

## OPERATIONS

# Budd Van Lines Introduces Patented 'Load it Once' System

Budd Van Lines has introduced Load it Once, a new patented system for executive moves. A truck with a custom-designed, fixed frame accommodates two to four modular containers. Once loaded, the containers are sealed in front of the customer, then delivered to a warehouse facility.

There, the containers are removed from the truck, with their contents still sealed within, and placed in storage. There's no longer the repetitive handling of goods—no small consideration, since during peak, summer moving season, at least 50 percent of shipments go into storage for some amount of time. When it's time for delivery, the sealed containers are reloaded onto the fixed-frame truck and delivered.

Load it Once should not be compared to containerized self-move programs for small shipments. The 28-foot containers are designed specifically for executive moves, accommodating up to 30,000 pounds, and are equipped with hardwood flooring, all required moving equipment and logistic ties.

Load it Once also provides greater accessibility to customers' residences. Drivers have the option of disengaging the trailer section of their rig, which then enables them to enter neighborhoods too confined for a traditional tractor-trailer. This technology is useful, considering that about one-quarter of all shipments currently require shuttling via a smaller truck to reach the residence. Shuttling can add thousands of dollars to a move's total cost, while the additional handling required increases the possibility of damage. With the Load it Once system and its patented draw-bar technology, the need for shuttling is completely eliminated.



The new system will also provide additional business benefits; a recent study indicates it will increase labor productivity by 98 percent. For example, under the conventional moving process, it takes more than 100 man-hours to offload and then load two 28,000-pound shipments. But with Load it Once, the entire process is reduced to 37 minutes.

While the conventional method would tie up a driver for three to five days, Load it Once enables a driver to gain 125 days a year to

cover shipments, while still meeting all applicable hours-of-service regulations.

The system is also environmentally friendly, due to its custom-designed power unit and the draw-bar connection to the trailer. When increased speed activates the draw-bar, it draws the units closer together, thus reducing wind drag and allowing for increased fuel efficiency, a tighter turning radius and overall safer operation.

For more information, visit [buddvanlines.com](http://buddvanlines.com).