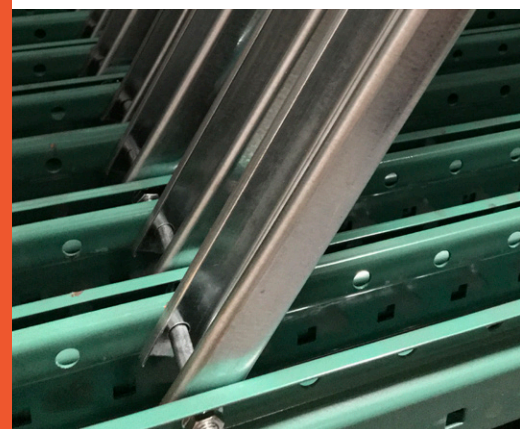




# FlexRack™ Bolted Rack Technology

Advantages of Bolted Rack Systems

**NextLevel**  
STORAGE SOLUTIONS



## Next Level FlexRack:

Introducing an innovative, new bolted racking system

With three decades of hands-on experience in the industry, Next Level founders clearly saw what was lacking in pallet rack manufacturing in North America. They had long-held ideas of how to design and produce a better bolted pallet rack with superior engineering and more flexibility—at a lower cost. Through extensive research, cutting edge technology, and exceptional engineering, Next Level FlexRack™ Pallet Rack went into production in 2011.

### **FLEXIBLE PALLET RACK THAT ADAPTS TO YOUR CHANGING NEEDS**

Racking systems with welded upright connections are naturally limited. FlexRack™ bolted pallet rack systems feature a flexible, modular technology that allows you to easily modify or reconfigure your rack installation as your needs change over time.

Whether you are moving to a new location, require a new picking system, or simply have changes in product size, FlexRack™ bolted systems have the ability to adapt to your growing and ever-changing needs.

### **THE FLEXRACK® GUARANTEE**

FlexRack™ bolted systems are engineered to the highest standards and meet or exceed RMI standards, ANSI MH16.1: 2012 Specification for the Design, Testing and Utilization of Industrial Steel Storage Racks.

All Next Level FlexRack™ locking bolts are designed with a serrated lock nut; and once the bolts are tightened, they are locked in place and will not come loose, even if shipped assembled. No maintenance is required over the life of the bolted pallet racks.



### FLEXRACK™ KEY FEATURES

All components of FlexRack™ bolted rack are comprised of the highest quality, premium steel and are fully engineered in the U.S. to ensure the highest level of structural integrity.

- Locking bolts are designed with a serrated lock nut and once the bolts are tightened, they are locked in place and will not come loose.
- FlexRack™ columns are straight and the braces slip right in –tightening the locking bolt creates the necessary tension that holds the brace to assure the bolts are properly tight – no second guessing ever.
- The nut and bolt connections are maintenance-free.
- Bolts are Grade 5 and zinc plated.
- All FlexRack™ beams and accessories are compatible with systems such as Push-Back, Drive-In/Drive-Thru, and Pallet/Carton Flow, as well as traditional Selective systems.
- FlexRack™ frames start at 55,000 PSI, and beams start at a minimum 55,000 Kpsi yield steel.
- All bolts and nuts used in Next Level FlexRack™ bolted rack are located in recessed channels to prevent contact with products and people.

### Which connection system offers the best value?

	Bolted	Welded
Structural integrity	√	√
Compatible with most other rack systems	√	√
Certified by AISI and AISC*	√	√
Adaptable	√	
Flexible/Reconfigurable	√	
Easy to repair	√	
Reduced shipping cost	√	
Less expense to purchase	√	
Lower storage costs	√	

\*American Iron and Steel Institute, and the American Institute of Steel Construction

# FlexRack™ Components



## UPRIGHT COLUMNS

FlexRack™ true 3" x 3" columns have open profiles and are perfectly straight (vs. traditional wedge-shaped) to allow for quick, easy bracing connection. Teardrop perforations are placed on 2" centers for convenient assembly and beam adjustability. Next Level offers different thicknesses and heights up to 47' to accommodate a wide range of loads.



## DIAGONAL BRACING

Galvanized steel braces are used to assemble the upright frames and are available in different lengths. Next Level's closed-lip U-bracing is stronger and more abuse-resistant to ensure the system's structural integrity.



## NO-WELD BASEPLATE

FlexRack's No-Weld Base Plate is the easiest to use in the industry with fewer parts and simple construction. Secure-lock dimples quickly align and lock the column into the bottom teardrop position creating a solid 4-point connection.



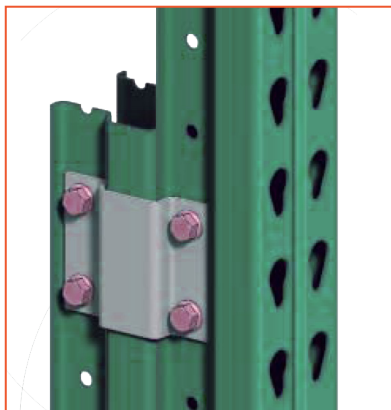
Serrated lock nut

## BOLTS

Zinc plated bolts are fitted with a serrated lock nut to keep the bolts firmly in place, even if shipped assembled.

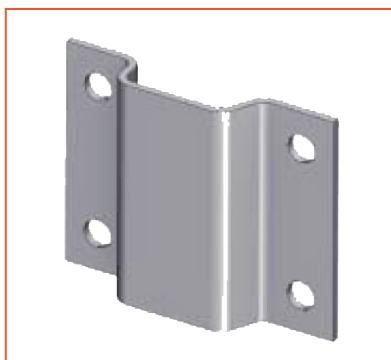
## REINFORCING ELEMENTS

These components are available to provide increased load capacity or structural integrity in seismic areas.



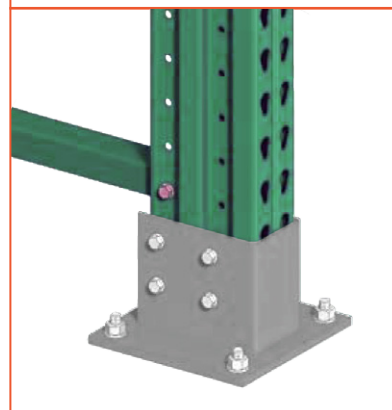
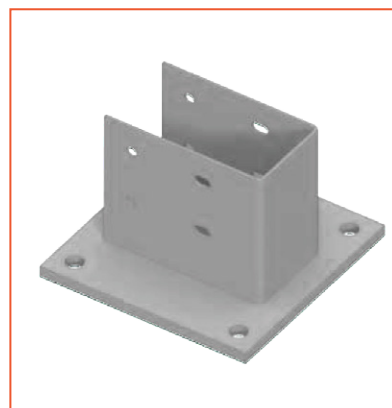
### REINFORCING COLUMN

This element is available to attach to your existing upright column for increased load capacity.



### REINFORCEMENT BRACKET

These special metal pieces have two to four holes and are designed to attach the reinforcing column to the upright, creating a secure and sturdy connection.

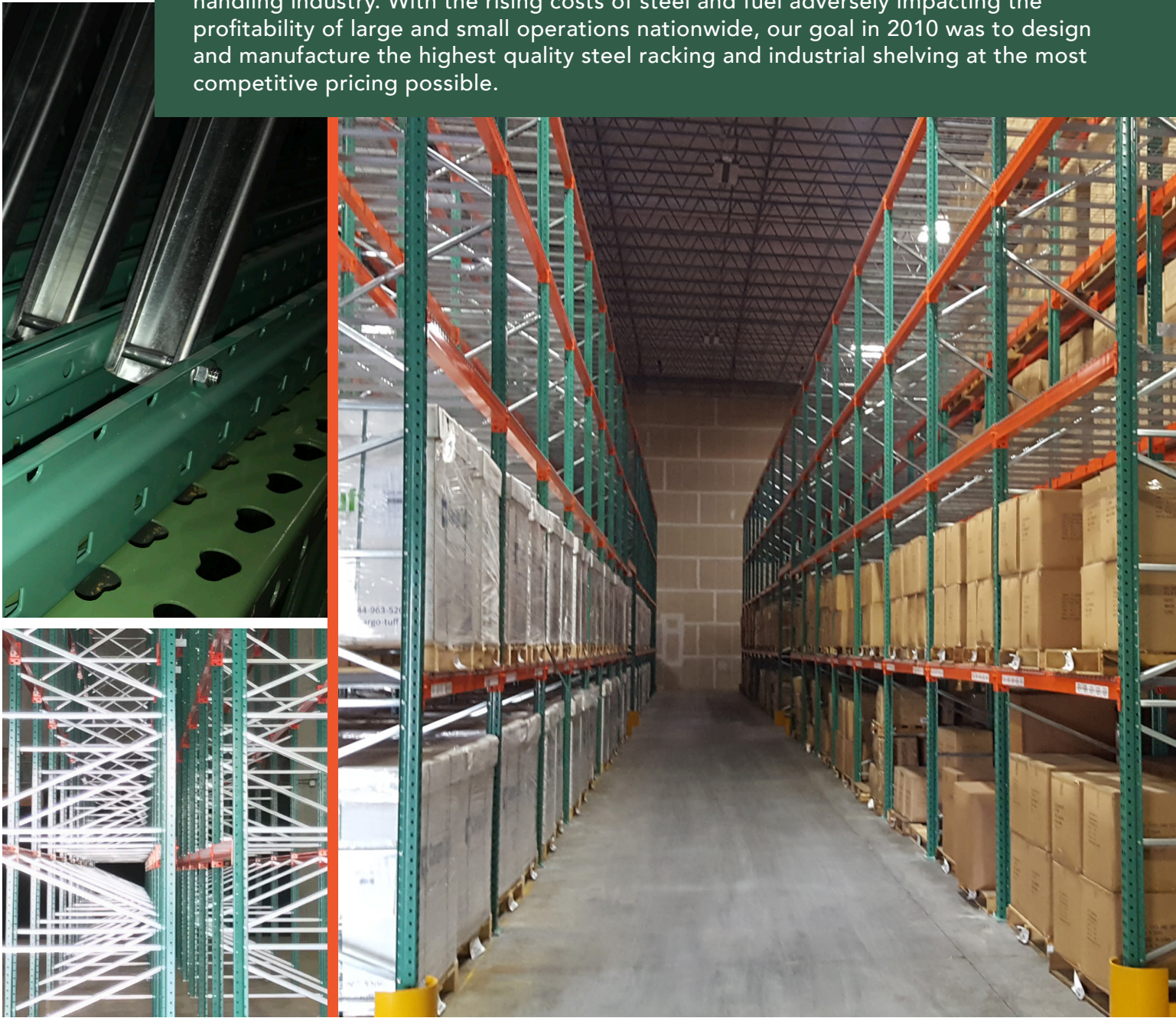


### SEISMIC BASEPLATE

These larger sized baseplates provide for additional protection in areas with seismic activity and can also be used for extra reinforcement for very heavy loads. The baseplates are bolted at the bottom of the upright columns which are then attached to the floor with special concrete bolts.

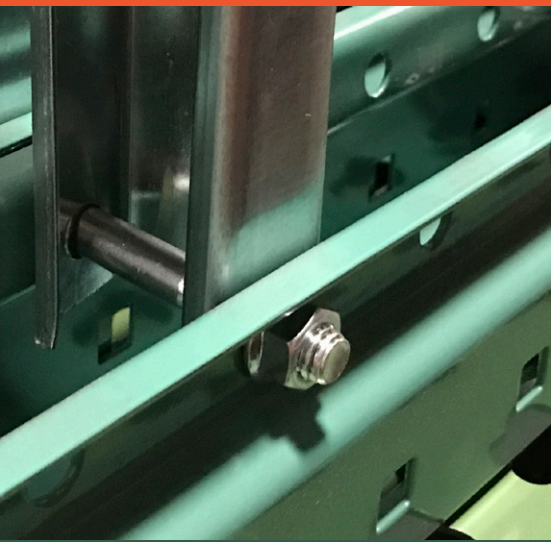
## Why Next Level?

Next Level is the culmination of three decades of hands-on experience in the material handling industry. With the rising costs of steel and fuel adversely impacting the profitability of large and small operations nationwide, our goal in 2010 was to design and manufacture the highest quality steel racking and industrial shelving at the most competitive pricing possible.



Through extensive research, cutting edge technology, and exceptional engineering, Next Level FlexRack® Pallet Rack, along with wire decking and rack accessories, went into production in 2011.

Our mission is to continually raise the bar by designing, engineering and manufacturing innovative storage solutions while also providing industry leading service. We understand the impact of operational costs on any size business and we are committed to helping our customers increase efficiency and profitability through lower material expenditures and cost- efficient design solutions.



# 10 ADVANTAGES

## OF BOLTED PALLET RACK SYSTEMS



### 1. SAVE STORAGE SPACE

Store up to six times more bolted rack components in the same amount of space.

#### WELDED

11,000 sq.ft  
263 MT

#### BOLTED

11,000 sq.ft  
1,658 MT



### 2. SAVE 50%- 60% IN SHIPPING COSTS

The freight savings is significant and usually far outweigh the cost of assembly.

#### WELDED

20,000 lbs.

64 frames  
378 beams

#### BOLTED

45,000 lbs.

151 frames  
775 beams

# 10 ADVANTAGES OF BOLTED PALLET RACK SYSTEMS



## 3. EASY ASSEMBLY



### WELDED

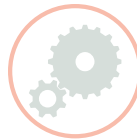
Frames must be assembled in a production center prior to shipping, and the process requires a certified welder or robotic welding.

### BOLTED

On-site assembly saves on shipping costs; plus anyone with minimal training can do the job.



## 4. ECONOMICAL, EASY REPAIRS



### WELDED

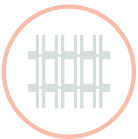
Repairs typically involve replacing the entire frame, which can hinder workflows and operations.

### BOLTED

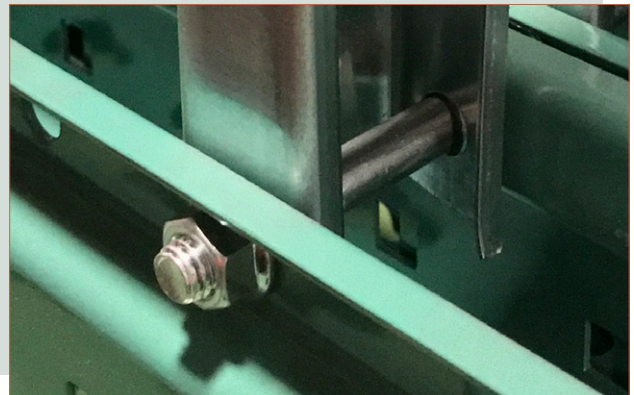
Only the damaged component has to be replaced. Repairs can be made in the field quickly and easily.



## 5. VERSATILE



Built-in flexibility allows for easy modification to adapt to changing requirements.



## 6. SAFETY



### WELDED

You can't see a faulty weld; therefore, the welds must be analyzed.

### BOLTED

If you see the bolt is in place, you can be assured the connection is good.

# 10 ADVANTAGES OF BOLTED PALLET RACK SYSTEMS



## 7. PRECISE CONNECTIONS

Nuts with a serrated lock nut keep the bolts securely fastened. The nuts can not be over tightened, and they are maintenance-free.



## 8. THE BEST SYSTEM FOR SEISMIC AREAS

Bolted connections allow the structure to flex and give, unlike a rigid welded connection that can snap in a seismic event.



## 9. CREATIVE DESIGN SOLUTIONS

The FlexRack™ bolted rack system allows us to offer you creative, custom storage solutions quickly and efficiently. We are committed to improving rack performance and reducing costs through on-going quality assurance in the design, manufacture, sale, and service of quality products.



## 10. FASTER SHIPPING

Our bolted rack system allows us to store more stock and process orders quickly for faster shipping times

## COMMON MISCONCEPTIONS ABOUT BOLTED RACK



### MISCONCEPTIONS

Bolted connection will loosen over time, requiring additional inspections and ongoing maintenance.

Bolted connections can be over-tightened, causing the column to deform.

Welded uprights are more structurally sound than bolted uprights.

The bolts in bolted rack pallet systems have sharp edges that can damage products or harm people.

### FACTS

When properly designed and installed, bolted connections require no additional inspections or maintenance. Next Level uses a serrated locking nut to ensure the bolt stays tight, even if shipping assembled. But we have taken it a step further—our upright columns are designed so that an installer easily knows when the bolts are properly tight—no second guessing, ever. The columns are straight and the braces slip right in. Tightening the locking bolt creates the necessary tension that holds the brace and assures the installer that he's good to go. This is in contrast to a wedge-shaped column which must be pried open to force the braces in—making assembly more difficult and time-consuming, in addition to the possibility of giving a false sense of security about the tightness of the bolts.

The design of Next Level bolts insures the bolts can not be over-tightened.

Welded uprights are not more sound than properly designed bolted frames. Both bolted and welded designs meet the same RMI/ANSI MH16.1: 2012 specification for pallet rack design and 2001 AISI standards that govern steel design and construction.

All bolts and nuts used in Next Level FlexRack™ bolted rack are located in recessed channels to eliminate interaction with products and people.

## COMMON MISCONCEPTIONS ABOUT BOLTED RACK



### MISCONCEPTIONS

Upright frames can be difficult to fit together during assembly

Upright assembly will add time and cost to a project.

### FACTS

Component design and manufacturing processes play a big role in upright fitting. All next Level FlexRack™ products meet or exceed the RMI/ANSI specification for pallet rack and are manufactured according to the quality assurance standards set forth by the the ISO 9000.

The freight savings on bolted rack is significant and usually far outweigh the cost of assembly. Additionally, bolted product prices do not reflect the cost of welding, resulting in a more favorably priced product.



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