HYSTER

DYCORE

NAVIGATING TIGHT CONFINES: A CONCRETE PATH TO EFFICIENCY WITH HYSTER® 30-TONNE FORKLIFTS

THE CHALLENGE

Dycore, a leading producer and supplier of prefabricated concrete system floors, operates from locations including Breda, Lelystad, and Oosterhout in the Netherlands. The company provides a wide range of concrete flooring solutions for the residential and non-residential construction industries, produced and delivered for the needs of each specific project.

Its factory in Breda is a carousel system, where it makes its own concrete, and its own reinforcements from steel rolls. The concrete floor slabs produced may be different weights and dimensions, but weigh on average around 7 tonnes. After manufacture, the stacks of slabs, each weighing up to 25 tonnes, leave the factory and must be transported to its outdoor storage yard. Forklifts must then be used to load the large slabs from the stock yard onto flatbed trucks, ready to be taken to construction sites.

Handling large, heavy concrete slabs is demanding by its very nature. At its Breda site, Dycore faces additional complexity.

To maximise storage space, its yard features increasingly narrow aisles, necessitating forklift solutions that offer a high residual lifting capacity, but a small turning radius.

Adhering to site safety rules, minimising downtime and meeting just-in-time delivery deadlines are also crucial factors in maintaining operational efficiency.

CHALLENGE: To achieve operational efficiency handling concrete slabs in narrow storage aisles, while adhering to safety standards

SOLUTION: Hyster® H30XD12 forklift, featuring ergonomic cab, additional cameras, and a custom carriage with three forks

RESULTS: Productive concrete handling operations that reduce the risk of damage and optimise operator comfort

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THE SOLUTION

To address these challenges, Dycore turned to Hyster and its local dealer Heffiq B.V, who explored which solutions would best suit the particular operational requirements. Dycore already had a 30-tonne Hyster forklift on the same site, dating back several years.

Junior van Remortele, Sales Director, Big Trucks – Hyster EMEA, explains: "In principle, you don't look at a truck as an individual component, but you look at what the truck does in a specific application. Together with our dealers, we do that research, and define what the customer really needs. Based on that, we design a truck and solution that best fits the customer's specific application."

Having explored the site-specific needs, Hyster delivered a new H30XD12 forklift to expand the company's fleet.

Jos de Laat, Head of Technical Services at Dycore, explains, "We chose the Hyster 30-tonne forklift because it is a robust forklift. The service is very good, and the turning circle is small. That is very important to us because we want to make optimal use of the storage yard. That means that we want to keep the driving paths that the truck drives on as narrow as possible and you need a small turning circle."

The Hyster truck's small turning radius enables Dycore to operate in outdoor storage aisles with widths as short as 10 metres optimising site storage.

The H30XD12 model was also ideally suited to Dycore's challenges due to the excellent all-around visibility from the truck's XD cab. During the decision-making process, Dycore visited the factory to look at the cab, and see the difference that the armoured glass top window, curved front and rear windows and steel doors with tempered glass could make.

To further enhance operational efficiency and support Dycore's own safety processes, optional solutions were also specified. This included blue spotlights at the front and rear, and a rear camera. Dycore added its own front camera, mounted on the mast to maintain visibility when carrying a large load and further support operators in the precise placement of the concrete slabs. A load backrest and specialised carriage were also implemented.

Maarten de Groot, Key Account Manager from Heffiq highlighted the collaborative effort in developing a specialised carriage for Dycore to take on the specific challenges at the application: "It is necessary for Dycore to support the system floors with the carriage ideally using three forks. Bringing together Hyster, the attachment supplier and Dycore, we developed the ideal carriage for the operation and were able to install on the new Hyster H30XD12 acquired for the site."

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THE RESULTS

At Dycore, Hyster forklifts work together across two 8-hour shifts each day to support required productivity levels and deliver on a low Total Cost of Ownership. This is a core part of the development of Hyster heavy duty forklifts. Thanks to elevated levels of manoeuvrability, the Hyster forklift also represents cost savings by helping to avoid damage to the truck and products in the yard.

The combination of custom attachments and superior visibility for the operator on the Hyster H30XD12 helps reduced the risk of damage to valuable concrete slabs, in turn minimising disruption and unnecessary costs.

"In the past, we needed to reverse twice sometimes, but because the turning radius is much shorter, we can now turn in one go. Sometimes we only had 30 centimetres turning space when reversing and that is now increased, which also causes less damage. Because sometimes, if you drive too far backwards, you hit another plate," explained Michel Feteris, expedition team leader at Dycore.

"The new cabin has so much glass, we can easily see where the forks are and that makes it simple for us to pick up the plates," he continued.

The forklift cab also offers a spacious work environment, with the largest entry area in the industry, more control with an integrated full-colour screen performance display and optimal comfort thanks to the design of the seat, steering and controls.

The Hyster H30XD12 also helped Dycore achieve its safety goals. Jos de Laat said: "The safety procedures on the site are supported by limiting the speed to a maximum of 15 km per hour (9 mph) when driving forward. In addition, we have a measuring system in the hydraulics of the mast. That measures the weight that is being picked up at that moment so we can prevent the forklift from being overloaded."

The relationship between Dycore, Hyster, and Heffiq has been strong and collaborative throughout the process.

"We have been supplying our machines here for decades and have a good relationship with each other - we are in continuous contact," said Maarten de Groot, explaining that Dycore also benefits from the close proximity of a dedicated account manager, as well as reliable service and support. =

"We are of course very happy and proud that after years of collaboration Dycore has again chosen to use a Hyster in their heavy-duty application," adds Junior van Remortele.

As Dycore now has an additional 30-tonne Hyster forklift on site, uptime is also maximised. While the new H30XD12 forklift is in daily use, the existing 30-tonne truck is always available as a backup. This helps Dycore maintain continuous production and workflow.

In addition to the Big Trucks on site, Dycore has a fleet of lower capacity Hyster electric forklifts and pallet trucks. These deliver items to the factory, such as steel coils.

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