

## Telehandler / Zoom Boom

Used Telehandler Montana - Telehandlers go by many different names including a boom lift, telescopic handler, Cherry picker or teleporter. This industrial equipment is commonly used in a variety of industries including agriculture. Similar to a crane and a forklift as it has a boom allowing it to extend forwards and upwards. Numerous attachments can be placed at the end of the articulating boom to conduct a variety of different jobs. Different attachments such as a bucket, pallet forks, a muck grab or a winch can help the machine complete many jobs. The main telehandler attachment is the pallet forks. These attachments help the operator transport different sized loads to many locations that would be considered unreachable with a traditional forklift. Telehandlers allow cargo pallets to be transported from trailers and placed on racking, rooftops or other difficult to reach locations. Often, high rooftop locations would need a crane although, telehandlers can accomplish these tasks much more efficiently. Of course, it isn't always affordable or practical to use secondary equipment or a crane to complete certain tasks. Within agriculture, the bucket or bucket grab is among the most popular attachments. Transporting items from unreachable places that cannot use a backhoe loader or a wheeled loader is one of the main advantages of using a telehandler. Telehandlers can directly access trailer units with high sides, hoppers or applications that would typically need a conveyor or loading ramp. Relying on one piece of equipment to complete a variety of jobs saves time, money and storage. Telehandler units often work together with a crane jib. Numerous attachments can be utilized including power booms, grain buckets, dirt buckets and rotators. Agricultural models can be outfitted with power take-off and 3-point linkage, making the telehandler and exceptionally useful. However, the main advantage of the telehandler is additionally its' largest limitation. When raising or extending with heavy loads, the boom functions similar to a lever. Despite significant counterweights in the rear, the telehandler can be subject to instability at times, decreasing the lifting capacity as the working radius or distance between the center of the load and the front of the wheels increases. When a telehandler functions as a single boom loader (as opposed to twin arms) and carrying a heavy load, there can be a potential for weakness even in the best designs. A 5000 lb. capacity telehandler could lift 400 lbs. safely while fully extended with a retracted boom in conjunction with a low boom angle. Raising the same piece of equipment 70 degrees could allow this machine with a five thousand pound lift capability and retracted boom to support up to ten thousand pounds. There is a load chart on these machines to determine which tasks can be safely executed by taking the weight, angle and boom height into account. Newer telehandler models rely on computers and sensors to monitor the machine. The operator cannot continue once the machine's limits have been reached. They are warned and cut off from accessing the control input. Front stabilizers that enhance the lifting capacity of the machine while stationary can make a huge difference. A stabilizing rotary joint between the upper and lower frames may be called a mobile crane that can use a bucket. There are many models of telehandlers differing in size, weight, boom designs and reach. Telehandlers fall into the compact category if the unit weighs in at 11,000 lbs. or less. Compact models feature a two-stage boom design in comparison to the three or four boom design that is common with larger units. A low pivot boom ensures better operator visibility for transporting loads on compact units. There are narrower and smaller dimensions offered with the compact telehandler. Compact telehandlers have a reach capacity ranging between 13 to 20 feet with a lift capacity ranging from 5k to 7k pounds. The versatility of the compact telehandler makes it popular in a variety of applications. Telehandlers can function as a pick and place unit or a tool carrier. This machine is often used in locations that are cramped and tight. Residential applications are common as contractors relish their useful nature with framing applications and where height restrictions come into play. These units can be useful for accessing internal building locations. Compact telehandlers are used in many applications including nurseries, erecting steel, multi-story construction, masonry, strip malls, garages and similar jobs. Agri-business and farming applications rely on telehandlers for a variety of jobs. Telehandlers are made with

two or four-wheel drive as well as crab steering. The unit can travel over longer ranges at higher speeds with two-wheel drive, making it ideal for moving throughout job sites. The four-wheel drive models offer the ability to traverse more difficult terrain and provide a tighter turning radius. Crab steering increases overall maneuvering and enables the front and back wheels to move 45 degrees to the left or the right. Compact telehandlers have numerous cab environments to choose from. On the lower-end models, a rollover protective cage structure is in place for safety. Higher models come with a heater, a completely enclosed cab, defroster and windshield wiper. Compact units feature spacious cab accommodations to keep operators totally comfortable. Extra amenities including air conditioning, satellite radio, suspension seats, tilt steering and cup holders are available. Many high-pressure hydraulics and high-flow auxiliary hydraulics operate the numerous attachments. These attachments increase the functions the machine is capable of. Compact units are more commonly utilized for ground engaging jobs. It is simple to transform a compact telehandler into a mini excavator with a bucket attachment. Light-duty to heavy-duty buckets can be attached for transferring material, side-shifting and rotating fork carriages are relied on for pick and place situations, augers for drilling post holes or planting trees or pier supports, truss booms for extending reach, crane hooks, brooms for sweeping and more. Skid steer attachments are being manufactured for certain compact telehandler designs for even more versatility.