



## How to Choose the Right Load Moving System

Organizations that regularly move heavy loads (ranging from a few tons up to hundreds of tons) have plenty of options. They can choose from cranes, conveyors, air cushion vehicles, forklifts and other industrial trucks, wheeled transfer carts, drag chains, rails, and more. But how do you choose? Because each of these move systems have varying strengths and weaknesses, it can be a challenging and complicated process to pinpoint which system would work best. To find an answer, organizations have to consider their situation and work their way through a series of questions:

1. What does the load weigh?
2. How much flexibility or maneuverability is required?
3. How often and how far does the load have to be moved?
4. What's the cost?
5. How are you going to make the load 'loadable'?
6. What kind of training and certifications are required?
7. What are the safety considerations of each move system?

We discuss these questions and offer analysis of a variety of material handling systems in the in-depth white paper "[Selecting the Right Material Handling System.](#)" For quick reference, please consider this matrix of the seven most important questions.

 <b>Selecting the Right Material Handling System: At A Glance</b>							
	What load weights work best with the system (lbs)?	How maneuverable is the system?	What distance is ideal for the system?	What move frequency is ideal?	What is the rough, average cost?	How much training is required?	What is the safety risk of each system?
<b>Air Casters</b>	< 5k – 600k+	Highly maneuverable	Better closer	All frequencies	Low to moderate	Little	Low
<b>Conveyors</b>	< 5k – 20k	Inflexible	Better closer	All frequencies	Moderate to high	Little	High
<b>Cranes</b>	<5k – 400k	Inflexible	All distances	Less frequent	High to very high	A lot	Very high
<b>Drag Chains</b>	20k – 400k	Moderately maneuverable	Better closer	All frequencies	Low to moderate	Little	High
<b>Forklifts</b>	<5k – 20k	Maneuverable given extra space	All distances	Less frequent	Moderate to high	Moderate	Very high
<b>Rails</b>	20k – 400k	Inflexible	Better closer	All frequencies	Low to moderate	Little	High
<b>Transfer Carts</b>	20k – 200k	Moderately maneuverable	All distances	All frequencies	Low to moderate	Little	Low

For much more detailed analysis and charts, please download our white paper at <https://www.aerogo.com/resource/selecting-the-right-load-handling-equipment/>

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