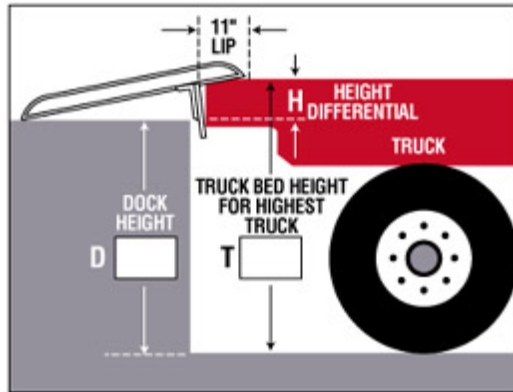


## Selection Guide

Choosing the correct SIZE and CAPACITY of loading dock equipment helps improve your loading dock operation. The following guidelines will help you determine what dock equipment best suites your individual needs.

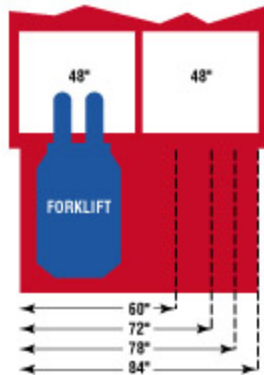
### LENGTH



To determine the proper length of dock board or dock plate, three items are required:

- Dock height (D)
- Available in two capacity ranges
- Height of highest truck (T)
- Type & capacity of loading equipment used

### WIDTH



Bluff recommends a minimum product width of 12" to 18" wider than the overall width of the vehicle or pallet used. For improved end loading efficiency, you may consider increasing board width, as shown in diagram.

### HEIGHT DIFFERENTIAL

HEIGHT DIFFERENTIAL	
<b>Highest Truck Height T</b> We recommend using 55" for the T unless your customer says otherwise, since 55" is the maximum height of most trailers. On refrigerated or container trailers use 59".	T = <input type="text"/> Inches
<b>Dock Height D</b> (You must measure this.)	- D = <input type="text"/> Inches
<b>Height Differential (Maximum) H</b> H is equal to T minus D.	H = <input type="text"/> Inches

Height Differentials equal to: The maximum height of most trailers (55") minus YOUR dock height (you measure this). On refrigerated or container trailers, use 59".

## LENGTH CHART

Height Difference	DOCK PLATE LENGTH	DOCK BOARD LENGTH	
	Pallet Jack	Propane Forklift	Electric Forklift
3	36"	36"	36"
5	48"	36"	48"
7	60"	36"	60"
9	-	60"	78"
11	-	72"	90"
13	-	84"	-
15	-	96"	-

## CAPACITY SELECTION CHART

3-Wheel Forklift Capacity	4-Wheel Forklift Capacity	Board Capacity
2,000-2,500	2,000-3,000	10,000
-	3,000-4,000	13,000
3,000-3,500	5,000	15,000
4,000-5,000	5,000-6,000	20,000

## CAPACITY

- Stackers and other narrow aisle loaders should not be used on a dockboard.
- Paper roll clamp and multi-shift loading add 5,000 pounds to the board capacity.
- Capacity rated for single-shift operation at a 3 mile per hour maximum rate of travel.
- For all rail board applications, we require a fully completed [rail board worksheet](#).

## Aluminum Dockboards

Aluminum Dockboard products are ideal for low to medium volume dock loading applications.

### ALUMINUM DOCKPLATE (A-B)

- Recommended for nonpowered dock loading applications
- Available in two capacity ranges
- Low-cost solution to light dock loading activity applications
- Bolt-on steel legs for securing position between the dock and the trailer



Lip bend is 11 $f$ . Standard lip length for conventional trailers is 11", option of 14" for refrigerated applications. Aluminum dock plates are designed to work well with pallet trucks or other non-powered dock loading equipment. Machine beveled deck edges allow for smooth transition. Wide range of dockplate sizes available.

### ALUMINUM DOCKBOARD (AC-BC)

- Capacities from 10,000 to 15,000 pounds
- Full-length structural steel bolt-on curbs

Steel curbs are bolted to the aluminum diamond pattern plate for increased strength, and to help prevent runoff. Locking legs provide secure positioning. Lip bend is 11 $f$ . Standard lip length for conventional trailers is 11", option of 14" for refrigerated applications. Widths from 60" to 72", and lengths from 36" to 96".



### OPTIONS FOR DOCK PLATES & BOLT-ON CURB DOCKBOARDS

#### EZ-ROLL - DOCKBOARDS or DOCK PLATE ACCESSORIES

- One person positioning without the use of a forklift
- Telescoping/self-storing handles

#### LIFTING CHAINS

Allows for use of forklift in placement



## Steel Dockboards

Bluff Manufacturing fully welded steel dock board provides a safe ramp for heavy-duty loading dock application. Selecting the proper Bluff dock board product for your application will improve product life, safety, and loading dock efficiency. Review the product selection guide on the back page prior to ordering to ensure your product selection is correct.

### STEEL DOCKBOARD (T)

- All-welded steel construction
- Capacities from 15,000 to 40,000 pounds
- Two four-hole pin pockets placed on each edge
- Fold-down lifting loops
- Double-bend design

This heavy-duty steel dock board is held in position using two 1" stress-proof steel pins. When properly placed in the side pocket location holes, these pins hold the dock board firmly in place guarding against slippage. Simply select the proper pin hole location for use with conventional, refrigerated, or container trailers, or for below dock conditions. Widths from 60" to 84".



### STEEL DOCKBOARD (TFL)

Same basic design as the "T" dock board but uses locking legs in lieu of steel pins.

*NOT RECOMMENDED FOR BELOW DOCK LOADING.*



### STEEL DOCKBOARD (TNB)

Single-bend dockboard design utilizes the lifting chain and full width locking legs.

*NOT RECOMMENDED FOR BELOW DOCK LOADING.*



### STEEL DOCKBOARD (SC)

- All welded steel construction
- Lifting chains included
- Capacities of 10,000 & 13,000 pounds

This economical steel dockboard with all welded steel curbs, locking legs and lifting chains is



Railboards are designed for use on all types of railway boxcars, including refrigerated and special cars for the lumber and the paper industries. First position the railboard next to the railcar. The locking ring will automatically secure the railboard against the dock. Box understructure bumpers fit around the car latches to protect door latch. All railboards are designed and built to match the specific dock conditions. The Bluff design is finalized by using information provided on a Bluff railboard worksheet. This information allows the manufacture of a railboard that has the proper width, length, bends, capacity, and understructure.



#### RAILBOARD (R)

- All welded steel construction
- Capacities from 15,000 to 80,000 pounds
- Rectangular or flared design
- Box understructure for strength and safety
- Heavy-duty drop ring for safe, secure positioning
- Lifting loops fold flat into recessed pockets
- Locking Ring Design

#### FLARED OPTION



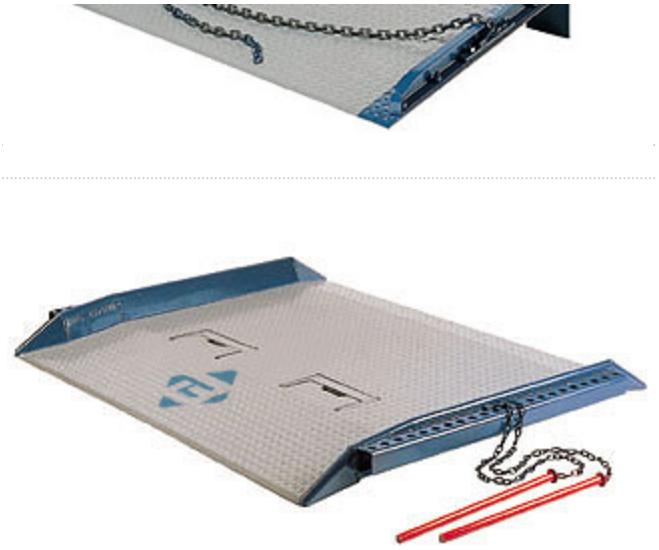
[See Bluff's Railboard Worksheet for more details.](#)

designed for use with 3,000 pound forklift (10,000# model) and 4,000 pound forklift (13,000# model). Available in widths of 60" & 72".

### RED PIN STEEL DOCKBOARD (C)

- For difficult trailer-to-dock positions
- Dual-pin locking system
- All-welded steel construction
- Capacities from 15,000 to 40,000 pounds

The red pin dock board utilizes full length side pockets along with two locking pins for each side. These pins provide safe loading conditions for container and park - out applications. Widths from 60" to 84". Lengths from 48" to 96".



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