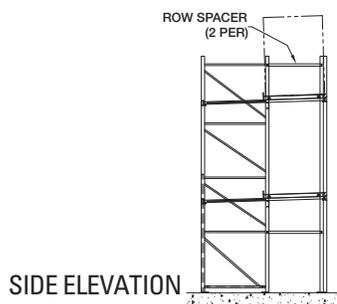
Midwest Kitchens provides local restaurants, catering services and the hospitality industry with **Sous vide** meat products. **“Sous vide”** is French for “under vacuum.” It refers to a cooking method where food is vacuum-sealed in a bag and cooked in a precisely controlled water bath at a low, consistent temperature for an extended time. This technique ensures even cooking and retains the food's natural flavors and moisture.

To learn more about Midwest Kitchens, visit: <https://midwestkitchens.com>

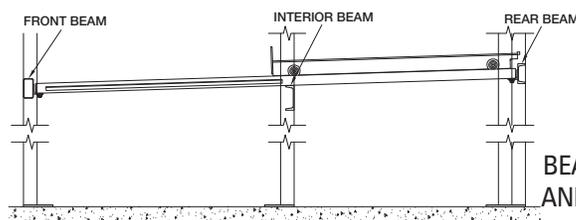


Plan view of the additional 18 bays of two-deep Push-Back Rack.

FRONT ELEVATION



SIDE ELEVATION

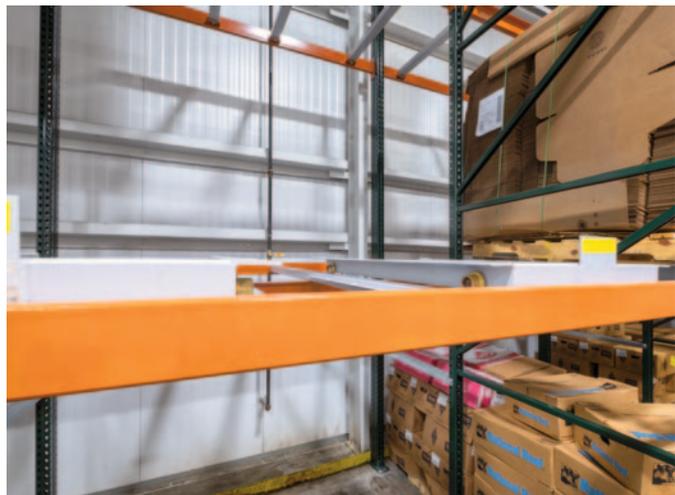


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Push-Back Storage

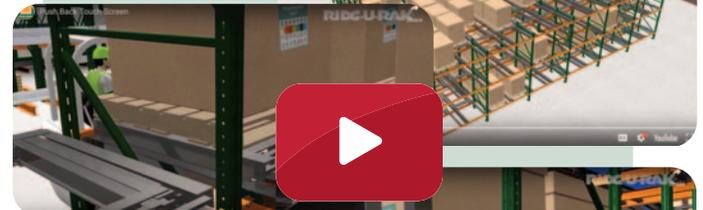


▲ RIDG-U-RAK's Push-Back pallet rack's robust cart-on-rails construction allows up to 3,000 lbs. per pallet position.



▲ The Push-Back nested cart system rolls the pallet forward providing ready access to each pallet.

▲ New two-deep Push-Back pallet rack installed at Midwest Kitchens.



Click here to watch a video covering the use and operation of Push-Back pallet.



Push-Back Storage

Push-Back Cart-On-Rail System

Push Back systems offer similar storage density as drive-in while improving selectivity and accessibility to a range of SKUs. Product stored in lanes rest on a system of carts-on-rails commonly available in 2 to 6 pallets deep. From one aisle, pallets are stored by "pushing back" stored pallets and placing the new load on the next cart position. Retrieving a pallet causes each subsequent pallet to move forward into a ready position. This "last-in, first-out" system (per lane) reduces picking time when a large number of picking faces are required.

Ridg-U-Rak's patented design features large coated wheels with sealed bearings. The linked cart design provides for smoother operation.

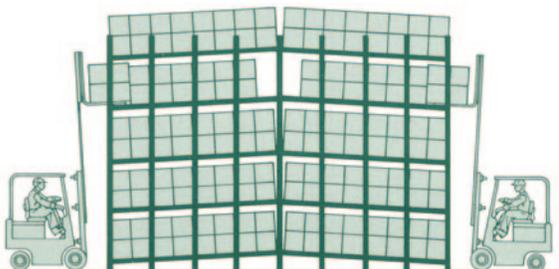
Standard Load: 3,000 lbs

Features & Benefits:

- Higher utilization of available pallet positions than most storage systems
- Patented design
- Easy rolling carts with large coated wheels
- Low maintenance sealed bearings
- Linked carts
- Cart anti-lift-out devices
- Low cart stack height

Applications:

- Universal product storage
- Aisle access to each pick face
- Large number of SKUs and pick faces



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