

## Unloading

### Site Preparation

The same soil preparation normally used for foundations is usually adequate. If soil is soft or unstable, you should consult a soil engineer due to the added weight of the concrete grouting of the walls.



A standard forklift with adequate fork length and lifting capacity is normally sufficient for unloading purposes. This task can be easier with less chance of accidental damage to the panels if a custom forklift rack is attached to the standard forks, as seen below.

The preferred diameter of the tongs is 4" to enable quick and easy entry into the panel cells. For larger lifts, a boom truck crane with spreader bars and/or pipes can be used, also seen below. Unloading by crane is typical in



remote locations where forklifts are generally not available. When choosing an area to unload panels, remember to allow enough space for both the truck and the unloading equipment; fork lift or crane. The truck and trailer alone, can measure up to 75 feet in length and will need enough room to be able to turn into the off load area. Once in position, there will need to be adequate clearance around the truck for off loading. All of these facts should be considered long before a load is delivered. Another point worthy of consideration, is where to stack the panels once unloaded. By far the best place to stack panels for those projects that have a slab already poured is directly onto the dry slab. This provides for a flat, even surface that will lessen the chance of damage



to the panels. If stacking onto a slab is not an option, then panels should be stored in an area that is unobstructed, relatively level and void of rocks or other debris. Stacking on uneven ground may deform the bottom panels to the point of fracture and hard objects like rocks can create puncture damage if care is not taken to first clear the area.