

MAINTENANCE PRO TIP

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66 ... Choosing the right fuel for your lift trucks can cut maintenance costs and increase uptime.

—Joe Monahan emerging technologies manager, western region, EnerSys®

Maintaining Your Lift Trucks A Side-by-Side Comparison

When you're in the market for a new lift truck, it's vital to consider the effort and time needed to maintain these workhorses of your operation. Properly maintained trucks last longer and work better, saving money. Choosing the right power source will help save even more on maintenance and reduce downtime.

What does it take to maintain a lift truck? As the chart shows, electric trucks require far less service than LP powered trucks.

And if you select opportunity or fast charging, there's no need to change batteries and no equipment to maintain. Operators recharge during regular breaks, increasing uptime.

Electric trucks bring other technologies that help streamline maintenance. Traditionally, operators relied on gauges to tell when fluid levels were low or service was needed. Today's electric trucks offer new intelligence capabilities like wireless monitoring devices to tell operators when batteries need charging, watering and equalization.

LP vs. Electric Typical maintenance for a 5000lb lift truck in a 2000 hrs / year operation.		LP (Liquid Propane)	Electric (Opportunity or Fast Charge)
Engine or Drive Motors	Change PCV Valve (every 2000 hrs / 12 mos)	X	
	Change Timing Belt (every 2000 hrs / 12 mos)	X	
	Change Spark Plugs (every 1000 hrs / 6 mos)	X	
	Change engine oil (every 250 hrs / 6 mos)	X	
	Visually inspect AC motors (every 2000 hrs / 12 mos)		X
Radiator	Check coolant hoses (every 250 hrs)	X	
	Change radiator coolant (every 4000 hrs / 24 mos)	X	
Transmission	Change transmission fluid (every 2000 hrs / 12 mos)	X	
	Change transmission fluid filter (every 2000 hrs / 12 mos)	X	
Filters	Change engine oil filter (every 250 hrs / 6 mos)	X	
	Change fuel filter (every 1000 hrs / 6 mos)	X	
	Change air filter (every 2000 hrs / 12 mos)	X	
Fuel	Change or refill propane tank (every 6-8 hrs)	X	
	Charge battery during regular breaks		X
	Water battery (1x / week)		X
	Equalize battery (1x / week)		X
Changing Equipment	Maintain area devoted to tank changing	X	

Battery and charger systems also allow managers to track how each truck and battery is performing. These systems record minute-by-minute energy throughput, providing detailed information to help managers improve overall fleet performance.

For more information about the maintenance advantages of electric trucks, contact your lift truck dealer or EnerSys at convert2electric@enersys.com

