This hydraulic bridge assist is installed on the top platform surface of the lift. It facilitates easy push button operation to lift a larger and heavier bridge or lip. It improves safety, ergonomics and efficiency in positioning bridges or lips of this heavy nature. The bridge assist can be factory installed on new lifts or retrofit in the field on existing lifts. With the push of a button, it facilitates lifting and lowering of large bridges and lips that spring assist arrangements can’t compensate for. It eliminates the need for spring compensators and the need to install significantly more expensive aluminum bridges or lips. Safe / controlled lowering of the bridge or lip is accommodated by the hydraulic flow control valve.

Components of Hydraulic Bridge Assist

- Heavy duty lifting arm with heavy duty pivot pin and pivot brackets.
- Raised position latching chain mechanically holds bridge in raised position.
- Hydraulic power unit is housed in vinyl covered frame.
- NEMA 4 push button control.
- Heavy duty lift chain.
- Hydraulic power unit with vinyl cover removed.
- Lift cylinder.
- Structural base channel facilitates easy installation. Overall width of the assembly is 10 inches. Usable platform width will be reduced by this dimension.

Bridges or lips are ordered separately to match size and capacity requirements according to the application. Hydraulic push button operation allows a one piece steel lip to be utilized. This avoids the additional cost of two piece aluminum lips.
Benefits of hydraulic bridge assist

**Ergonomics & Safety:** Push button operation versus manual lifting improves ergonomics and safety. Operators are not put at risk from bending and pulling the manual bridge or lip to the stored position. As well, concerns with run away lowering of the bridge or lip are eliminated by the hydraulic flow control metering the lowering speed in a safe controlled manner.

**Hydraulic Operation:** Proven and reliable hydraulic cylinder activation.

**Push Button Operation:** NEMA 4, push button facilitates simple and efficient operation of the bridge or lip.

**Simplified Installation:** The entire mechanism is installed on a structural installation channel. Once the channel is properly welded to the lift’s platform, all the components which are pre installed on the channel are in the correct orientation and location.

**Pre wired electrical:** The electrical components are factory installed on the structural installation channel and pre wired at the factory. This eliminates or reduces the need for field wiring. A 115/1/60 volt power supply power line with a male plug is provided. The 1/2 HP rating of the totally enclosed motor on the hydraulic power unit allows the power supply to be a standard 115/1/60 GFI wall receptacle.

The hydraulic cylinder is manufactured by Pentalift. It is designed specifically for use in the harsh environments that loading dock lifts and elevating docks are normally subjected to. The cylinder incorporates hardened chrome cylinder rams. High quality urethane hydraulic seals provide reliable leak proof operation.

**Application information**

A top view of the bridge assist mechanism installed on a lift platform is provided below. The mechanism requires approximately 10 inches of the lift’s platform width and 60 inches of the platform length. A 115/1/60 power supply cord is provided. The cord is routed from the lift’s platform to the GFI receptacle that will supply the power. The receptacle must provide a minimum of 10 amps of power.