

# ENERGY WISE

for your Business



Today's powerful and responsive electric forklifts are revolutionizing goods movement and manufacturing. Technology advancements such as higher voltage, lithium based batteries and AC-drive systems, and high-frequency charging, have boosted electric forklift performance and industry acceptance.

## MVEC

MINNESOTA VALLEY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

125 Minnesota Valley Electric Drive  
Jordan, MN 55352  
Phone: 952.492.2313  
Toll-free: 800.282.6832  
Craig Lofdahl: [craigl@mvec.net](mailto:craigl@mvec.net) Joe  
Green: [joeg@mvec.net](mailto:joeg@mvec.net)  
[www.mvec.net](http://www.mvec.net)



## ELECTRIC FORKLIFTS AND HIGH FREQUENCY BATTERY CHARGING

Electric forklifts offer lower operating and maintenance costs than diesel or propane, and offer improved health and safety conditions, particularly in indoor use applications. Rebates are available for conversion, new construction, fleet retention and refurbished fleet additions.

### Benefits of electric forklifts

Companies that convert from internal combustion (IC) to electric forklifts reduce operating costs in three ways:

1. **Fuel**<sup>1</sup> – 40 cents of electricity performs the same work as \$1.50 of propane, customers can save \$3,300 on fuel per forklift, per year.
2. **Maintenance**<sup>2</sup> – With fewer parts to repair, electric forklifts cost up to 40% less to maintain.
3. **Operations**<sup>3</sup> – With no tanks to change and no need to change batteries, companies with a fleet of forklifts can reduce labor costs by \$75,000 per year.

### What is the payback period?

The payback period depends on the size and utilization of the forklift. Lifts for use in heavy use multiple shift applications can have a relatively quick payback period. Other applications see better cash flow dynamics coming from lease options that have minimal upfront cost differences when compared to internal combustion lift options.

### How do electric forklifts reduce greenhouse gas emissions?

Using electricity to power forklifts results in the lowest well-to-wheel greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions of any forklift fuel (Source: US Department of Energy). Additionally, [Minnesota Valley Electric Coop](#) can provide you with renewable energy options to fuel your lifts or offset the electric usage of your entire facility.

### High Frequency Charging

Technology advancements such as high frequency battery charging bolster electric forklift performance, and therefore industry acceptance. A forklift is typically in active operation 50% of the time, so most electric forklift models can operate for two 8-hour shifts on a single battery and charger.

### Benefits:

- Faster, more efficient battery charging
- Operational energy cost savings
- Increases battery life by providing better voltage and current control

---

# Companies that convert their forklift fleet to electric significantly reduce operating and maintenance costs.

---

## Eligibility Requirements

- Forklifts must operate a minimum of 20 hours/week
- Off peak rates can provide additional savings when used to fuel electric forklifts. Ask you energy expert at [Minnesota Valley Electric Cooperative](#) for more details on options available for your project.

## Eligible Forklift Equipment

- Class 1 electric indoor or outdoor forklifts
  - 36V, 48V or 80V
  - 3,000 – 12,000 pound lift capacity
- Class 2 indoor narrow-aisle forklifts
  - 24V, 36V or 48V
  - 3,000 – 5,000 pound lift capacity

Please note: Rebates available for conversion from ferroresonant and SCR to high frequency. Hybrid controlled to high frequency conversions do not qualify for rebates.

## CONTACT US

For any questions or assistance in making these savings a reality for your business, please contact your local energy expert at [Minnesota Valley Electric Cooperative](#).

## Sources:

1. EnerSys *C2E Rules of Thumb Corporate Update*. Assumes 2,000 hours/year with a burn rate of 1.5 gallons/hour – 3,000 gallons/year and propane cost of \$1.50/gallon, and 2,000 hours/year with a burn rate of 6 kWh/hour – 12,000 kWh/year and an electricity cost of 10 cents/kWh.
2. Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI)
3. EnerSys estimate: (20 truck fleet; 2 shifts/day; 312 days/year; 2 tank changes / fills a day; each tank change / fill = 15 minutes (consider travel to the exchange / fill station); 30 minutes a day; 10 labor hours per day changing tanks @ \$25 hour – 250 /day; x 300 days = \$75,000).

Equipment Type	Rebate amount	
Conversion (fuel replaced with electric)	\$1,000 (20 hour)	\$2,000 (40 hour)
Fleet addition or new construction (new equipment)	\$1,000 (20 hour)	\$2,000 (40 hour)
Retention (electric to electric) or refurbished fleet addition	\$500	
High frequency battery charger	\$200	

# ELECTRIC FORKLIFTS AND HIGH FREQUENCY BATTERY CHARGING

## Rebate Application

### Business Member Information:

Business Name \_\_\_\_\_

Installation Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Name \_\_\_\_\_ Account # \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

### Rebate Recipient:

To release the rebate incentive check to an alternate party other than the cooperative business member, the member must specify an alternative mailing address and authorize with a signature below.

Please Send Rebate to (check one):

☐ Business Member ☐ Alternative Recipient

Recipient Name \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Name \_\_\_\_\_

### Application Check List:

- ☐ Rebate application with signature
- ☐ Itemized project invoices (labor & materials)
- ☐ Equipment specifications

The undersigned does hereby certify that the undersigned is solely responsible for the accuracy of the information contained in this application. All rules of the program have been followed and the installation is complete. The undersigned acknowledges that nothing contained in the application imposes any liability on the cooperative for the work performed and information presented by the member, member's engineer, contractor, or vendor. The undersigned also authorized payment of incentive directly to the specified rebate recipient.

**Rebate applications due no later than the third Friday of November.**

### Member Signature:

Member Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

# ELECTRIC FORKLIFTS AND HIGH FREQUENCY BATTERY CHARGING

## Rules & Information

### Warranty Information:

Rebate qualifications do not imply any representation or warranty of such equipment, design or installation by the cooperative. The cooperative shall not be responsible or liable for any personal injury or property damage caused by this equipment. The cooperative does not guarantee that a specific level of energy or cost savings will result from the implementation of energy conservation measures or the use of products funded under this program. In no event shall the cooperative be liable for any incidental or consequential damages.

### General Program Rules:

1. Purchase or lease must be final before funds are issued.
2. Members and vendors must submit itemized equipment invoices, rebate application, and manufacturer equipment specifications. To ensure that the equipment installed meets the cooperative’s performance standards, these invoices must itemize labor charges, quantity and price of the equipment installed, as well as information regarding the manufacturer and model numbers for all equipment included in the rebate.
3. The cooperative reserves the right to conduct random inspections of installations.
4. Rebates must be applied for within 12 months of invoice date.
5. Project must comply with all program specific rules and qualifications.
6. The member is responsible for checking with the cooperative to determine funding availability and to verify program parameters.

### Electric Forklift

This program rebates forklifts that switch from an internal combustion engine to electric, electric fleet addition (new or refurbished accepted), and electric to electric fleet retention. Qualifying electric forklifts must be operated a minimum of 40 hours per week. The program can be used in conjunction with the ETS charging rate but is not required.

To qualify for this rebate, the forklift must be purchased or have a 5 year minimum lease agreement.

Class 1: Electric indoor/outdoor forklifts	36 V, 48 V, or 80 V 3,000–12,000 lbs Lift capacity
Class 2: Electric indoor narrow-aisle forklifts	24 V, 36 V, or 48 V 3,000–5,500 lbs lift capacity
Class 3: Electric hand- or rider-truck – <b>Ineligible</b>	12 V and 24 V 3,500–8,000 lbs. lift capacity

### High Frequency Battery Charging

High frequency battery charging bolsters electric forklift performance over conventional charging technologies. High frequency chargers are composed of a switching circuit that switches at a much higher frequency than other charger types. High switching frequencies improve power conversion efficiency, enable better voltage and current control, and can improve charge return which reduces maintenance.

Rebates only available for new construction and replacement of Ferroresonant and Silicon Controlled Rectifier (SCR) only. Replacing hybrid chargers with high frequency to no qualify for rebates.

# ELECTRIC FORKLIFTS

## Equipment & Rebate Information

Fleet Addition, Conversion, and New Construction – \$2,000/unit/40 hours – \$1,000/unit/20 hours

Manufacturer	Model	Quantity	Class	\$2000/unit (40 hrs/wk)	\$1000/unit (20 hrs/wk)	Rebate

Fleet Retention or Refurbished Fleet Addition – \$500/unit

Manufacturer	Model	Quantity	Class	Operating hours/week	Rebate

### Rebate Information

Project Cost

Rebate

# HIGH FREQUENCY CHARGING

## Equipment & Rebate Information

Battery Charging Information – \$200 per Charger

### Existing Charger Type

- ☐ Ferroresonant (Default)
- ☐ Silicon Controlled Rectifier (SCR)

### Operation Information

# Shifts per day	
Operating Days/week	
Operating Weeks/year	
Number of Chargers	

\* Rebate not available for Hybrid to High Frequency Charging

### Rebate Information

Project Cost

Rebate