

## Telehandler / Zoom Boom

Used Telehandler Ventura - Telehandlers are commonly known by a variety of names such as Cherry pickers, telescopic handlers, boom lifts and teleporters. These machines are utilized in agriculture and many different industries. This machine functions similarly to a crane and a forklift with the ability to extend upward and forward. Many different attachments can be used at the end of the articulating boom to facilitate a wide number of jobs. Common attachments include pallet forks, a winch, a bucket or a muck grab. 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. Normally, high rooftop applications would require the use of a crane; however, telehandlers can complete this task more efficiently. It can be expensive and impractical to rely on a crane or expansive industrial equipment to finish particular tasks. Within agriculture, the bucket or bucket grab is among the most popular attachments. Relocating items from hard to reach areas that cannot rely on a wheeled loader or a backhoe loader give telehandlers a significant advantage. Telehandlers are beneficial for applications that would usually require a loading ramp or conveyor since they are capable of directly accessing trailers with high sides and hoppers. Using one machine to finish numerous jobs saves storage space, money and time. Telehandlers commonly work alongside 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. Conversely, the main advantage of this machine doubles as its' largest limitation. The boom acts as a lever when it extends or raises with heavy loads. 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 machine with a 5K lb. capacity could safely lift 400 lbs. while fully extended using a retracted low boom angle. The same piece of equipment with a five thousand pound lift capacity and retracted boom may be capable as supporting up to ten thousand pounds once the boom is raised to seventy degrees. Monitoring the angle, weight and boom height, there are load charts on this equipment to outline which tasks can be safely conducted. 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 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 that weigh 11,000 pounds or less fall into the compact category. 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. Obviously, the compact telehandler has narrower and tinier 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. This machine is often used in locations that are cramped and tight. Residential services are often employed during framing and for jobs with height restrictions. These units can be useful for accessing internal building locations. Compact units are popular in multi-story construction, nurseries, strip malls, landscaping, masonry, garage facilities and erecting steel among other applications. Farming and agri-business applications often rely on telehandlers to accomplish many tasks. Telehandlers come with crab steering or two or four-wheel drive options. The unit can travel over longer ranges at higher speeds with two-

wheel drive, making it ideal for moving throughout job sites. The 4-WD units are capable of having a tighter turning radius and can travel difficult terrain. 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-end models are equipped with a fully enclosed cab, a heater, windshield wiper and defroster. All compact telehandler cabs are spacious to accommodate the operator as comfortable as possible. Additional options including satellite radio, air conditioning, armrests, cup holders, suspension seats and tilt steering are available. The numerous attachment options are facilitated with high-pressure and high-flow auxiliary hydraulics. These attachments increase the functions the machine is capable of. Ground engaging work is often completed by compact units. Adding a bucket attachment can make a compact telehandler transform into a mini excavator. 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.