

## Telehandler / Zoom Boom

Used Telehandler Manitoba - Telehandlers have numerous names including a teleporter, Cherry picker, telescopic handler or boom lift. This industrial machine is commonly used in a variety of industries and in agriculture. It is similar to a forklift and a crane as it has a boom, enabling it to extend upwards and forwards from the vehicle. Numerous attachments can be placed at the end of the articulating boom to conduct a variety of different jobs. Popular attachments include a muck grab, bucket, winch or pallet forks. The most common telehandler attachment is the pallet forks. They allow the operator to transport loads to and from locations that are considered unreachable with a regular forklift. These machines enable cargo pallets to be unloaded and loaded from a trailer and placed on rooftops, racking or other high and hard to access locations. Typically, high locations would traditionally require a crane; however, telehandlers can facilitate these tasks easily and efficiently. It isn't always practical or affordable to rely on a crane or secondary machinery to complete the job. A bucket or bucket grab is the most popular telehandler attachment in the agricultural industry. Moving items from unreachable locations that cannot be completed with a backhoe loader or wheeled loader give telehandlers a huge advantage. Telehandlers can directly access trailer units with high sides, hoppers or applications that would typically need a conveyor or loading ramp. Having one item to complete a variety of jobs saves time, money and storage space. Telehandlers commonly work alongside a crane jib. Numerous attachments can be utilized including power booms, grain buckets, dirt buckets and rotators. The agricultural models can use three-point linkage and power take-off to make telehandlers multi-tasking. Interestingly enough, the machines' main advantage is also its' biggest limitation. When raising or extending with heavy loads, the boom functions similar to a lever. Even with rear counterweights, this machine may become unstable from time to time; decreasing the lift capacity when the distance between the center of the load and the front of the wheels or the working radius 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. These machines are equipped with a load chart to help outline which tasks are safely possible. These charts take the boom height, angle and weight into account. Newer telehandler models rely on computers and sensors to monitor the machine. The operator is warned and even cut off further control input once the limits of the telehandler are surpassed. There are front stabilizers that can drastically enhance the machine's lifting capacity while it is stationary. A mobile crane can also use a bucket is another option consisting of a stabilized rotary joint found between upper and lower frames. There are many models of telehandlers differing in size, weight, boom designs and reach. Telehandlers that weigh 11,000 pounds or less fall into the compact category. Compact units have a two-stage boom compared to larger machines that feature three or four boom designs. A low pivot boom ensures better operator visibility for transporting loads on compact units. Compact models are skinnier and have thinner dimensions. The reach capacity for compact units is between thirteen to twenty feet and these units offer a lift capacity from five to seven thousand pounds. These versatile machines make the compact telehandler extremely popular. This machine can be utilized for carrying tools or as a pick and place unit. It is commonly utilized in spaces that are tight and cramped. It is common for contractors to use this machine during framing and for residential jobs where there are height restrictions. Telehandlers can enter internal building access in hard-toreach locations. Compact units are popular in multi-story construction, nurseries, strip malls, landscaping, masonry, garage facilities and erecting steel among other applications. 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. This machine can traverse longer distances with two-wheel drive at higher speeds to

facilitate easy travel between worksites. 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 varying cab environments. On the lower-end models, a rollover protective cage structure is in place for safety. Higher-end models are equipped with a fully enclosed cab, a heater, windshield wiper and defroster. Operators enjoy spacious accommodation for ultimate comfort. Extra amenities including air conditioning, satellite radio, suspension seats, tilt steering and cup holders are available. The numerous attachment options are facilitated with high-pressure and high-flow auxiliary hydraulics. The different attachments allow the machine to be capable of many options. All of these attachments enable the machine to conduct a variety of jobs. Ground engaging work is often completed by compact units. Adding a bucket attachment can make a compact telehandler transform into a mini excavator. Light and heavy-duty buckets can be used to move items, augers can plant trees or drill holes, rotating and side-shifting fork carriages facilitate pick-and-place, truss booms are in place for extending reach, sweeping brooms and crane hooks are other popular attachments. Skid steer attachments are being made for versatility and other compact telehandler designs.