MATERIAL HANDLING SOLUTIONS

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P 414 352 9000
F 414 352 9002
6720 N. Teutonia Ave.
Milwaukee, WI 53209

F Series | Mechanical VRC 4-Post

Installation Manual

Important:

Read this entire manual. Important safety information is included.

Before starting the installation, verify the job site dimensions and the dimensions of the delivered materials against the PFlow Industries, Inc. General Arrangement (GA) drawing.

The illustrations depicted in this manual are not to scale or detail. The illustrations are for reference only.

Refer to Your Job Specific Manual

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http://www.pflow.com/contact-us/

Documentation

PFlow Industries, Inc. reserves the right to make changes or improvements to the standard model line at any time. PFlow Industries, Inc. reserves the right to make changes to subsequent editions of the manual without prior notice to holders of this edition.

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Trademarks

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System Modifications/ Disclaimer

Mechanical or electrical modifications performed on the VRC not approved by PFlow Industries, Inc. may void any warranty and/or service agreements. Please contact the PFlow Product Support Department for assistance with service modifications.

Training

Training is available upon request from the Product Support Department. Half-Day, Full-Day, and Two-Day sessions are customized to fit specific needs - either for a single VRC type or for the entire product line.

On-site Supervision

On-site supervision services are available from the Product Support Department. Contact our Field Operations Manager for more details.

Source Language

This manual is written in American English.

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Introduction

This manual provides information about the PFlow Industries, Inc. custom designed Vertical Reciprocating Conveyor (VRC). As the nations' leading manufacturer of vertical material handling equipment, PFlow Industries, Inc. is confident that this new VRC will provide many years of reliable service.

General Overview

The VRC provides a safe and simple means of moving material from one level to another. The simplicity of design and few moving components ensure a trouble-free, long life, with low maintenance and little downtime.

Code Requirements

This VRC is designed for the movement of materials only, up to the VRC's rated capacity, from one level to the next. Do not allow anyone to ride on the VRC. VRCs are **not** elevators, and are specifically excluded within the scope of the ASME A17.1 Safety Code for Elevators and Escalators. VRCs are included in ASME B20.1 Safety Standard for Conveyors and Related Equipment, which is incorporated by reference into OSHA 29 CFR 1910. A copy of the ASME B20.1 standard can be purchased at www.asme.org and other sources. PFlow Industries, Inc. recommends that this standard be referenced for appropriate installation, maintenance, inspection, and operation in relation to hazards. All electrical designs and components are in accordance with National Electric Code (NEC) requirements. Local codes may require initial inspection of the installation and periodic inspection and testing of the unit. Contact PFlow Industries, Inc. for more information in the event an inspection is required.

NOTE

The information and illustrations in this manual are intended only as an aid to understanding the VRCs general installation. The information and illustrations do not cover every possible contingency or circumstance regarding nonstandard options or site conditions.

If there is a problem, call PFlow Industries, Inc. at (414) 352-9000, during normal business hours, 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. central standard time, Monday through Friday. Outside of those hours, see the PFlow Industries, Inc. Contact Information page for additional information. Use the model number and serial number or the PFlow Industries, Inc. General Arrangement (GA) drawing number for the lift in all correspondence.

Parts

Equipment damage resulting from modification in any manner from the original model, including the substitution of parts other than factory authorized parts, will void the warranty. Furthermore, PFlow Industries, Inc. will not be liable for any loss, injury, or damage to persons or property, nor for direct, indirect, or consequential damage of any kind resulting from modified or substitution of parts other than factory authorized parts of said material or equipment.

PFlow Industries, Inc. maintains a complete stock of, or has access to, all replacement components. Detailed records of all equipment sold are kept. If a component is damaged in shipment, is defective or missing, contact PFlow Industries immediately.

Service

The PFlow Industries, Inc. Product Support Department will assist maintenance and service personnel with any questions or problems regarding the equipment or installation.

Feedback

Your feedback is important. Please help PFlow Industries, Inc. understand if the equipment has met your expectations. Please complete the questionnaire in this manual. The questionnaire will help us address any comments and/or concerns.

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Parts and Labor

Parts:		Labor:	
Structure	Lifetime	Structure	Lifetime
Manufactured Components	1 Year	Manufactured Components	1 Year
Purchased Components	1 Year	Purchased Components	90 Days
Gates and Enclosures	90 Days	Gates and Enclosures	90 Days

Definitions

- Structure is defined as columns, carriage, and pre-fabricated bracing (excluding carriage side guards).
- Manufactured components are defined as those components manufactured by PFlow Industries, Inc.
- Purchased components are those components that are used as supplied by vendors.

Warranty

PFlow Industries, Inc. expressly warrants to the original purchaser that this product will be free from defects in material and workmanship under normal, intended use. The warranty period begins 30 days after shipment.

Exclusions

This warranty does not apply to:

1. Equipment or components damaged or broken in transit or shipping.
2. Replacement of wear parts.
3. Equipment failures caused by abuse, misuse, exceeding recommended capacities, impact with other objects, negligence, improper installation, unskilled use, unskilled maintenance, inadequate maintenance, or incorrect adjustments.
4. Exposure to a corrosive or abrasive environment or exterior elements unless specifically built for that environment.
5. Equipment that has been repaired, altered or modified in any manner outside of the manufacturing facility, substitution of parts other than factory authorized parts, removal of any parts, or addition of any parts without prior written permission by PFlow Industries, Inc.
6. Any losses or damages resulting from loss of data, loss of revenue or profits, loss of products, incidental or consequential damages, delays, or expenses incurred by failure of said part or parts even if advised of the possibility thereof.
7. Lost time and/or additional trips for missing or damaged components.
8. Expedited freight charges.

Obligation

The obligation for PFlow Industries, Inc. is limited to only the replacement or repair of defective components that received prior authorization. This is the owner's sole remedy.

PFlow Industries, Inc. will bear normal labor charges performed by an authorized PFlow Industries, Inc. service agent during standard business hours, excluding overtime, holiday rates, or any additional fees.

This warranty applies to all models and no person except an officer of PFlow Industries, Inc. is authorized to modify this warranty or to incur on behalf of PFlow Industries, Inc. any other obligation or liability in connection with PFlow Industries, Inc. equipment.

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Liability

PFlow Industries, Inc. believes, to the best of our knowledge, that the information in the equipment manuals are accurate. In the event that technical or typographical errors exist, PFlow Industries, Inc. reserves the right to make changes to subsequent editions of the manual without prior notice to holders of this edition. The reader should consult PFlow Industries, Inc. if errors are suspected.

The customer's right to recover damages caused by fault or negligence on the part of PFlow Industries, Inc. shall be limited to the amount paid to PFlow Industries, Inc. by the customer. The limitation of liability of PFlow Industries, Inc. will apply regardless of the form of action, whether in contract or tort, including negligence. Any action against PFlow Industries, Inc. must be brought within one (1) year after that cause of action accrues.

PFlow Industries, Inc. will not be liable for any loss, injury, or damage to persons or property, nor for direct, indirect, or consequential damage of any kind resulting from failure or defective operation of said material or equipment.

Warranty Procedures

All billing must be in accordance with our Warranty Procedures. Replacement of defective parts will be handled in accordance with the Return Materials Authorization (RMA) policy for PFlow Industries, Inc.

Pre-Authorization

- All warranty work must be pre-authorized by PFlow Industries, Inc. Product Support Department prior to starting work.
- Where distance and or experience may be more cost-effective, PFlow Industries, Inc. reserves the right to use alternate organizations.
- Labor is defined as a maximum of two hours travel per call, plus reasonable on-site repair time as determined by PFlow Industries, Inc.
- Local purchase of components must be pre-authorized.

1. Notify the PFlow Industries, Inc. Product Support Department of the problem for authorization.
2. PFlow Industries, Inc. will determine:
   - The cause of the problem.
   - Who will do the repair work.
   - The repair details involved.
3. If PFlow Industries, Inc. decides that your organization or your subcontractor will do the work, an authorization number will be assigned which must be referenced on all subsequent paperwork.

NOTE *Notify PFlow Industries, Inc. by phone, FAX, or e-mail during the next business day if an event occurs during our non-working hours. Issuance of an authorization number does not guarantee approval and/or payment.*

Invoices

1. Submit an invoice for approval within 30 days after the date the work was completed. Payment is made 30 days after the date of approval.
2. A deduction from outstanding payments to PFlow Industries, Inc. for warranty is never authorized.
3. Invoices received without sufficient information will be returned. Invoices will be reconsidered for approval when complete documentation is received. All invoices must include, in detail, the following:

☐ PFlow serial number.	☐ Labor hours expended resolving the problem.
☐ Date the work was performed.	☐ Rates per hour.
☐ Description of the problem.	☐ Copies of receipts for materials purchased.
☐ Travel time incurred.	☐ Detailed description of work completed.

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Read the Entire Manual

Important: carefully read the entire manual upon receipt of the VRC. Improper installation, alteration, adjustment, service, cleaning, or maintenance could result in death, severe injury, or property damage. Instructions and warnings must be read and thoroughly understood by all operators and users. PFlow Industries, Inc. recommends that the owner conduct regular staff training including safety instructions on a regular basis to avoid the risk of accident or damage to the VRC.

Following procedures other than those indicated in this guide to install, use, and maintain the VRC is considered inappropriate and may cause fatal accidents, personal injury, or property damage, in addition to invalidating the warranty.

Intended Purpose

The intended purpose of the PFlow Industries, Inc. Vertical Reciprocating Conveyor (VRC) is to provide a safe and simple means of moving materials only, up to the VRCs rated capacity, from one level to another. VRCs are **not** elevators. The VRC is exclusively intended for use in establishments where all operators have been trained to understand the purpose, limitations, and associated hazards of the VRC. Any other use is strictly forbidden.

Potential Risks and Possible Misuse

PFlow Industries, Inc. has attempted to protect against as many hazards as possible. The following potential risks should be addressed before the VRC is put into operation:

- Risk of injury caused by falling products.
- Risk of injury caused by product extending beyond the confines of the carriage.
- Risk of injury caused by exceeding the weight capacity of the VRC.
- Hazards occurring at places where the VRC connects to incoming and outgoing conveyors.
- Risk of injury if any safety features are bypassed.
- Risk of injury due to the use of corrosive chemicals or water jet.

Safety Alert Symbols

To ensure your safety and the safety of those around you, it is important that you read, observe, and understand ALL safety precautions relative to a particular task. Safety precautions in the manual are labeled with an alert symbol followed by the word **DANGER**, **WARNING**, or **CAUTION**.

This is the safety alert symbol. It is used to alert you to potential physical injury hazards. Obey all safety messages that follow this symbol to avoid possible injury or death.

DANGER Indicates a hazardous situation that, if not avoided, will result in death or serious injury.

WARNING Indicates a hazardous situation that, if not avoided, could result in death or serious injury.

CAUTION Indicates a hazardous situation that, if not avoided, could result in minor or moderate injury.

NOTICE Used to address practices not related to physical injury.

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DANGER

- Stay within the rated lift capacity.
- Make sure all safety devices are in place and operable before using the equipment. If any safety device is missing or inoperable, immediately remove the equipment from service.

- High Voltage! A qualified electrician must install all electrical connections and permanent wiring in accordance with applicable local or national electrical codes. Make sure the equipment is properly grounded in accordance with local electrical codes or, in the absence of local codes, with the current edition of the National Electrical Code NFPA No. 70.
- Falling column hazard! Make sure all beams, columns, posts, enclosure panels, and components are properly supported during installation. Illustrations may show the beams, columns, posts, enclosure panels, and components unsupported in order to make the equipment and installation instructions clearly understood.
- Keep clear of unsupported platforms. Stay out of the area under a raised platform. If a maintenance operation requires the carriage to remain in the raised position, refer to Bulletin 15709-0083 for additional information or contact PFlow Industries, Inc. Product Support Department for assistance.

WARNING

- Passengers are not permitted. Riding may result in death or serious personal injury.
- This equipment can be dangerous if not used properly. Allow only competent adults who have been properly trained and authorized personnel to operate this equipment.
- This equipment must be maintained to ensure safety. Allow only properly trained personnel to service the equipment. Implement a routine safety inspection plan and follow the recommended preventive maintenance schedule in the owner's manual.

- Lockout/tagout equipment before performing any adjustments or maintenance. If the equipment is not locked out, it could start unexpectedly and cause injury or damage. ***Make sure all personnel are aware of the potential for stored energy to be present even after the power has been locked out.*** Refer to ANSI Z244.1 and OSHA 29 CFR 1910.147 for minimum requirements for a lockout/tagout system. There may be additional state or local requirements.

- Components and accessories may be heavy. To prevent serious injury, use the appropriate lifting apparatus when handling the components and installing the VRC.

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⚠WARNING

- If any defects relating to operating safety and reliability are detected or if any damage occurs, the VRC must be taken out of operation immediately.
- Before the VRC is put into operation, all VRC parts must comply with all relevant health and safety directives and regulations.
- Do not switch the main power supply on or start the VRC when persons are in contact with the VRC.
- Make sure that no persons or objects are within the range of any moving parts of the VRC.
- Climbing, sitting, walking, or riding on equipment while the equipment is in operation could result in death or serious injury.
- If this VRC needs to be modified in any way, contact PFlow Industries, Inc. for assistance. Do not make any unauthorized changes.

- Falling Hazard! Close all gates before the carriage is moved. Never leave the lift unattended with the gates in the open position. Never close gates when a person is on the carriage or within the fenced area.
- Place the load in the center of the lift platform to avoid shifting loads. Make sure that any portion of the load does not overhang the perimeter of the carriage. This could create an unstable load condition.
- If the carriage deck does not stop after contact has been made with the limit switch arm, or continues to drift past the floor level, the lift motor brake is not working properly. Discontinue use of the VRC and contact PFlow Industries, Inc. for assistance.

- Lockout/tagout the VRC before removing jammed product. Be aware that stored energy in the lift components may move or shift when the jam is removed. De-energize any circuit before work is begun.
- Do not overtravel! Stops, mechanical or electrical, must be in place to prevent the carriage from traveling beyond the intended floor level. Overtravel could cause permanent damage to the carriage or failure of the lifting mechanism.
- Entanglement hazard! Secure long hair, wear snug-fitting clothing, and avoid wearing jewelry while using the VRC.

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⚠CAUTION

- During operation, the surfaces of some components may become hot. Avoid touching hot surfaces or wear protective gloves.
- Inform personnel about the location and operation of emergency stops and power disconnection points.
- If any unsafe or unusual conditions are observed, stop the equipment and remove it from service. Report the condition to your supervisor.

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Electrical Safety Precautions

⚠ DANGER

High Voltage! Employees servicing or maintaining VRCs may be exposed to death or serious personal injury if hazardous energy is not properly controlled. De-energize any circuit before work is begun. Follow your facilities procedures or OSHA lockout/tagout (LOTO) procedures anytime maintenance or service is being performed on any electrical box or component.

⚠ CAUTION

The incoming voltage source must match the voltage identified on the rating tag. The rating tag provides essential technical information required for any installation, maintenance, or repairs. Do not remove, damage, or modify the rating tag.

De-energize the Circuit

1. Lockout/tagout whenever any work, maintenance, or service is performed on any electrical box or component. Make sure circuits are de-energized before starting work, using a functional, properly rated, and well maintained multimeter or voltage sensing device. Make sure the device is rated for the level of voltage being measured and is sensitive enough for the application.
2. Use fuse pullers to change a fuse; ***never*** use bare hands, pliers, or screwdrivers.
3. Install covers on exposed electrical devices or wires to protect personnel from serious injury.
4. Ground all metal connection boxes, switch boxes, starting boxes, transformers, motors, limit switches, interlocks, and push-button stations to prevent shock to personnel.
5. When using a portable meter, never leave one lead dangling with the other lead connected. Anyone touching the lead may receive a shock through the meter.
6. Make sure that all is clear following lockout/tagout procedures before applying power to a circuit. This is necessary in order to protect personnel from injury and to prevent damage to the equipment.
7. Avoid accidental contact with equipment or conductors which are known to be energized or are ***not*** known to be de-energized. If it is necessary to work on equipment while it is energized, use extra care. Always test and repair equipment that appears damaged or delivers an electric shock.

Take time to be careful! Follow all safety precautions to prevent death or personal injury.

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Electrical Safety Precautions

⚠ DANGER

High Voltage! To prevent serious injury, death, or property damage, all electrical connections and permanent wiring must be installed by a licensed electrician in accordance with applicable local or national electrical codes. Arc flash and shock hazard appropriate PPE is required. This equipment must be adequately grounded in accordance with local electrical codes or, in the absence of local codes, with the current edition of the National Electrical Code NFPA No. 70.

Working on Energized Circuits

When electrical repair or maintenance work is required that prohibits de-energizing the circuits involved, extreme caution must be used. The work should be completed only by authorized, well trained and supervised personnel who are fully aware of the dangers involved. All practical safety measure must be used to protect the personnel performing the required work. In addition to the NFPA No. 70 codes, the following precautions **must** be taken:

1. Remove all wristwatches, watch chains, rings, necklaces, metal appendages to clothing, oversized metallic belt-buckles, metal piercings, or loose clothing. These items have the potential to make accidental contact with energized surfaces. In addition, secure long hair with a hair net or cover with a plastic helmet.
2. Remove all hair barrettes or bobby pins. These items are electrically conductive and accidental contact may cause serious personal injury.
3. Wear dry clothing and shoes. Moisture should not be present on the soles of shoes. Water is electrically conductive and accidental contact may cause death or serious personal injury.
4. Insulate the worker from the ground. Cover any adjacent grounded metal surfaces with an insulating material. Suitable insulating materials are dry wood, rubber mats, dry canvas, dry phenolic material, or heavy, multi-ply paper (cardboard). Make sure that the insulating material has no holes present and there are no conductive materials (e.g., staples) embedded. Cover a sufficient area with the insulating material to make sure that adequate space is permitted for worker movement.
5. Use insulated tools when working on energized circuits or fuse box. These insulated tools must be rated to withstand the voltage of the energized circuits.

Notes for the Installation Electrician

The installation electrician must take the following precautions:

1. Locate and review the electrical schematics furnished with the equipment.
2. Verify the proper fit-up, wiring and operation of all required electrical components.
3. Mount the push button station out of reach of someone located on the carriage (approximately six feet [1829mm]).
4. Wire standard lift limit switches on the chain tensioning assembly (see the job specific electrical schematic as required) for mechanical VRCs as follows:
   If the tensioner chain becomes slack causing the arm on the limit switch to move down or if a strong tension is exerted on the tensioner chain causing the arm to move up, there is a break in the control power. The limit switches are designated with an LS# on the electrical schematic.

Entrance Below a Raised Carriage Deck

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Safety First

The most common reason to access the area below a raised carriage deck is to clean debris from the pit or hoistway. This is best accomplished using a long handled broom or rake to avoid entry under the raised carriage deck. Entry under the raised carriage deck is acceptable only when unavoidable and then only if the proper precautions are taken. It is the user's responsibility to ensure that the following conditions be met before allowing qualified personnel to enter the area under the raised carriage deck.

- Work must be performed by qualified maintenance technicians.
  - ASME B20.1-2015 defines a qualified person as "A person who, by possession of recognized degree or certificate of professional standing or by extensive knowledge, training, and experience, has successfully demonstrated his/her ability to solve problems relating to the subject matter and work."
- The facility has performed a Risk Assessment per ASME B20.1-2015 5.16
  - Reference OSHA 3071 for Job Hazard Analysis
  - Reference CEMA Technical Report 2015-01, ASSE Z590.3, and MIL-STD-882 for Risk Assessment examples.
- A proper Lockout/Tagout (LOTO) procedure has been performed on the VRC.
  - Refer to ANSI/ASSE Z244.1-2003 (R2014), Control of Hazardous Energy — Lockout/Tagout and Alternative Methods, and OSHA Standard 29 CFR 1910.147, The Control of Hazardous Energy (Lockout/Tagout).
- At least two (2) means of support are used to secure the raised platform.
  - The lifting systems can be used as one means of support provided that no work is to be done on the hydraulic system or mechanical drive system and an appropriate LOTO has been performed on the VRC.
  - Additional means of support include adequately sized maintenance chains, maintenance pins, DeckLocks, or straps with shackles around the drivebase that are capable of supporting the weight of the carriage.

Minimize the Hazards

Every employee must be aware of the hazards before entering the area under a raised carriage. Take appropriate steps to minimize these hazards and any others that are identified. Some of the more common hazards are:

- Inadequate refuge space
- Confined space
- Improper air quality
- Inadequate lighting
- Improper access
- Tripping hazards
- Unsafe or lack of pit ladders
- The presence of moisture/water/oil
- Moving equipment

General Guidelines

- Where a VRC is operating in a multiple unit hoistway, that portion of the hoistway where the work is to be performed shall be fully separated or accessible equipment locked out.
- Ensure that all portable lights and tools are connected through a Ground Fault Circuit Interrupter (GFCI).
- Provide adequate lighting especially if in a shaftway.
- For a deep pit, never "jump" into the pit – always use a ladder.
- Use proper hand protection while cleaning the area beneath a raised carriage.
- Remove parts, lubricants, cleaning equipment, etc from inside the pit.
- Do not stand on the hydraulic piping or electrical conduit.
- Never straddle over the traveling cable(s) if so equipped and protect it against damage.

Entrance Below a Raised Carriage Deck

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Pit Access

Access to the area beneath the raised carriage deck can be gained through manual measures implemented by qualified maintenance technicians or automatically through the use of a factory supplied option known as maintenance mode.

Manual Access

1. Call the carriage to the lower level.
2. Open the lower gate and bypass the gate open switch at the interlock or in the main control panel. If there is any confusion about how to do this, call the PFlow Industries, Inc. Product Support Department.
3. Barricade the lower level gate opening to prevent unintended access and provide hazard warning signs.
4. Verify that the carriage is empty. Raise the carriage to the upper level making sure all personnel are clear of the moving carriage.
5. Lockout the lift in accordance with the facility Lockout/Tagout program.
6. Secure the carriage at the upper level using adequately sized maintenance chains, maintenance pins, or straps with shackles around the drivebase that are capable of supporting the weight of the carriage to provide additional safety.

NOTICE

Do not attempt to do any work on the lifting system (e.g., hydraulic system, motor drive). When work is to be done on the hydraulic system or mechanical drive system, a different procedure must be followed. The carriage must be landed on stands or secured by another means in order to prevent any weight from relying on the lifting means or when the hydraulic pressure is fully relieved. Consult Factory.

7. Return to the lower level and verify that the gate and the carriage does not move if the push-buttons are pressed. Wedge or block the lower level gate in the open position to prevent the gate from closing while someone is in the pit area.
8. Perform the necessary maintenance, adjustments, or cleaning under the carriage.
9. Exit the pit and remove the wedge or block holding the lower level gate open.
10. Reverse the process to return the VRC into service.

Automatic Access - Maintenance Mode with DeckLocks

If the VRC is equipped with this option, refer to Maintenance Mode Sequence of Operation Bulletin #15879-0009 for details.

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Unique Descriptions and Names

PFlow Industries, Inc. has incorporated, as well as created, a number of unique descriptions, names, and terminology for parts, components, and devices included in the Vertical Reciprocating Conveyor (VRC). This glossary includes these unique terms and other common terms to help understand this manual and the information it contains. In addition, the glossary will aid the user in communicating the correct information during troubleshooting and service situations. Although the wording and descriptions may sound familiar to the person who has read the manual, other terms and descriptions might not. It is recommended by PFlow Industries, Inc. that this glossary be reviewed before reading the remainder of this manual.

Alkyd paint	A fast-drying enamel paint, color-mixed per the customer's request, and applied using standard methods as specified by the paint manufacturer.
ANSI	American National Standards Institute: www.ansi.org
ASME	American Society of Mechanical Engineers: www.asme.org
Authorized person	Trained or qualified personnel approved to perform a specific duty or duties.
Back-frame	The vertical portions of the carriage on a cantilever VRC, typically a series D vertical support mast.
Backstop panel	Also known as a Mezzanine roll-off panel, this is a panel that is installed opposite the loading edge at upper loading levels of a VRC platform that does not penetrate a floor. The backstop panel helps protect personnel and/or products from falling off the platform when loading or unloading. This term should not be confused with the term "backstop" as defined in ASME B20.1.
Backstop	As defined by ASME B20.1; A mechanical device to prevent reversal of a loaded conveyor under action of gravity when forward travel is interrupted.
BVAC	A bi-panel vertical acting gate.
Cantilever	A style of VRC where the carriage rides along the guide columns that are located on the same side of the carriage. This style lift can accommodate loading on three sides; right, front, and left.
Capacity	The maximum load for which the VRC is designed.
Carriage	The entire structural assembly that travels on the guide columns and carries the load.
Carriage gate	A gate that is mounted directly on the carriage deck.
CEMA	Conveyor Equipment Manufacturers Association: www.cemanet.org
Chain	See Drive chain, Lift chain and Roller chain.

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Chain Driven Live Roller (CDLR)	A horizontal conveyor that is driven by separate loops of chain or a continuous chain. The chain contacts all roller sprockets, depending on the type and function of the horizontal conveyor. Either double or single sprockets are fitted to the horizontal conveyor rollers.
Chain Guide Tube	A tube welded to the back side of the VRC column that encloses the lift chain and tensioner chain.
Chain tensioner	A device that monitors the lift chain tension. If the lift chain is too tight, becomes slack, or breaks, the limit switch mounted on the chain tensioner will trip and remove control power.
Columns	The vertical structural members in which the wheelblocks attached to the carriage travel up and/or down.
Column splice	Columns shipped in more than one piece must be joined in the field during installation. Field assembly and welding is required.
Constant Pressure Push Button	A push button which must remain pressed and maintained by the operator in order to perform a desired operation. If the push button is released, the desired operation will stop.
Controls	Any combination of electrical devices used to control the operation of a VRC. This normally includes push buttons, relays, limit switches, interlocks, etc.
Control Panel	An enclosure housing various electrical components that control the VRC.
Control voltage	The control voltage is typically provided by the control transformer and is used to energize the various low voltage electrical devices.
Conveyor, Vertical Reciprocating	See Vertical Reciprocating Conveyor (VRC).
Dead load	A static load that is a permanent force, acting on a structure (see Platform).
Deck	The floor of the carriage (can be smooth plate, tread plate, or open).
DeckLock System	An added measure of safety to prevent uncontrolled descent of the carriage.
Diagonal drop bar	Load-defining bar and snap chain across operating end(s) of the carriage to define the load area on the platform which may minimize load movement. The diagonal drop bar is hinged at the base and swings down. This is not a load stop.
Direct acting cylinder	The cylinder which transmits lifting force directly to the carriage rather than through the use of cables, pulley, or chains.
Drivebase assembly	Gear reducer, brake motor and mechanical components that power the chain that lifts and lowers the carriage for mechanical VRCs. This assembly is typically mounted at the top of the lift guide columns.

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Drive chain	Drive chains on the F series mechanical VRC, through a series of a shaft and sprockets allow the carriage to be raised and lowered.
Drift	The action of a lift carriage slowly dropping, usually due to slight internal leaks in a hydraulic system or mechanical slippage of a motor brake.
EBVAC	An electrically powered bi-panel vertical acting gate.
Effective width/length	Refers to usable space for the materials load on the carriage, not the overall dimensions which includes space allowed for carriage side guards and snap chains.
Electrical cable	Electrical cables consist of at least two conductors contained within a protective outer cover.
Enclosure (lift guarding)	Structure surrounding a VRC to prevent outside interference with its normal operation and to safeguard personnel. Typically 8' (2438mm) high panels composed of expanded metal or other materials that will prevent a 2" (51mm) diameter ball from passing through (ASME B20.1 requirement).
Epoxy coating	Abrasion-resistant, two-part industrial-strength protective coating system applied over sandblasted and primed steel or direct to metal. The epoxy coating is ideal for outdoor, chemical, or caustic wash-down environments or applications where standard alkyd enamel is viewed as insufficient.
EVAC	An electrically powered single panel vertical acting gate.
Expanded metal (EM)	A sheet of metal uniformly slit and stretched, forming diamond-shaped openings in the metal sheet. Expanded metal is a one piece construction that will not unravel under normal circumstances and will hold its shape. Expanded metal comes in a standard (raised) or flattened diamond pattern in a variety of gauges, opening sizes, materials and sheet sizes.
Explosion proof (EXP)	Electrical devices (e.g., control panels, motors, limit switches) that are designed to operate safely in a specific location or area where potentially explosive environments can or do exist.
Floor-to-Floor distance	The distance from one operating floor level to the adjacent operating floor level (see Vertical travel).
Full Height Enclosures (FHE)	Structure surrounding the full height of a VRC to prevent outside interference with its normal operation and to safeguard personnel. Typically panels composed of expanded metal or other materials that will prevent a 2" (51mm) diameter ball from passing through (ASME B20.1 requirement).
Gate	A device that opens and closes manually or automatically to allow access to the carriage for loading and unloading. The gate is normally a swing, sliding, or vertical acting device constructed of similar expanded metal as the enclosure (see specific gate type).

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General Arrangement (GA) drawing	The drawing produced by PFlow Industries, Inc. which shows the VRC lift, gates, and enclosures. The drawing may show but does not specify building details.
Guarded by location	Describes moving parts so protected by the parts remoteness from the floor, platform, walkway, or other working level, or by the parts location with reference to the frame, foundation, or structure to reduce the foreseeable risk of accidental contact by persons or objects. The parts remoteness from foreseeable, regular, or frequent presence of public or employed personnel may constitute guarding by location in reasonable circumstances. (See ASME B20.1 standard)
Guide angles	Guide angles are attached to the guide column to help capture and contain the guide wheels in the columns and guide the carriage.
Guide column	The structural members connected to the carriage that guide the carriage travel up and down.
Header	Header refers to the horizontal structure spanning the width of the carriage or gate. The carriage header defines the load height on straddle units.
HMI (Human Machine Interface)	The user interface in the control system that provides graphic control of the VRC. The HMI communicates with the programmable logic controller (PLC).
Hollow shaft	VRC mechanical shaft of the mechanical drivebase which penetrates the gear motor rather than coupling to the gear motor. This minimizes wear points.
Hydraulic cylinder	A device which converts fluid power into linear force and motion. The hydraulic cylinder usually consists of a movable element such as a piston and piston rod, plunger or ram, operating within a cylindrical bore.
Hydraulic power unit	Refers to motor, pump, and reservoir assembly. The reservoir is shipped with oil. Most hydraulic power units come with the control panel attached and pre-wired to the hydraulic pump.
Incoming voltage	The main voltage being supplied for operation of the equipment.
Interlock (Gate/Door)	An electro-mechanical locking system used on the gates or access doors of a VRC. The system prevents the VRC operation unless all such gates or access doors are closed. The system also prevents the opening of any such gate or access door unless the VRC carriage is present at that particular landing or opening.
Intermediate level	A floor level or levels between the uppermost and bottommost operating floor.
Junction box	An electrical control box used to join, centralize, and distribute wiring from different locations.
Keylock control	A keyed push button station that prevents unauthorized use of the VRC.
Kick plate	A curb on the outermost edge of the inoperable sides of the carriage deck which is designed to contain product and is a minimum of 4" (102mm) high.
Knock-down (KD)	Lift components shipped in two or more pieces. Typically field welding is required (e.g., KD carriage, KD headers, KD uprights, KD gates, etc.).

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Landing	A permanent-working surface at a fixed elevation used for loading or unloading the carriage.
Lift chain	A chain that lifts the carriage and load.
Lift location light	Illuminated push button that indicates at which level the carriage is located.
Lifted load	The total weight that the VRC is designed to lift at a specific speed. Typically, this is the dead load plus live load (see Rated load).
Limit switch	An electrical device which is used to control the carriage position and monitor various mechanical devices.
Load pattern	A method to describe the direction a load can be moved on and off a carriage at different operating floors or levels. These can be used in combinations. ● **"C" load pattern:** Carriage configuration allowing a load/unload opening on one side of the carriage deck. ● **"Z" load pattern:** Carriage configuration allowing a load/unload opening on opposite sides of carriage deck. ● **"90 degree" load pattern:** Carriage configuration allowing a load/unload openings at right angles on the carriage deck.
Load test	The carriage is loaded to rated capacity, and the lift is operated.
Macropoxy	Macropoxy is a fast drying, polyamide epoxy designed to protect steel in industrial exposures. Ideal for protection of sharp edges, corners, and welds.
Mechanical stop	A mechanical means of stopping travel at a fixed position.
Momentary contact push button	A push button which only has to be pressed for an instant to activate the desired operation.
Non-operating end	The side(s) of a carriage not used for loading/unloading. Handrails or expanded metal sides and kick plate are normally supplied as minimum guarding.
Operating end	The side(s) of the carriage used for loading/unloading. At a minimum the side(s) are normally equipped with a safety chain as guarding.
Overall dimension	The outside dimension of the carriage structure or the entire lift.
Overtravel limit switch	A safety device provided on mechanical VRCs to stop carriage travel beyond the uppermost or lowermost floor level if the floor level positioning limit switch fails.
Photo eye	Photoelectric sensor that uses a focused beam of light to span the distance to a reflector. The VRC controls receive a signal when the reflected beam of light is detected by a sensor.
Pit	A depression in the floor a minimum of 1" (25mm) deeper than the carriage profile, which allows the carriage deck to be flush at operating floor or level.
Platform	The structure that forms the floor of the carriage and that directly supports the load (see Deck).
Pneumatic gate operator	A device that requires in-plant, clean and dry air to automatically open and close a gate. The device can be operated by either manually through the use of pull cords or push buttons, or automatically through the use of a PLC.

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Pressure switch (hydraulic)	A sensor which detects hydraulic pressure. The sensor can be set to trip at a predetermined pressure. When this pressure setting is reached, the pressure switch will activate, opening the control circuit and stopping the pump motor.
Programmable Logic Controller (PLC)	A micro-processor based device that controls the VRC or Cartveyor™ through a resident software program.
Push-button (PB) station	The wall mounted, pedestal mounted, or hand held device used to control the operation of the VRC.
Qualified person	A person, who by possession of a recognized degree, certificate, professional standing, or skill, and who by knowledge, training and experience, has demonstrated the ability to deal with problems relating to the subject matter, the work, or the project.
Ramp	An access ramp used to load on and off of a carriage deck.
Rated load	The load the VRC is designed for and installed to lift at a rated speed (see Lifted load).
Reflector	A plastic, prismatic object used to reflect a beam of light emitted from a photoelectric sensor.
Roll-off panel	See Back-stop panel.
Roller chain	The type of chain drive most commonly used for transmission of mechanical power. The roller chain consists of a series of short cylindrical rollers held together by side links and connecting pins. The roller chain is driven by a toothed wheel called a sprocket.
Safety cam	Spring-loaded, hardened steel cam directly attached to the lift chain or gate chain that engages if the lift chain or gate chain breaks or slackens, preventing the carriage or gate panel from dropping more than a few inches.
Side guards	A protective enclosure on the outermost edge of the inoperable sides of the deck welded to the carriage to contain load. Can be rails, sheet steel, or expanded metal.
Slack chain device	A device that monitors a chain and trips if the chain goes slack. If the chain becomes slack or breaks, the limit switch mounted on the slack chain device will trip and remove power to the circuit.

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Spliced guide column	Guide column that is fabricated and delivered in two or more sections necessitated by manufacturing, handling, or installation constraints.
Sprocket	A wheel typically mounted on a shaft. The wheel has a row of teeth around its edge that fit into the links of a chain.
Straddle	A style of VRC where the carriage rides between two guide columns that are located on opposite sides of the carriage. This style of lift will accommodate “C” and “Z” type loading patterns.
Top of roller (TOR)	Top elevation of a horizontal conveyor system roller which is also the lower elevation of the load.
Touchscreen	See HMI.
Transom	A panel or panels used to close an enclosure opening above the VRC entrance.
Travel	The difference in elevation between the bottommost level of the carriage platform and the uppermost level of the carriage platform, regardless of whether the carriage is pit or floor mounted.
UHMW (Ultra-High Molecular Weight)	An abrasion-resistant, high-impact, polyethylene material used throughout the VRC to protect and/or guide moving parts.
Uprights	The portion of the carriage that houses the wheels that guide the carriage between the columns.
VAC	A single panel vertical acting gate.
VFD (Variable-Frequency Drive)	A VFD is a type of drive used in electro-mechanical drive systems to control AC motor speed and torque by varying the motor frequency and voltage.
Velocity fuse	A device that senses hydraulic flow across a control orifice when the pressure differential exceeds a predetermined amount. A spring-biased poppet closes, shutting flow to the damaged hydraulic circuit and prevents the lift carriage from descending.
Vertical travel	Distance the carriage deck travels; floor-to-floor or total distance (see Travel).
Vertical Reciprocating Conveyor (VRC)	A reciprocating power actuated lifting device (not designed to carry passengers or an operator) that receives loads on a carriage and transports these objects from one operating elevation to another.
VRC specification sheet	PFlow Industries, Inc. informational data sheet providing general information on a specific VRC.
Wheelblock assembly	Sub-assembly fastened to the carriage upright that contains the guide roller elements and safety cam for the chain driven VRC lift. The lift chain is typically attached to the wheelblock assembly safety cam.

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Gate Types:

Single swing gate	This type of gate hinges on one side and latches on the other, may be either right or left-hand swing. Clear space is required in front of the VRC for the gate to swing open.
Bi-parting swing gate	The bi-parting, swing gate has hinges on each side and latches in the center. Clear space is required in front of the VRC for the gates to swing open.
Single panel vertical acting gate (VAC)	The VAC gate panel closes to the floor and opens in the upward direction.
Double panel vertical acting gate (BVAC)	The BVAC gate is the same as the single panel VAC above in operation and use except the two (2) panels telescope from a nested position.
Horizontal sliding gate	The horizontal sliding gate operates in the same manner as a vertical acting gate except the gate functions in the horizontal direction.
Roll-up door	The roll-up door can be anything from an industrial type roll-up steel door to self-storage facility type door.

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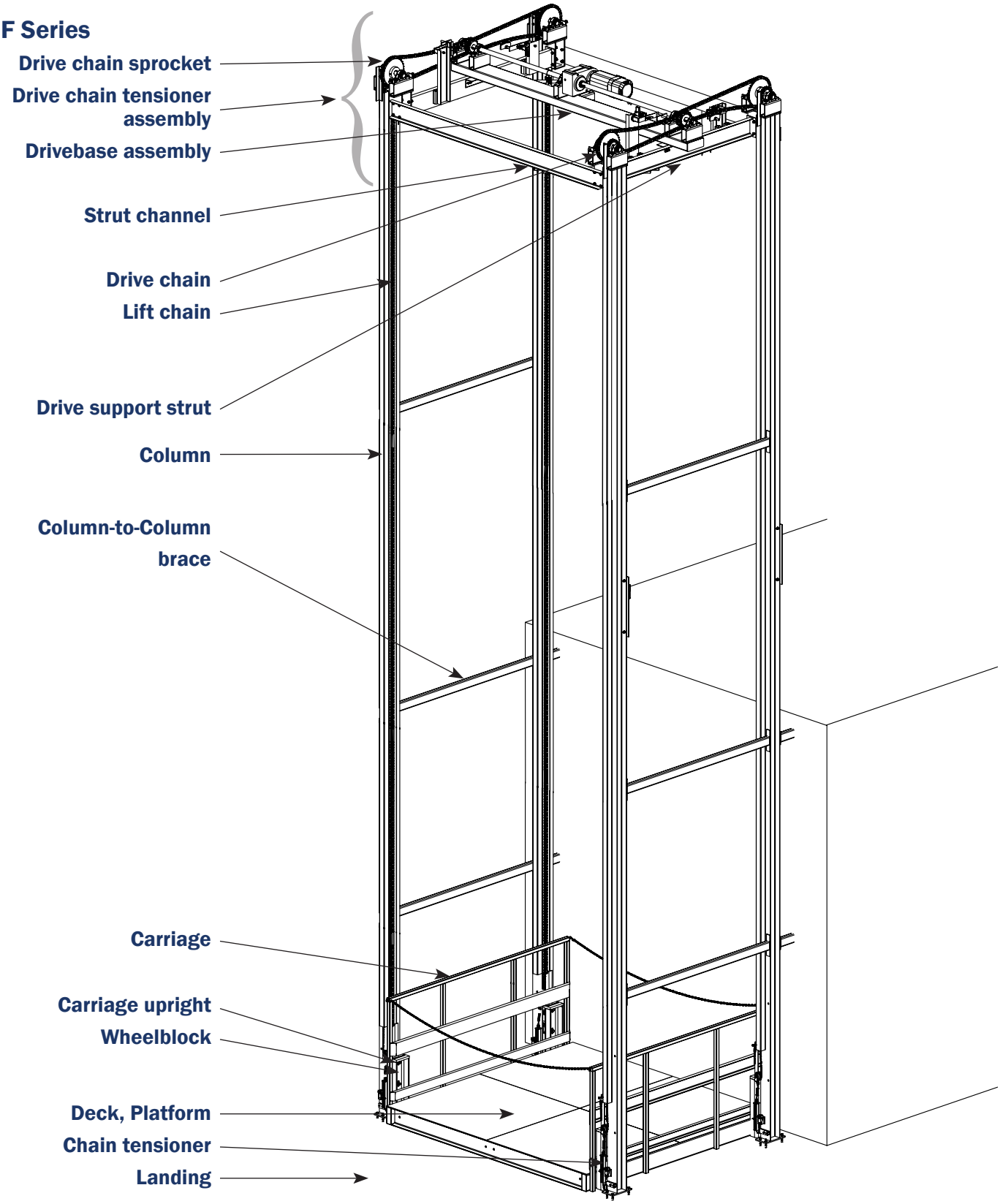
F Series



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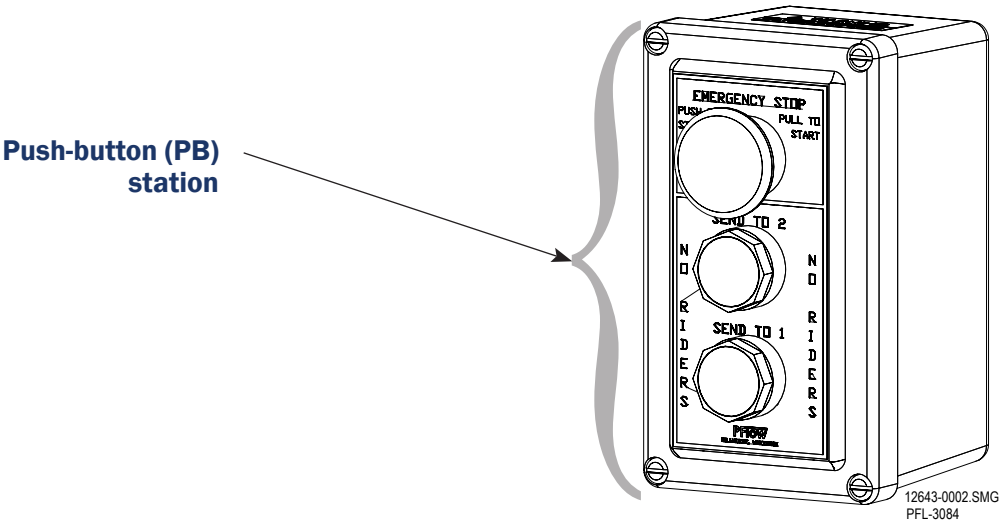

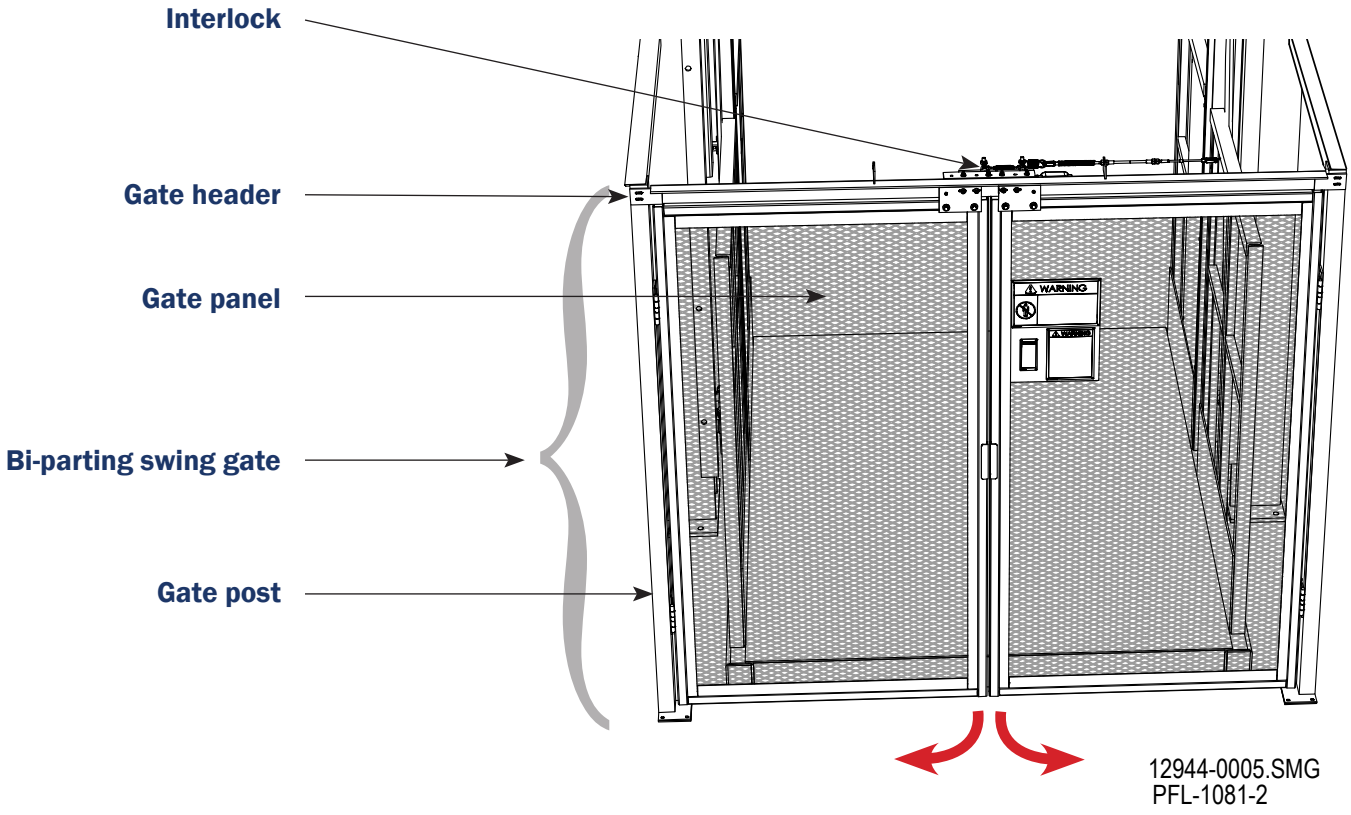

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Arrival

A fork truck capable of lifting approximately 2,000 lbs. (907 kg) is required. Larger Vertical Reciprocating Conveyors (VRCs) may require a heavier lifting capacity fork truck or crane. Refer to the shipping weights for the equipment required for your job. Prior to shipping, PFlow Industries, Inc. takes pictures of all the items shipped, contents of the parts crate, and individual boxes to make sure the shipment is complete.

NOTICE

The material in the boxes, cartons, etc. are delivered to the carrier agent complete and in good condition. Report shipping damage or discrepancies immediately to the PFlow Industries, Inc. Product Support Department. ***PFlow Industries, Inc. is not responsible for damage due to shipping or receiving once the equipment has left the factory nor will PFlow Industries, Inc. file any claims for damage that may occur.***

Inspection

Upon receipt, conduct an immediate inspection while the equipment is still on the truck or immediately after it is moved to the receiving area. Do not wait until after the equipment is moved to a storage area.

Verify that the number of items on the Bill of Lading agrees with the number of items delivered. Examine all pieces to determine if damage has occurred during transit. Do not sign a delivery receipt or a freight bill until a proper count has been made and inspection of all packages are complete. Should damage occur in shipment, it is a matter between the carrier and the consignee. In such cases, the carrier is assumed to be responsible for the safe delivery of the equipment, unless negligence can be established on the part of the shipper.

Verify the dimensions of the delivered materials against the PFlow Industries, Inc. General Arrangement (GA) drawing. If anything is missing or incorrect, contact the PFlow Industries, Inc. Product Support Department immediately. Failure to notify the PFlow Industries, Inc. Product Support Department may affect the completion time of the installation. The warranty does not cover lost time and/or additional trips for missing or damaged components.

Transportation Damage and Claims

1. Note all visible loss or damage that has occurred directly on the carrier's delivery receipt.
2. Have the driver sign the delivery receipt. If the driver refuses to sign, make a notation of this refusal on the receipt.
3. If the driver refuses to allow inspection, write the following on the delivery receipt: Driver refuses to allow inspection of containers for visible damage. Have the driver sign the delivery receipt.
4. Contact the carrier's office immediately upon finding damage and request an inspection. Mail a written confirmation to the carrier's office with the time, date, and the person called.
5. Save any packages and packing material for further inspection by the carrier.
6. Promptly file a written claim with the carrier and attach copies of all supporting paperwork. Report all hidden damage directly to the freight carrier within seven days of delivery.

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Shipping Photograph Examples

Parts Crate

Parts Crate Contents

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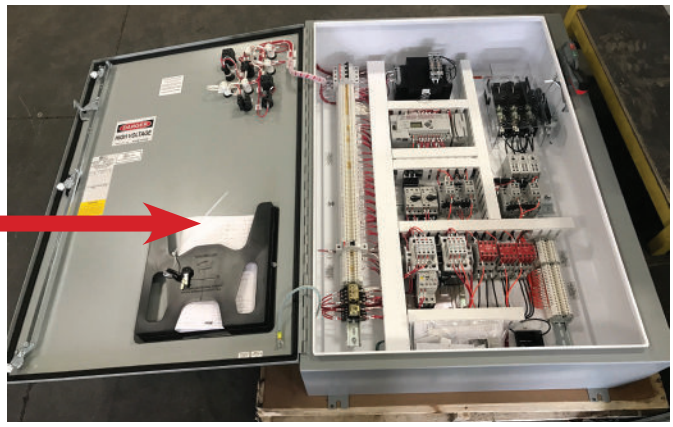
Shipping Photograph Examples

Schematic



Shipping Packet

The shipping packet contains the Owner's Manual, installation instructions, General Arrangement drawing, electrical schematic, and additional information applicable to the installation.

An additional copy of the schematic is inside the control panel.

Unpack the VRC

- Save all packing materials for inspection by the carrier.
- Cut and remove the restraining straps.
- Remove the protective shrink wrap and cardboard material.
- Remove all wooden retaining blocks and crating.
- Remove the materials from the pallet.
- Dispose of the packing material in an environmentally responsible manner.

Return Materials Authorization (RMA)

All replacement components needed as a result of any damage will require a purchase order, authorization number, and compliance with PFlow Industries, Inc. Return Materials Authorization (RMA) procedures. The RMA number shall be obtained from PFlow Industries, Inc. Product Support Department. The RMA number helps to identify and track the component when returned to PFlow Industries, Inc.

Warranty Work

Warranty procedures are included in this manual. All warranty work must be pre-authorized by the PFlow Industries, Inc. Product Support Department prior to starting work.

1. Notify the PFlow Industries, Inc. Product Support Department of the problem for authorization.
2. PFlow Industries, Inc. will determine:
   - The cause of the problem.
   - Who will do the repair work.
   - The repair details involved.
3. If PFlow Industries, Inc. decides that your organization or your subcontractor will do the work, an authorization number will be assigned which must be referenced on all subsequent paperwork.

NOTE *Notify PFlow Industries, Inc. by phone, FAX, or e-mail during the next business day if an event occurs during our non-working hours. Issuance of an authorization number does not guarantee approval and or payment.*

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Recommended Tools

The following is a list of recommended tools necessary to expertly install the equipment to industry standards. This is only a guideline. Individual sites and applications may require additional items.

	Welding Machine and Equipment (Helmet, Gloves, Rods)		Socket Set: 1/2" Drive Sockets Sizes to 1-1/4"
	Lifting Cables, Straps, Slings or Chains: 2,000 lb. (907 kg) Capacity* (Minimum)		Hammer Drill & Bits: (1/4", 3/8", 1/2" Anchors; 4" Length Minimum)
	Chain Fall: 2,000 lb. (907 kg) Capacity* (Minimum)		Open or Box-End Wrenches to 1-5/16"
	Scissor Lift (optional but helpful)		Electric Drill and Drill Bits
	Fork Lift: 2,000 lb. (907 kg) Lifting Capacity* (Minimum)		Allen Wrenches to 3/8"
	Step Ladder(s)		Tap set: 1/4-20 to 3/4-10
	Come-Along Tool		Sledge Hammer
	Disk Grinder		Hack-Saw, Reciprocating Saw, or Portable Band-Saw
	“C” Clamps		Extension Cords
	Drift Punch		Chalk Snap-Line
	Carpenter’s Framing Square		Plumb Bobs
	Spirit Level: 4' (1219mm) Long		25' (7620mm) Measuring Tape
	Vacuum		Rags
	String		Fire Extinguisher
	Pry bar		Portable Light

**Larger Vertical Reciprocating Conveyors (VRCs) may require a heavier lifting capacity.*

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Before You Begin

Read this entire manual.

Pre-Installation Responsibilities

Proper preparation of the job site before beginning the installation can mean the difference between an installation that is safe and smooth and an installation that is difficult. Being aware of who is responsible for the listed activities will make sure the installation is a smooth process.

PFlow Industries, Inc. recommends that an installer with knowledge and experience on how to rig and erect structural steel discuss not only these items but all other concerns directly with the people on the job site.

A pre-installation job site visit is always recommended and considered to be included in the responsibilities of the mechanical installer.

End User Responsibilities

1. Assign the authorized on-site contact.
2. Provide the contact information for the authorized on-site contact.
3. Determine the work hours allowed to work on-site.
4. Arrange for other trades or in-plant production to avoid conflict with the proposed installation schedule or between trades.
5. Determine the work procedures and safety guidelines particular to the job site.
6. Communicate on-site safety meetings prior to beginning the installation.

End User and/ or Mechanical Installer and/ or Electrical Installer Responsibilities

1. Secure any required job site, local, or state permits before beginning the installation.
2. Determine if a local inspection and sign-off is required after the installation has been completed.
3. Unload and transport the equipment to the installation area.
4. Determine storage options (if applicable). Storing the equipment outside will void the warranty. If the equipment is stored indoors for a month or longer, consult PFlow Industries, Inc. for maintenance procedures required to keep the warranty in effect.
5. Prepare all necessary job site areas (e.g., pit, floor opening, adequate bracing locations, shaftway openings, doorways) for the installation.
6. Coordinate any job site or building modifications necessary to get the equipment to the installation area.
7. Determine if the weight and the size of the Vertical Reciprocating Conveyor (VRC) components exceed the lift requirements to handle and lift the heaviest load. If the weight of the load is in question, please contact the PFlow Industries, Inc. Product Support Department.
8. Locate the pick-point capable of lifting and handling the necessary VRC components.
9. Determine approved bracing locations and attachment points on the job site. Make sure that the bracing attachment points will withstand the static lateral load for bracing the lift. Details are called out on the GA drawing.
10. Make sure that the floor under the columns will withstand the base plate loading stated on the VSP spec sheet.

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Mechanical Installer Responsibilities

1. Conduct a pre-installation job site visit.
2. Review the General Arrangement (GA) drawing for any discrepancies between the GA drawing and the job site.
3. Compare the dimensions listed on the GA drawing to the dimensions on the actual job site.

NOTE *Discrepancies in the pit length, pit width, pit depth, overhead clearances, and a pit that is not square are just a few items that could create a problem. These discrepancies must be addressed immediately with PFlow Industries, Inc.*

4. Report any discrepancies to the PFlow Industries, Inc. Product Support Department.
5. Determine if additional bracing material is required.
6. Complete mechanical erection of the equipment as sold by PFlow Industries, Inc. and called out on the GA drawing, and follow all instructions in the installation manual and safe work procedures.
7. Mount all electrical devices at non-union job sites.
8. Return trip upon completion of the electrical installation and be present for the final checkout, adjustments, and training. Complete and return the Installation Completion Checklist to PFlow Industries, Inc. Product Support Department at psd@pflow.com

Electrical Installer Responsibilities

1. Review the General Arrangement (GA) drawing for any discrepancies between the GA drawing and the job site.
2. Report any discrepancies to the PFlow Industries, Inc. Product Support Department.
3. Complete electrical connection of the equipment as sold by PFlow Industries, Inc. and shown on the electrical drawings and GA drawing.
4. Follow all instructions in the installation manual and safe work procedures.
5. Be present for the final checkout, adjustments, and training. Complete and return the Installation Completion Checklist to PFlow Industries, Inc. Product Support Department at psd@pflow.com

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Before You Begin

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General Arrangement (GA) Drawing

Job site conditions may be different than those listed on the GA drawing. This drawing includes configuration and dimensional data specific to the job site:

- Job number
- Equipment dimensions
- Clearance dimensions
- Static lateral load
- Applicable options

The VRC can only be used according to the specifications given in this manual and the General Arrangement (GA) drawing. If the VRC is to be used outside the original design, contact the PFlow Industries, Inc. Product Support Department to determine if the intended use is possible.

⚠WARNING

Inappropriate and/or modified use of the VRC can result in dangerous safety issues and/or damage. If this VRC needs to be modified in any way, contact PFlow Industries, Inc. for assistance. Do not make any unauthorized changes.

Obtain written confirmation from PFlow Industries, Inc. before using the VRC in a modified or unspecified manner. PFlow Industries, Inc., cannot be held liable for any accidents and/or damages that may occur through inappropriate or unauthorized use of the VRC.

1. Locate the PFlow Industries, Inc. GA drawing in the shipping packet inside the parts crate.
2. Review the GA drawing for any discrepancies.
3. Compare the dimensions listed on the GA drawing to the dimensions of the actual job site and the materials received.

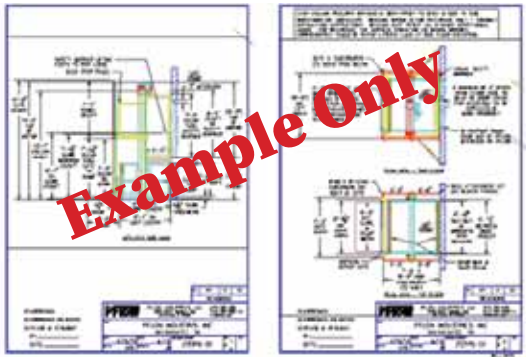
NOTE *Discrepancies in the pit length, pit width, pit depth, overhead clearances, and a pit that is not square are just a few items that could create a problem. These discrepancies must be addressed immediately with PFlow Industries, Inc.*

4. Report any discrepancies to the PFlow Industries, Inc. Product Support Department.

Contact the PFlow Industries, Inc. Product Support Department with any questions or concerns at any time throughout the installation of this equipment.

Sample GA Drawing

The sample drawing shown is only an example and is not applicable to this VRC.



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Frequently Asked Questions

Proper preparation of the job site before beginning the installation can mean the difference between an installation that is smooth and an installation that is difficult. PFlow Industries, Inc. has prepared a list of site specific questions to investigate:

1. Is 3-phase power available for the installation work?
2. Is welding permitted?
3. Is a "hot permit" required?
4. Is a fire watch required? Are there special welding requirements (e.g., special coatings such as epoxy paint, or hot dipped galvanized steel)?
5. Are there any protrusions or rough spots in the floor level or wall space that could interfere with the installation or the operation?
6. Are the floors level?
7. Can the equipment pass through all openings, doorways, hallways, and shaftway openings?
8. Is there other non-PFlow Industries, Inc. equipment to be integrated with the PFlow Industries, Inc. VRC components?
9. Is a job specific bracing drawing required?
10. Is the work site union or non-union?
11. Is the customer's forklift available for use?
12. Do the weight and size of the Vertical Reciprocating Conveyor (VRC) components exceed the capability of the on-site equipment to handle and lift the VRC components? If the weight of the load is in question, contact the PFlow Industries, Inc. Product Support Department.
13. Is there a pick-point capable of lifting the necessary lift components?

Contact the PFlow Industries, Inc. Product Support Department with any questions or concerns at any time throughout the installation of this equipment.

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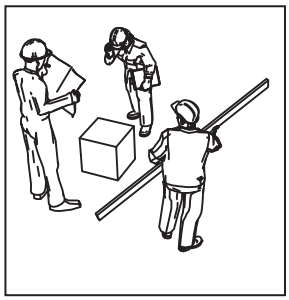
Sequence of Installation

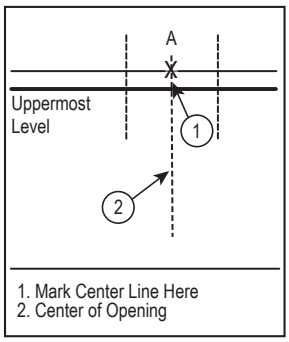
The next few pages are only an example of the sequence of installation for an open mezzanine application. Refer to the detailed instructions for each sequence included in the installation manual.

Inspect Delivery

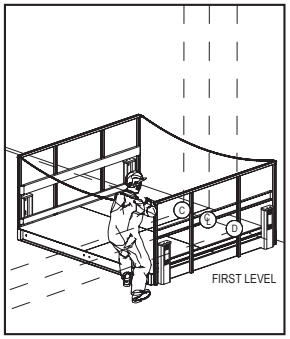
Read Installation Manual and Verify GA



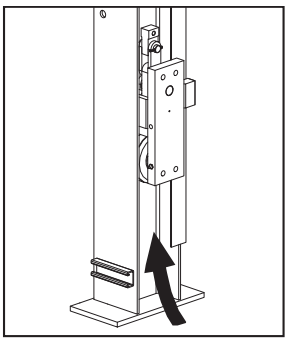
Mark Alignment



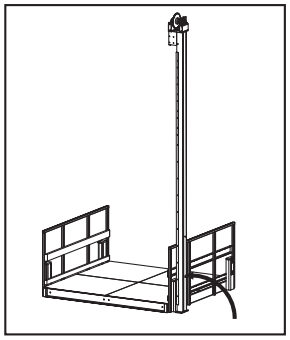
Position Carriage



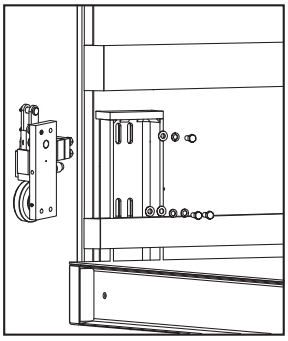
Insert Wheelblocks in the Columns



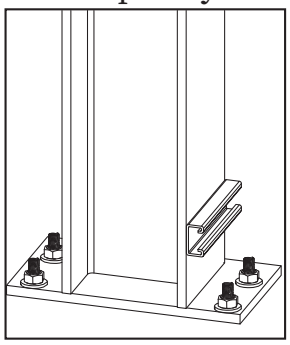
Raise 1st Column, Secure Temporarily, Plumb, and Align



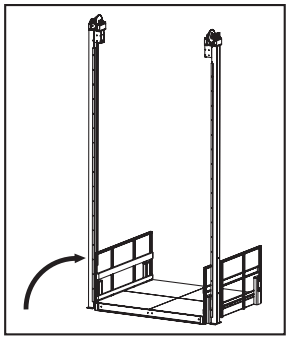
Attach Carriage and Check Gap



Anchor Column, Attach Temporary Bracing



Raise 2nd Column, Secure Temporarily, Plumb, and Align



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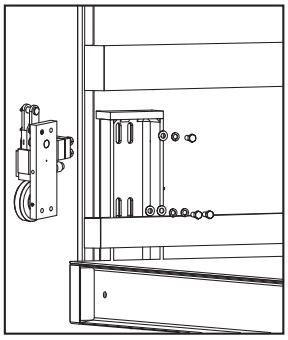
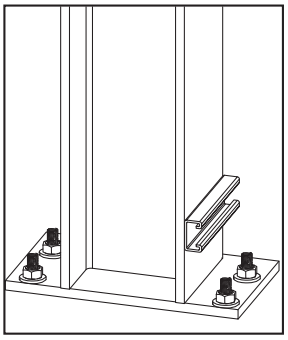
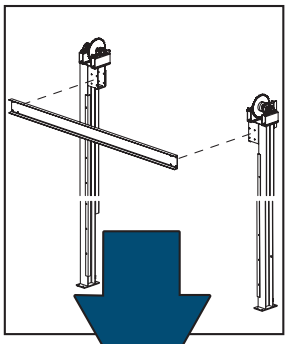
Attach Carriage and Check Gap



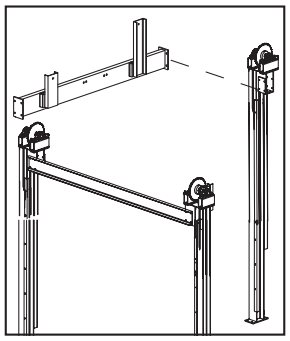
Anchor Column, Attach Temporary Bracing



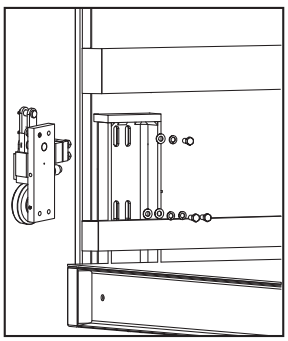
Attach Strut Channel



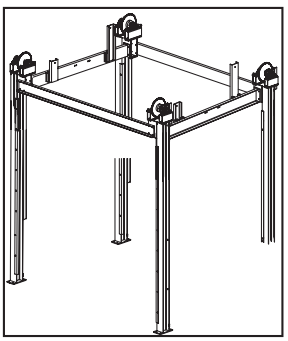
Raise 3rd Column, Secure Temporarily, Plumb, Align, Attach Drive Support Strut



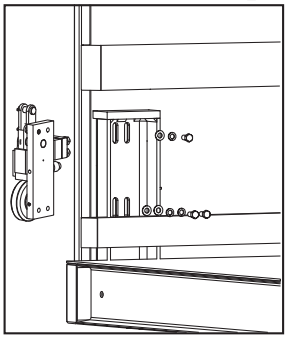
Attach Carriage and Check Gap



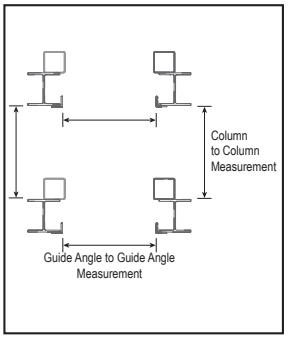
Raise 4th Column, Secure Temporarily, Plumb, Align, Attach Drive Support Strut, Attach Strut Channel



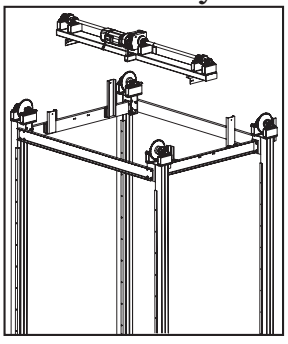
Attach Carriage and Check Gap



Verify Measurements



Install Drivebase Assembly



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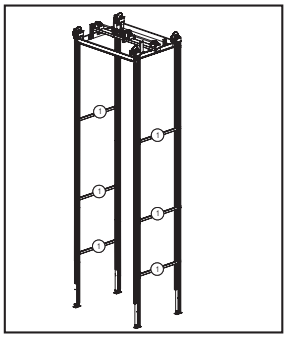
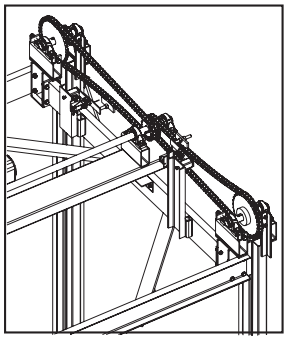
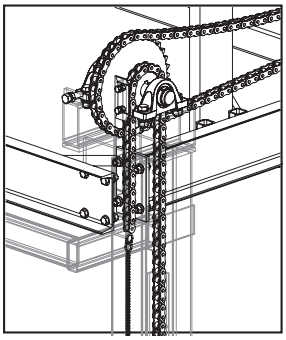
Install Final Bracing



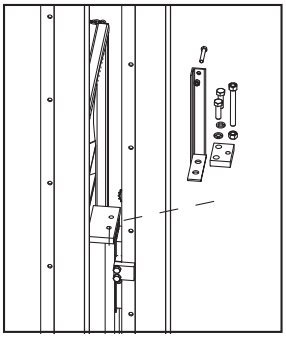
Install Drive Chains



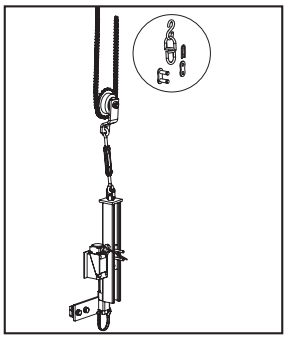
Install Lift Chains



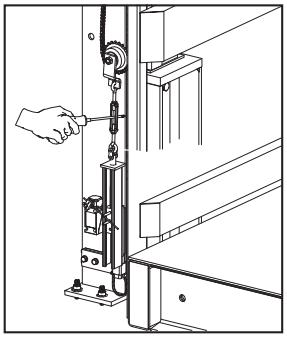
Install Standoff and Jackscrew



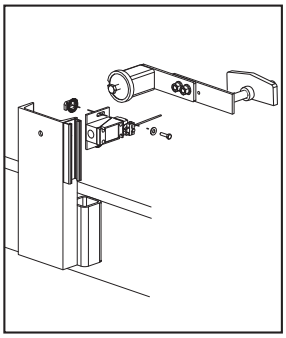
Install Lift Chain Tensioners



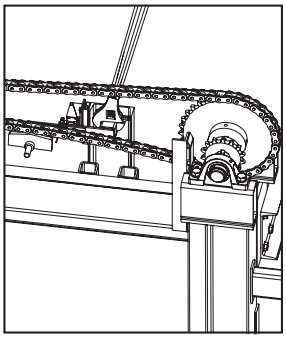
Adjust Lift Chain Tensioners



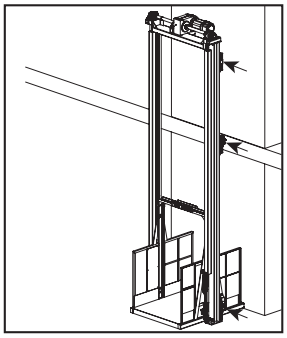
Install Drive Chain Tensioners



Adjust Drive Chain Tensioners



Attach Limit Switches



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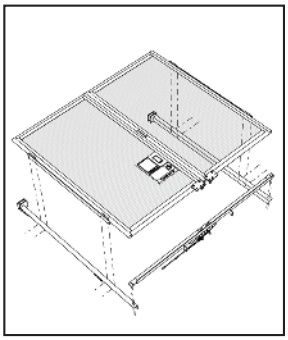
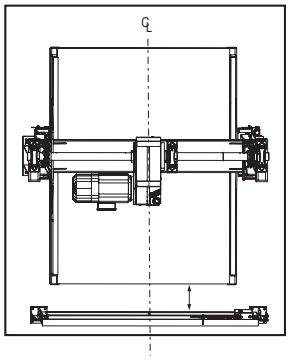
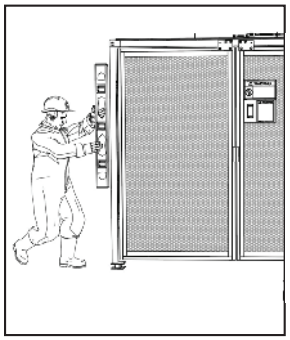
Assemble Gates



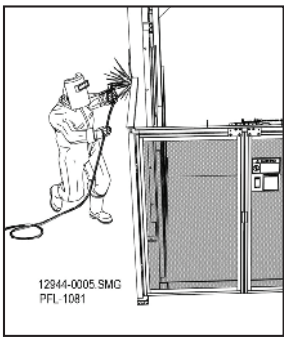
Position Gates and Secure Gate Posts



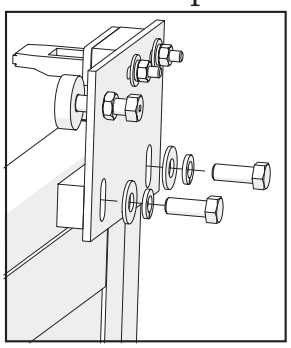
Plumb Gates



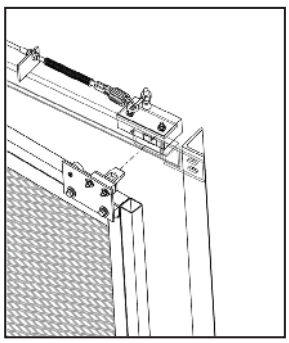
Brace and Weld Gates



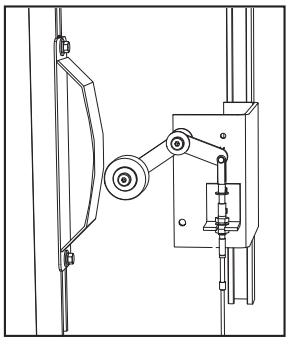
Install Keepers



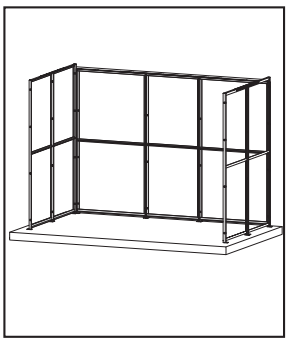
Install Interlocks



Install Interlock Cables



Install Enclosures



Attach Signage

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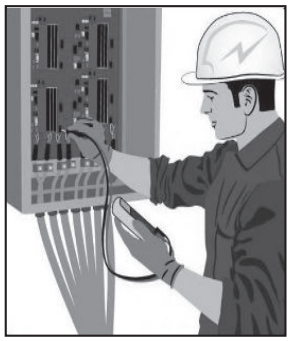
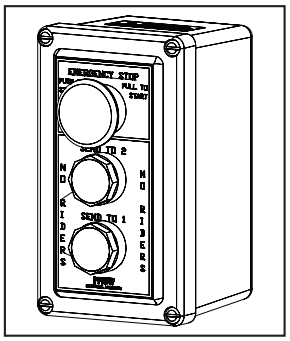
Electrical Wiring



Start-Up



Checklist

Complete the Questionnaire

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Before You Begin

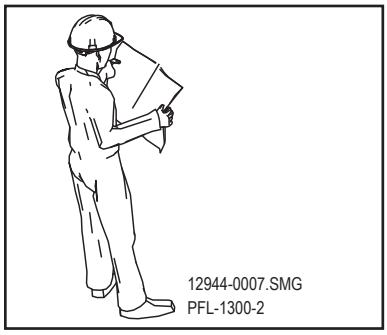
Read this entire manual. Before starting the installation, verify the job site dimensions and the dimensions of the delivered materials against the PFlow Industries, Inc. General Arrangement (GA) drawing. If the site conditions or the delivered materials do not match the GA drawing, please consult the PFlow Industries, Inc. Product Support Department.

⚠ DANGER

Falling column hazard! The installation of this equipment requires a qualified installer with extensive knowledge and experience on how to rig, erect, and support structural steel.

NOTICE

ASME B20.1 defines a qualified person as a person who, by possession of a recognized degree or certificate of professional standing, or by extensive knowledge, training, and experience, has successfully demonstrated his/her ability to solve problems relating to the subject matter and work.

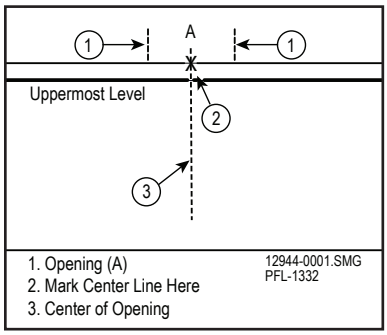


Verify Site Dimensions Figure 11-1

Verify Job Site Dimensions and Carriage Orientation

The Vertical Reciprocating Conveyor (VRC) was built using dimensions supplied to PFlow Industries, Inc. as listed on the General Arrangement drawing (e.g., floor-to-floor distance, pit depth, upper level opening, etc.).

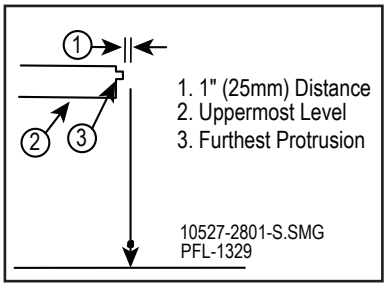
These instructions are representative of an open mezzanine installation in which the carriage is placed in position before the columns are placed in position.



Initial Layout Figure 11-2

Mark Alignment

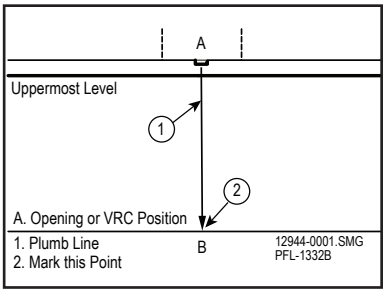
1. Verify that the column installation (e.g., no spliced columns, no restricted shaftway, etc.) allows the carriage to be placed before the columns are installed.
2. Mark the center line position of the opening at the uppermost level. See Figure 11-2.
3. To allow clearance for carriage movement, drop a plumb line from the uppermost level on the center line of the opening (Point A). The plumb line must be 1" (25mm) beyond the furthest protrusion. See Figure 11-3.
4. Clearly mark the tip of the plumb bob on the first floor. Point B is the center point of the carriage at the lower level. See Figure 11-4.



Floor-to-Floor Alignment Figure 11-3

NOTICE

All protrusions from the floor, wall, or other areas must be removed. Plumb lines must be positioned 1" (25mm) beyond the furthest protrusion or the carriage will not move beyond the protrusion after installation. The floor may need to be extended to get the proper distance from the floor to the carriage.



Mark Lower Floor Figure 11-4

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Mark Alignment (continued)

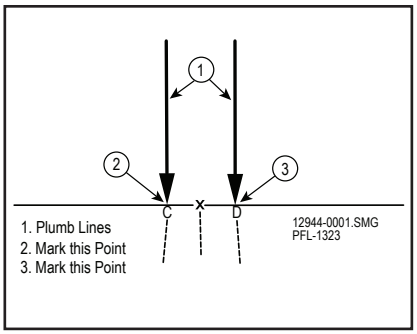
5. Drop two plumb lines from the uppermost level roughly 2' (1219mm) on each side of the center line. The plumb line must be 1" (25mm) beyond the furthest protrusion. See Figure 11-5.
6. Locate the three marks on the first floor. Snap a chalk line between C and D. See Figure 11-6.

NOTICE

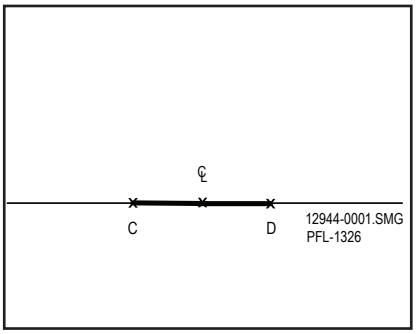
Setting the carriage on 4" x 4" (102mm x 102mm) blocks approximately 6" (152mm) long will allow the chains and chain tensioner to be attached and leveled without waiting for power.

Position the Carriage

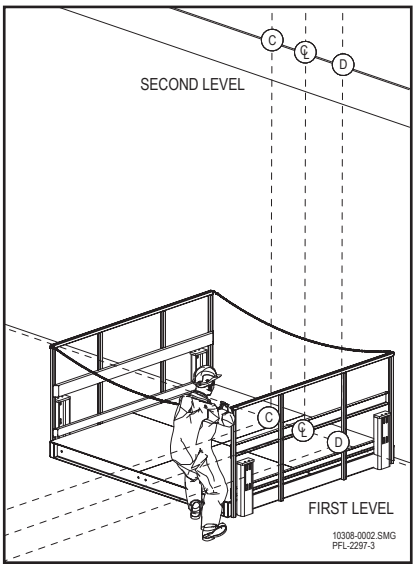
1. Align the edge of the carriage on the snap line.
2. Align the center of the effective carriage deck to the center line floor marks. See Figure 11-6 and Figure 11-7.
3. When a pit is present, level the carriage deck to match the first floor level landing, shimming the underside if necessary.
4. Temporarily secure the carriage from moving by welding the carriage to the building structure, welding temporary anchors, or welding side tabs.



Align Floor-to-Floor Figure 11-5



Align Lower Floor Figure 11-6



Place Carriage Figure 11-7

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Before You Begin

Read this entire manual.

Before starting the installation, verify the job site dimensions and the dimensions of the delivered materials against the PFlow Industries, Inc. General Arrangement (GA) drawing. If the site conditions or the delivered materials do not match the GA drawing, please consult the PFlow Industries, Inc. Product Support Department.

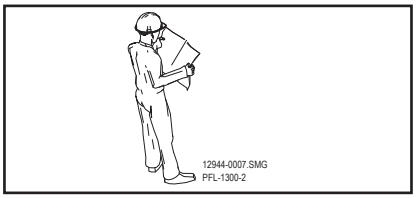
Before assembling any VRC components, review Section 13 for approved bracing guidelines.

⚠DANGER

Falling column hazard! The installation of this equipment requires a qualified installer with extensive knowledge and experience on how to rig, erect, and support structural steel.

NOTICE

ASME B20.1 defines a qualified person as a person who, by possession of a recognized degree or certificate of professional standing, or by extensive knowledge, training, and experience, has successfully demonstrated his/her ability to solve problems relating to the subject matter and work.

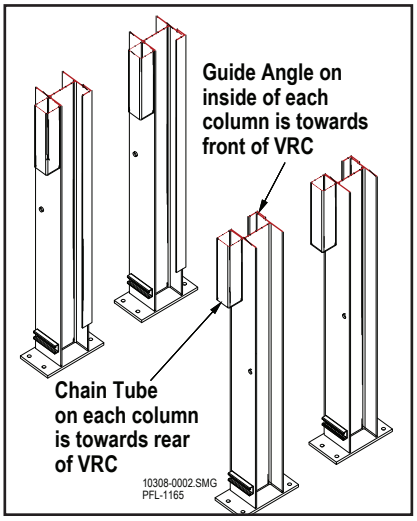


Verify Dimensions Figure 12-1

Purpose

The Vertical Reciprocating Conveyor (VRC) is designed for the movement of materials only, up to its rated capacity, from one level to the next.

This section describes the installation of wheelblocks, columns, carriage, drivebase, drive chains, lift chains, and chain tensioners.



Verify Orientation Figure 12-2

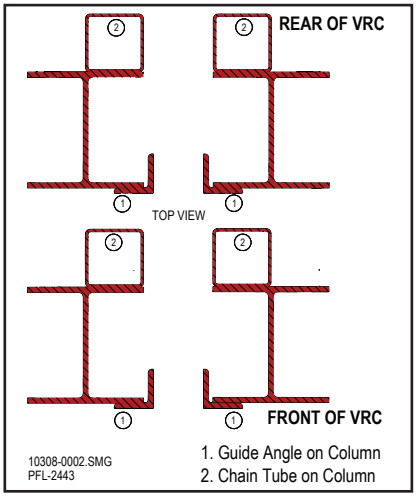
Confirm the Orientation of Each Column

Refer to the PFlow Industries, Inc. General Arrangement (GA) drawing to confirm the correct orientation of each guide column and guide angle to guide angle dimension. ***Generally, the "front" of the VRC is the entrance side of the VRC on the uppermost level.*** Contact the PFlow Industries, Inc. Product Support Department immediately concerning any discrepancies. See Figure 12-1.

Column Guidelines

Each guide column must be correctly installed. There is only one correct orientation.

The face of the column with the guide angle to the inside of the column is positioned toward the entrance side of the VRC at the uppermost level. The face of the column with the chain tube is positioned toward the rear of the VRC. See Figure 12-2 and Figure 12-3.



Verify Orientation Figure 12-3

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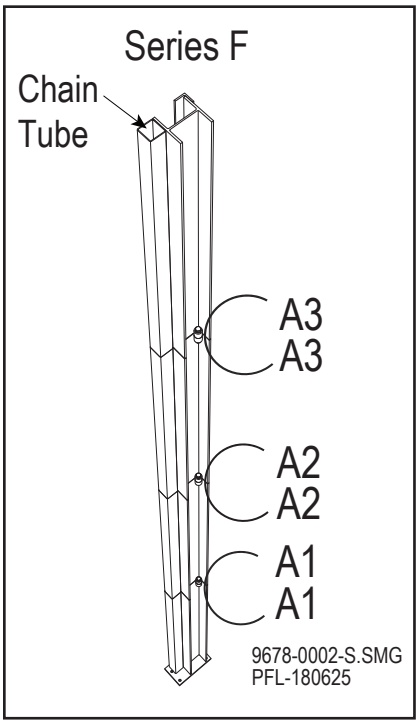
Spliced Column Guidelines

This VRC may have spliced columns. These instructions are for standard 6" (152mm) flange columns. For other types of flange columns, see job specific drawings at the end of the installation manual.

If the spliced pieces of the columns are not assembled properly, the drivebase assembly will not be level at the top of the columns.

Match marks are added to the spliced columns to indicate the sequence the columns are to be reassembled. Each column is marked with a different first character to avoid mismatching the columns. If there is any confusion regarding the match marks or location of the columns, please contact PFlow Industries, Inc. for clarification.



Columns Match Marked Figure 12-4

NOTICE

If there are more than two (2) spliced pieces per column, see Figure 12-4 to determine placement of the spliced pieces.

NOTE *Assembly is usually done vertically. It may be possible to fully assemble and weld the columns on the ground. However, it may not be possible to erect the full length spliced column.*

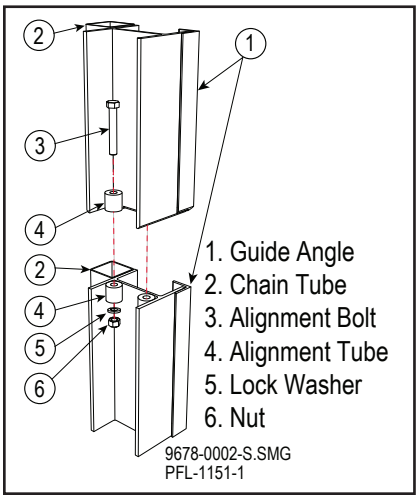
DANGER

Falling column hazard! Properly support and temporarily brace the columns during spliced column assembly. The alignment bolts are used only to align the sections of the columns prior to welding. The alignment bolts are not strong enough to support the columns.

Assemble the Spliced Column

1. Match the spliced pieces of the column. See Figure 12-4 and Figure 12-5.
2. Remove the alignment bolts, lock washers, and nuts from the alignment tube.
3. Insert the alignment bolt into the two (2) alignment tubes. See Figure 12-5.
4. Add a lock washer and nut to the alignment bolt and tighten.
5. If assembling the columns in the upright position, temporarily brace all sections of the column.
6. Continue to bolt the remaining spliced column pieces together.

Assemble the remaining columns using steps 1—6.



Assemble Matched Columns Figure 12-5

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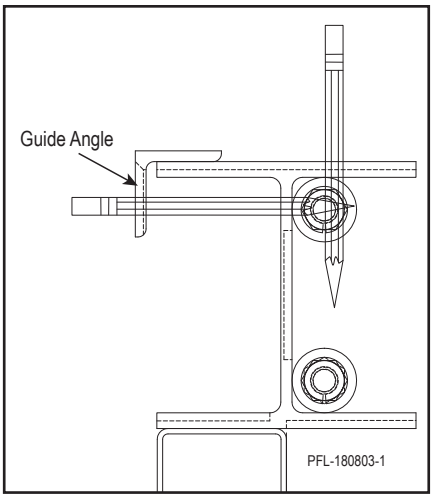
Align the Spliced Column

Proper alignment is critical to the installation and operation of the VRC. The column is to be aligned from two directions and will need two (2) strings.

1. Attach two (2) strings from the top to the bottom of the column, one string on the guide angle side of the column, and one string on the outside edge of the column. Make sure both strings are taut. See Figure 12-6 and Figure 12-7.
2. Keep the same distance at all attachment points.
3. Measure between the string and the guide angle at multiple points along the length of the column.
4. Maintain an equal distance between the string and the guide angle down all column sections. Correct any discrepancies.



Attach Strings Figure 12-6

Tack Weld the Spliced Column

Welding must be completed according to the standards and guidelines of the latest edition of AWS D1.1.

Weld filler material must be a minimum of E60xx.

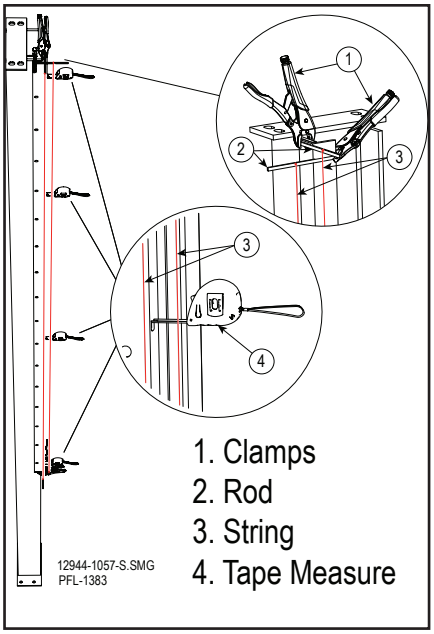
NOTICE

To avoid column twist, avoid excessive heat while welding. Weld in a manner to allow the heat to dissipate.

1. Do not weld the column flange surface located behind the guide angle.
2. Tack weld on three sides of the chain tube.

NOTICE

The chain tube is a chain guard, not a structural member. The chain tube is thin walled. Be careful to avoid burning through the chain tube when welding.



Spliced Column Alignment Figure 12-7

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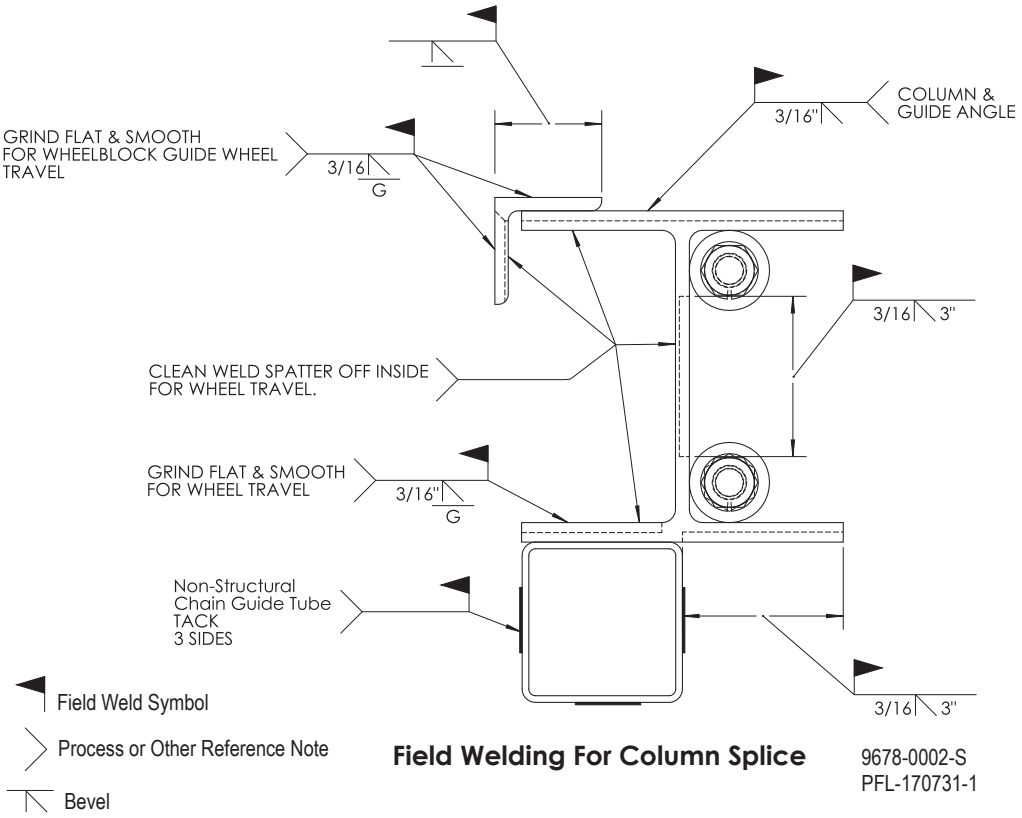
Spliced Column Finish Welding Details

1. Finish weld all splice joints per the welding details shown in Figure 12-8.
2. Grind the welded area flat on both surfaces of the guide angle to allow the wheelblock shoe and guide roller enough clearance for vertical carriage travel.
3. Grind all surface welds on the column flat and smooth where the wheelblock travels.
4. Remove any weld splatter from the inside of the guide angle surface.
5. Remove any weld splatter from the inside of the column surfaces.
6. Clean and paint all welded areas.



Field Welding For Column Splice

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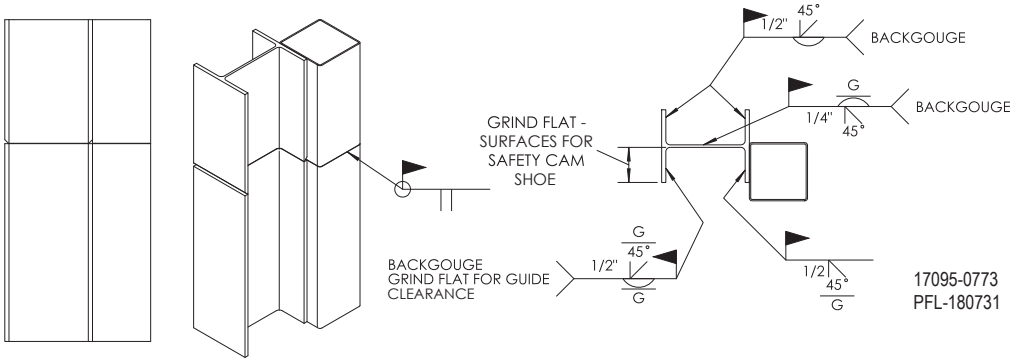
12" (305mm) Spliced Column Finish Welding Exceptions



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Welding Notes Figure 12-8

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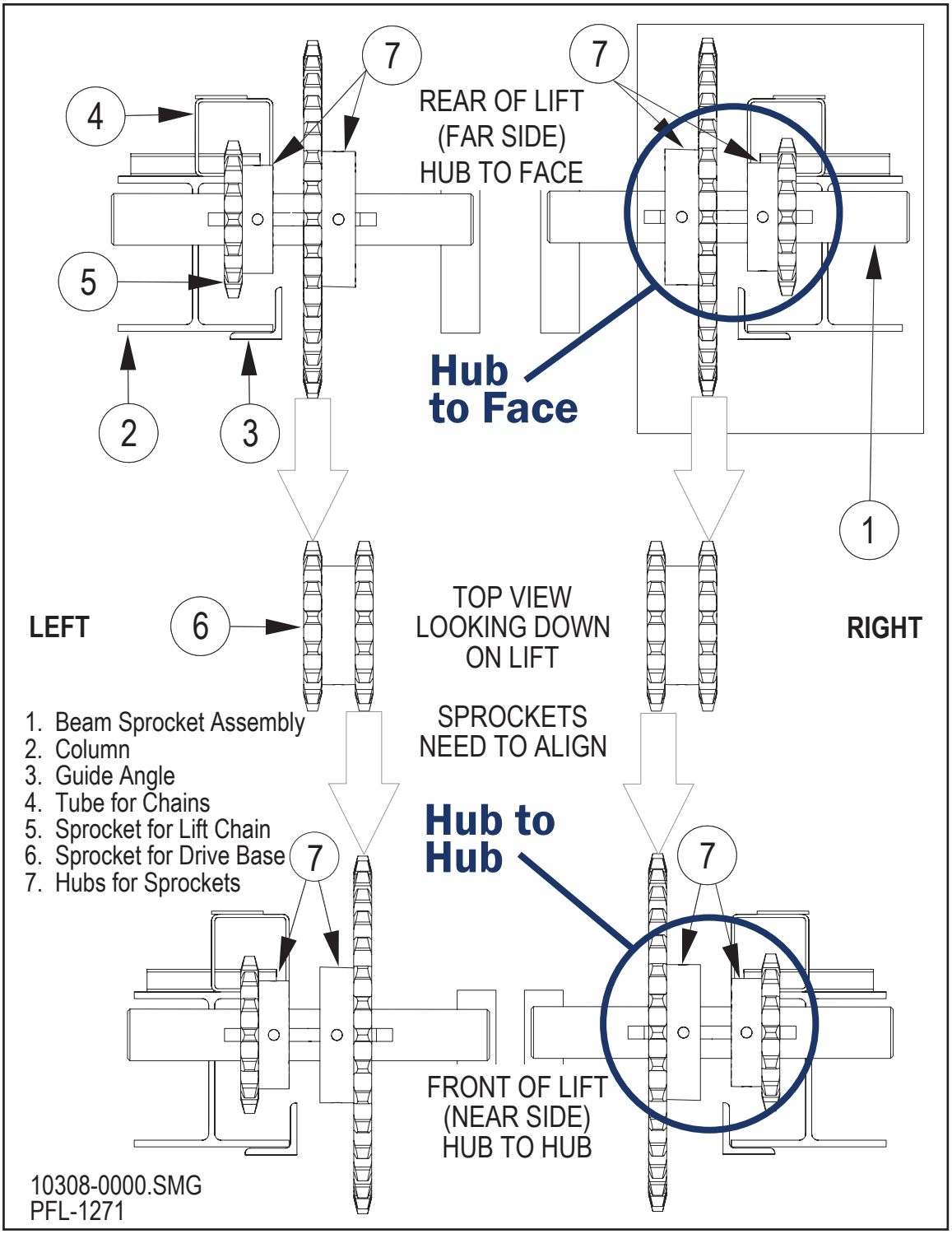
Sprocket Placement

Sprockets are pre-mounted on each column.

NOTE Review the ***Hub to Face*** arrangement and ***Hub to Hub*** arrangement specified on the General Arrangement (GA) drawing for proper column placement.

*Generally, the front side column sprockets are assembled **hub to hub** and the back side column sprockets are **hub to face**. See the GA drawing for the proper arrangement.*



Sprocket Placement Figure 12-9

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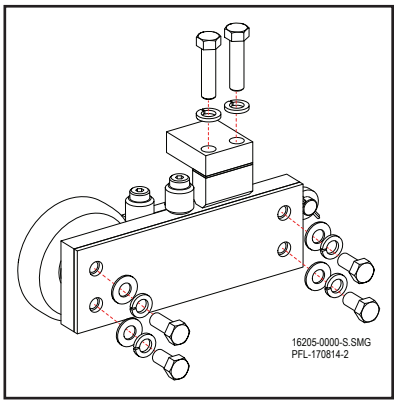
Prepare the Wheelblocks

WARNING

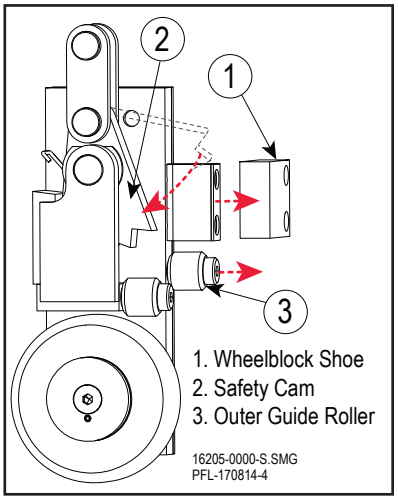
Crush hazard! The safety cam on the wheelblock is spring-tensioned and can crush fingers if it unexpectedly rotates. Keep hands and fingers away from the cam area.

1. Remove the six (6) hex head screws from the upper wheelblocks. See Figure 12-10.
2. Remove the wheelblock shoe. See Figure 12-11, Item 1.
3. Use an allen wrench to remove the outer guide roller. See Figure 12-11, Item 3.
4. Carefully rotate the spring tensioned safety cam vertically. See Figure 12-11, Item 2.
5. Insert the 5/8"-11 x 1.5" setscrew (provided) from the back side of the wheelblock into the tapped hole in the base. Tighten the setscrew against the safety cam behind the pin to lock the safety cam vertically in place. See Figure 12-12 and Figure 12-13.

NOTE *Locking the safety cam vertically in place will make the wheelblock installation easier.*



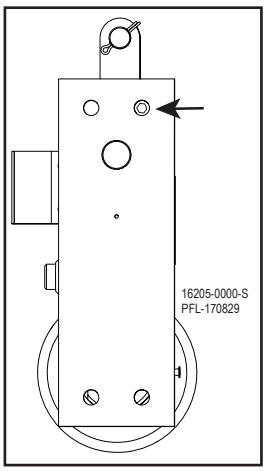
Remove Hex Head Screws Figure 12-10



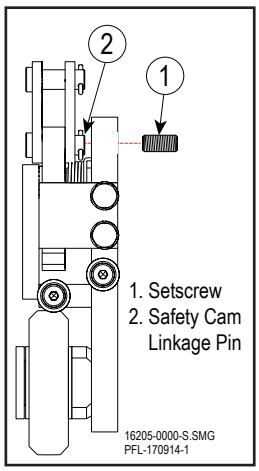
Rotate the Safety Cam Figure 12-11

WARNING

Carriage drop hazard! Before operating the VRC, replace the setscrew in the safety cam with the previously removed hex head screw and washer. Otherwise the safety cam will not function.



Insert Setscrew Figure 12-12



Insert Setscrew Figure 12-13

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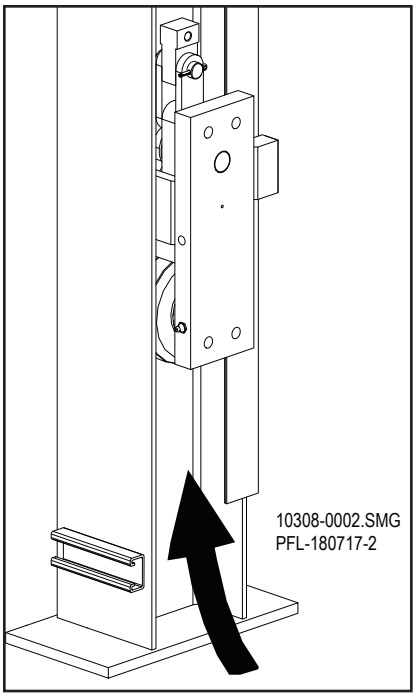
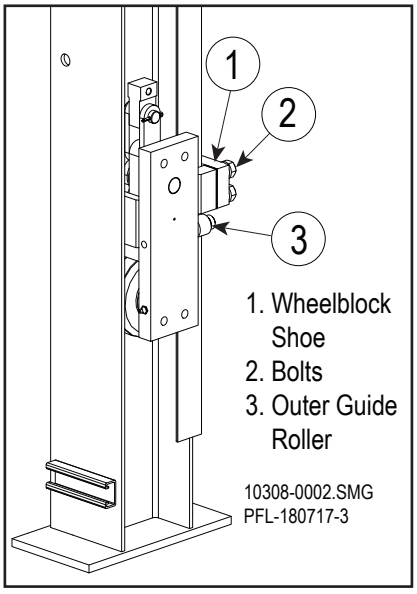
Insert the Wheelblocks

1. With the wheel facing the inside of the column, insert the wheelblock in the column through the notch in the guide angle at the base of the column. See Figure 12-14.
2. Slide the wheelblock up inside the column to about the height of the slots in the carriage uprights.
3. Temporarily secure the wheelblock to the column.
4. Reattach the wheelblock shoe and the outer guide roller. See Figure 12-15, Item 1 and Item 3.



Insert Wheelblock Figure 12-14



Reattach Shoe and Roller Figure 12-15

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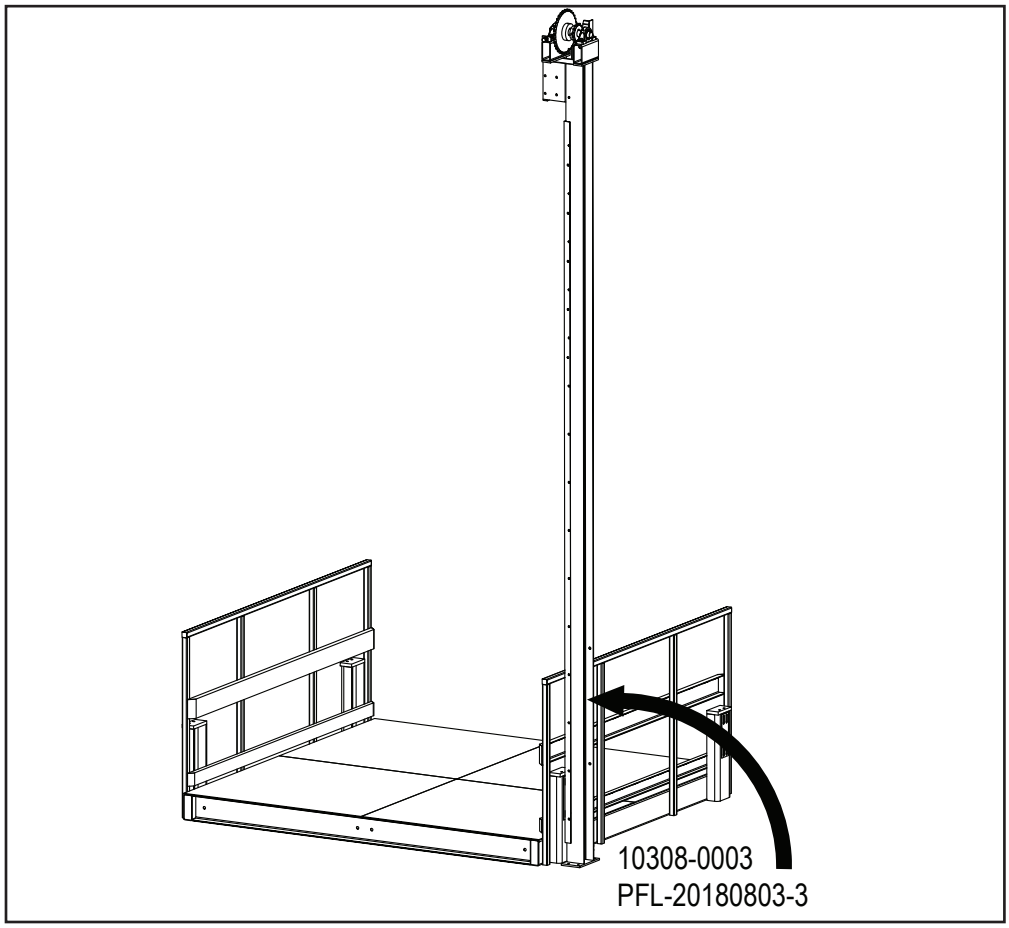
Raise and Secure the First Front Side Column

⚠ DANGER

Falling column hazard! Properly support the columns during installation. Do not assume that the bolted connection on the carriage and wheelblocks will prevent the columns from falling.

1. Prepare to raise the first front side column into position.
2. Review the weight of the column assembly to confirm that the pick point will withstand the weight.
3. Use a suitable hoisting system that complies with local regulations.
4. Put a sling around the column assembly using proper rigging techniques and attach the lifting device.
5. Carefully and slowly lift the column assembly to an upright position.
6. Move the column assembly next to the carriage and temporarily secure the column.
7. Make sure the column assembly is secure and cannot fall.



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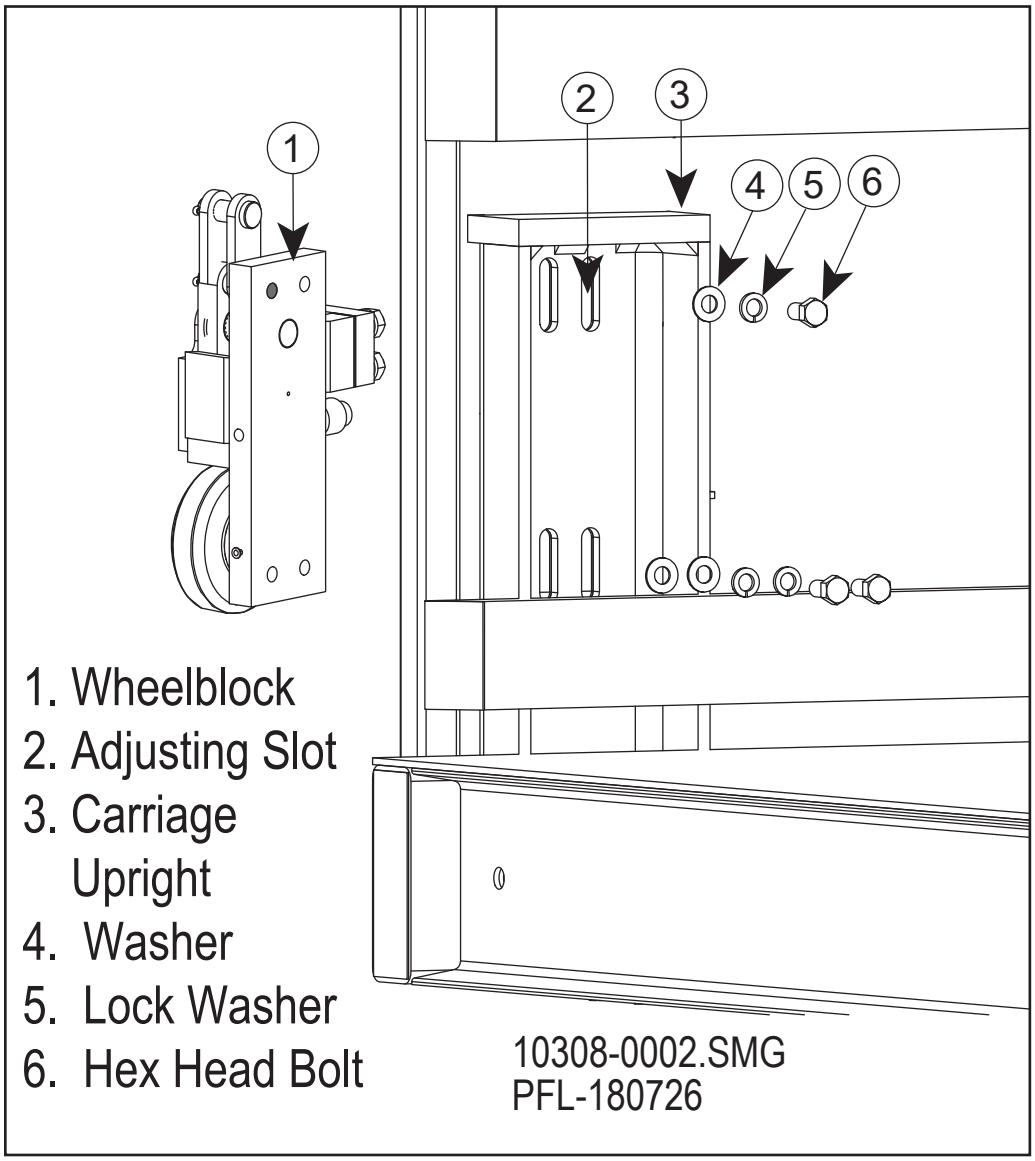
Attach the Wheelblock

The wheelblock should be installed at the middle of the carriage upright adjusting slots.

1. Insert three (3) of the hex head bolts, lock washers, and washers through the adjusting slots in the carriage upright and into the wheelblock. Tighten the bolts. ***A minimum thread engagement of 5/8" is required for the wheelblock connection.*** Leave the setscrew in place at this time. See Figure 12-16.
2. Make certain that the column is properly secured to avoid falling.

NOTE *Further adjustment is necessary to complete alignment.*



Wheelblock Mounting Figure 12-16

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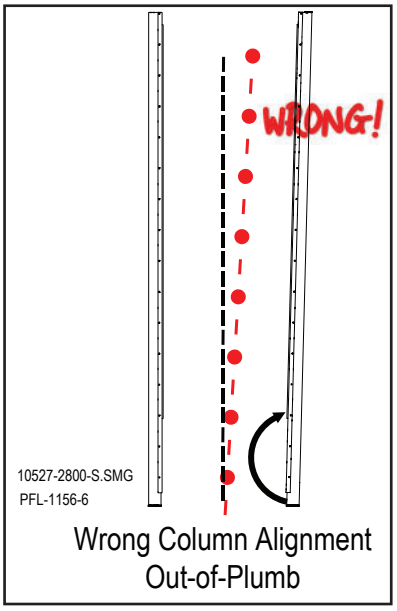
Review the Column for Plumb

1. Make sure the column is plumb from front to back and side to side. See Figure 12-17.
2. Make sure the inside of the wheelblock shoe and the outside of the guide angle are parallel to each other.
3. Correct and eliminate any column twist.

NOTICE

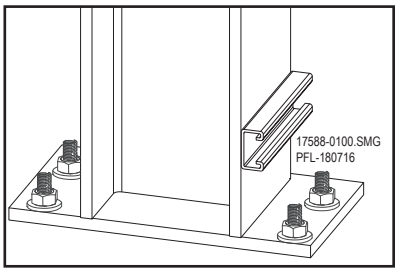
Column twist must be avoided. If the gap between the wheelblock shoe and the face of the guide angle changes from left to right of the shoe block, the column may need to be adjusted to get an even gap.



Column Alignment Out-of-Plumb
Figure 12-17

Anchor the Column

1. Verify the proper floor anchor size and type for the job site. Special conditions (e.g., seismic site location) require that proper anchoring and bracing methods are used.
2. When the column is plumb, anchor the column base plates to the floor according to local or state codes especially in seismic zones. PFlow Industries, Inc. recommends 1/2" x 4" (13mm x 102mm) long wedge style anchors installed according to the manufacturers instructions. See Figure 12-18.



Anchor the Column Base Plates
Figure 12-18

Attach Temporary Bracing

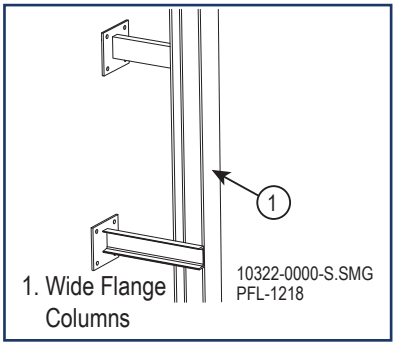
Review the Bracing Instructions in Section 13 of this installation manual.

1. Verify GA and bracing drawing details prior to beginning field bracing work.

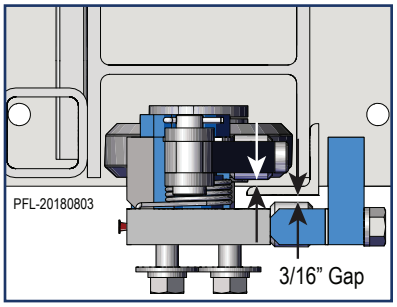
NOTICE

Bracing must resist all dynamic operational loads. The General Arrangement (GA) drawing states the estimated static lateral load that the bracing must support. Each column requires bracing in both front-to-back and side-to-side directions.

2. Permanently weld a mounting plate to the face of the floor or mezzanine, then tack weld the upper floor-to-column braces to the mounting plate. See Figure 12-19.
3. Verify that the gap from the column guide angle to the wheelblock guide roller is 3/16" (4,76mm). See Figure 12-20.



Tack Weld Bracing Figure 12-19



Verify Gap Figure 12-20

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DANGER

Falling column hazard! Properly support the columns during installation. Do not assume that the bolted connection on the carriage and wheelblocks will prevent the columns from falling.

Raise and Secure the 2nd Front Side Column

Raise and secure the 2nd front side column, repeating the same procedures outlined on Section 12, page 6 through page 10.

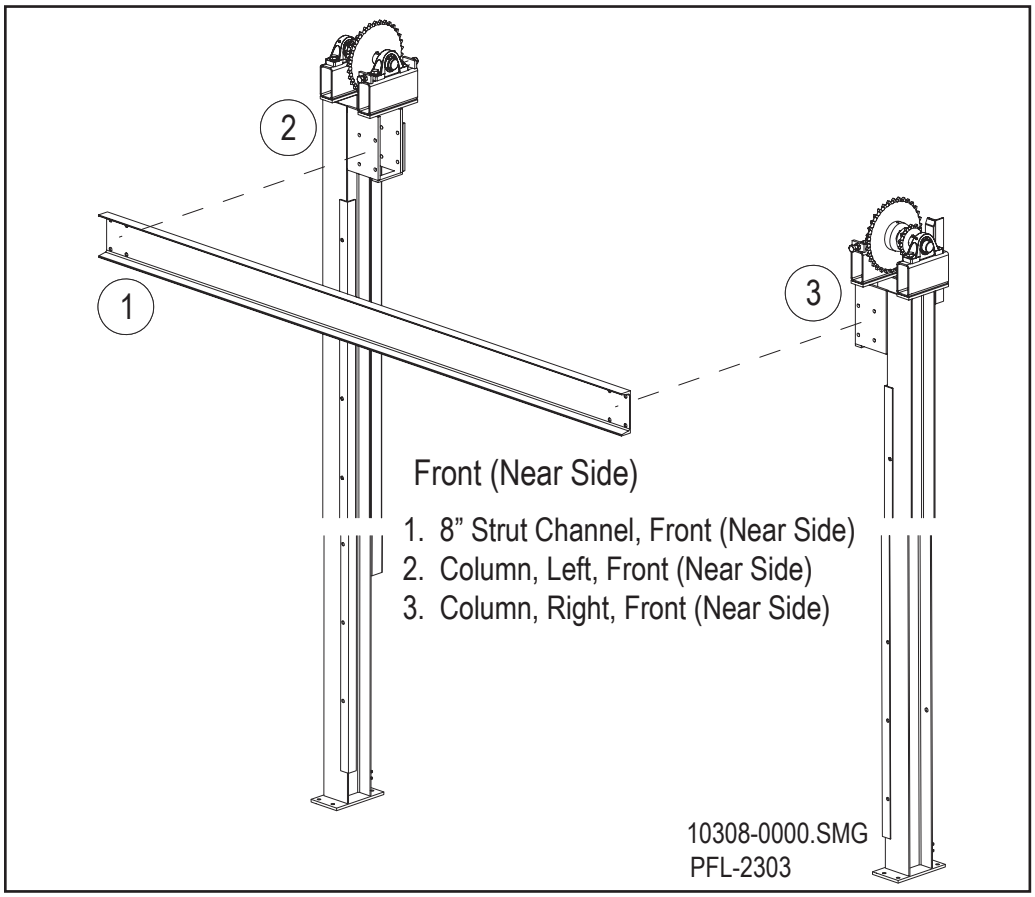
- Insert the wheelblocks
- Raise and secure the column
- Attach the wheelblocks to the carriage
- Plumb the column
- Eliminate any column twist
- Anchor the column — Make sure the column is secure and cannot fall.

DANGER

Falling hazard! Properly support the strut channel during installation.

Attach Strut Channel

Attach the 8" (203mm) strut channel between the columns at the top with 1/2" hardware, consisting of 1-3/4" (44mm) long bolts, lock washers, and nuts. See Figure 12-21.



Attach Strut Channel Figure 12-21

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DANGER

Falling column hazard! Properly support the columns during installation. Do not assume that the bolted connection on the carriage and wheelblocks will prevent the columns from falling.

Verify the Guide Angle to Guide Angle Alignment

Refer to the PFlow Industries, Inc. General Arrangement (GA) drawing to confirm the guide angle to guide angle dimension. Contact the PFlow Industries, Inc. Product Support Department immediately concerning any discrepancies.

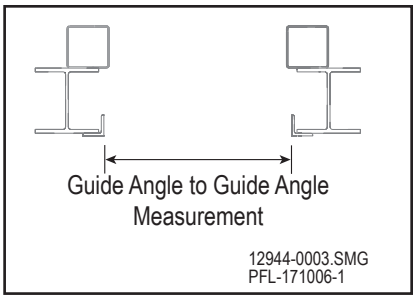
1. Measure the distance between the guide angles. See Figure 12-22.
2. Verify the distance at multiple locations along the columns. See Figure 12-23.
3. Maintain the same guide angle to guide angle dimension from the top to the bottom of the VRC columns (+/- 1/16").

NOTICE

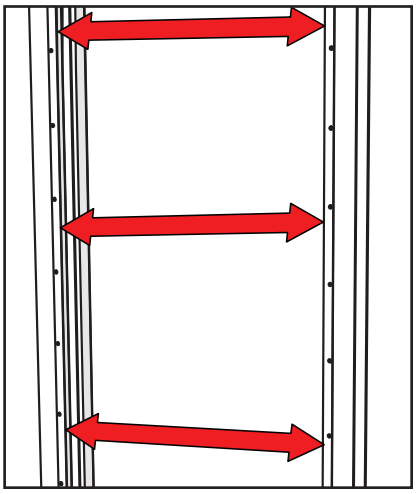
Column alignment is ***critical*** for proper VRC operation. Alignment between the column guide angles must be verified during and after column installation, and bracing.

Attach Temporary Bracing

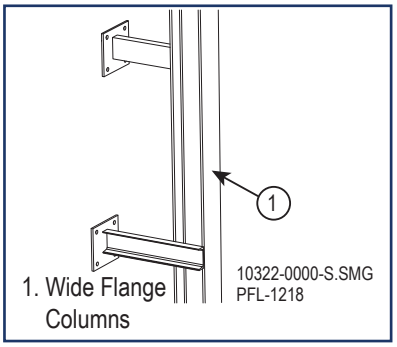
1. Permanently weld a mounting plate to the face of the floor or mezzanine, then tack weld the upper floor-to-column braces to the mounting plate. See Figure 12-24.
2. Verify that the gap from the column guide angle to the wheelblock guide roller is 3/16" (4,76mm). See Figure 12-25.



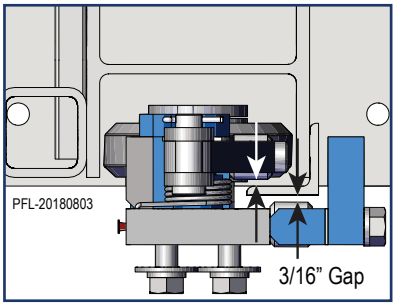
Verify Guide Angle Measurement Figure 12-22



Verify Distances at Multiple Points Figure 12-23



Tack Weld Bracing Figure 12-24



Verify Gap Figure 12-25

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DANGER

Falling column hazard! Properly support the columns during installation. Do not assume that the bolted connection on the carriage and wheelblocks will prevent the columns from falling.

Raise and Secure the 1st Back Side Column

Raise and secure the 1st back side column, repeating the same procedures outlined on Section 12, page 6 through page 10.

- Insert the wheelblocks
- Raise and secure the column
- Attach the wheelblocks to the carriage
- Plumb the column
- Eliminate any column twist
- Anchor the column — Make sure the column is secure and cannot fall

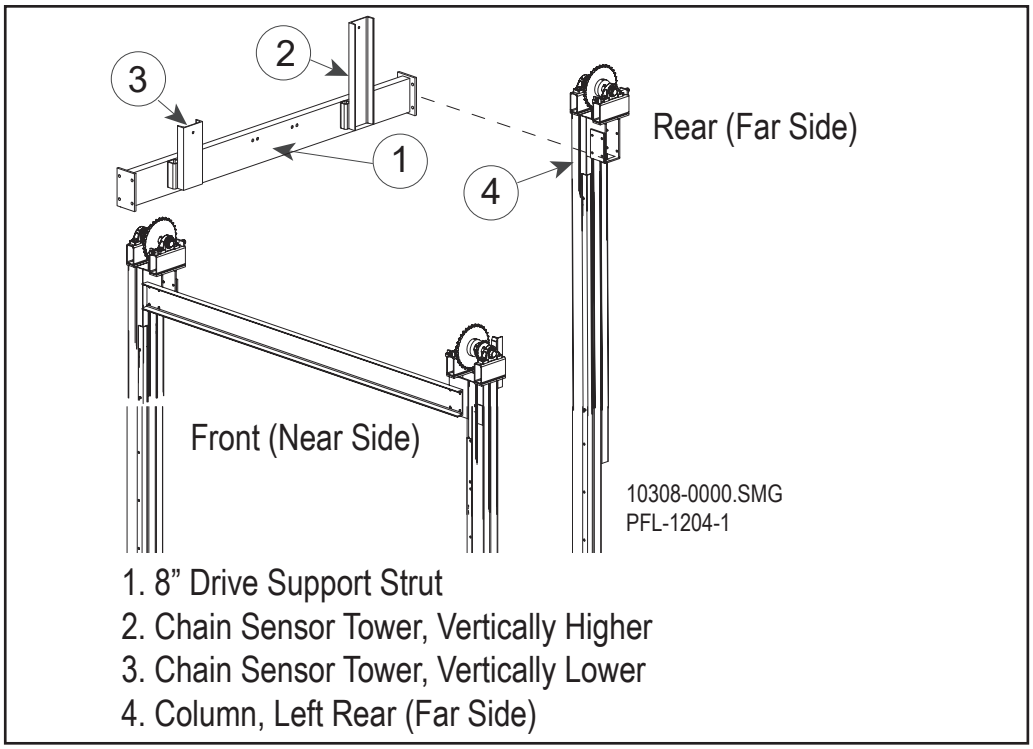
DANGER

Falling hazard! Properly support the drive support strut during installation.

Attach the Drive Support Strut

Attach the 8" (203mm) drive support strut between the front and rear columns at the top with 1/2" hardware, consisting of 1-3/4" (44mm) long bolts, lock washers, and nuts. See Figure 12-26.

NOTE *One chain sensor tower is lower than the other on both the right and left drive support struts. It is important that the high tower is positioned towards the rear (back side) of the VRC. The towers are located toward the inside of the lift structure. See Figure 12-26.*



Attach Drive Support Strut Figure 12-26

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DANGER

Falling column hazard! Properly support the columns during installation. Do not assume that the bolted connection on the carriage and wheelblocks will prevent the columns from falling.

Raise and Secure the 2nd Back Side Column

Raise and secure the 2nd back side column, repeating the same procedures outlined on Section 12, page 6 through page 10.

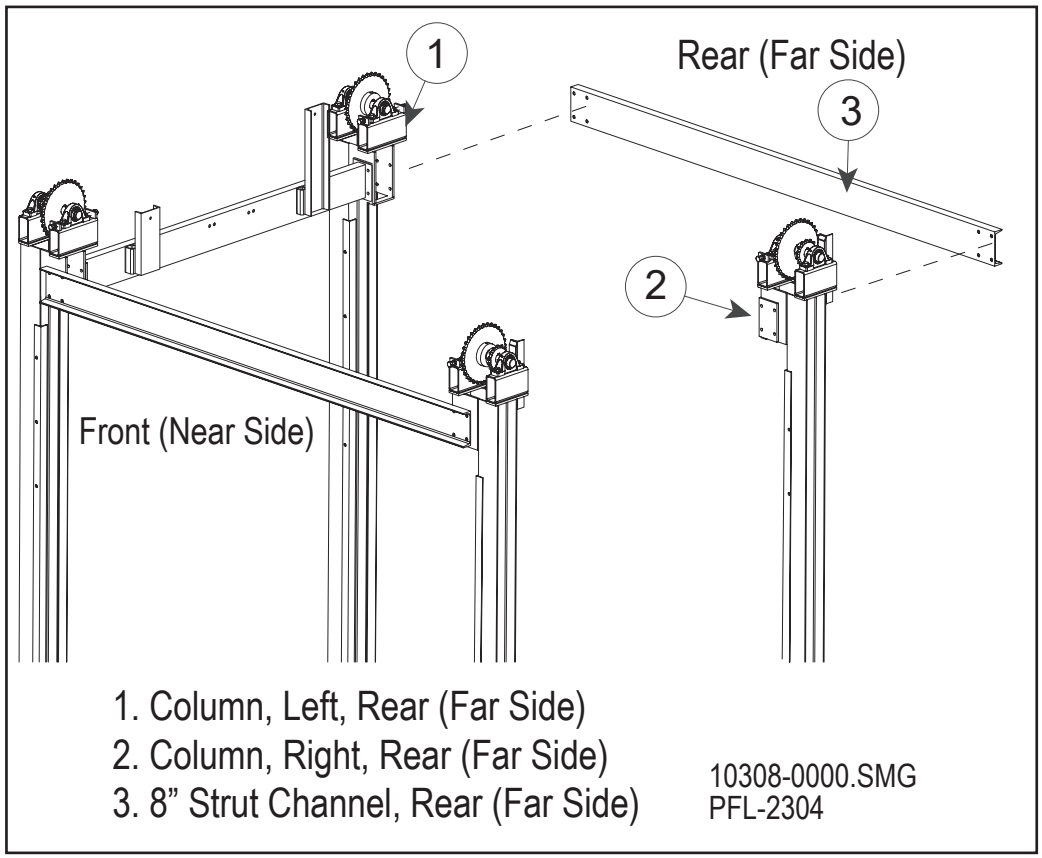
- Insert the wheelblocks
- Raise and secure the column
- Attach the wheelblocks to the carriage
- Plumb the column
- Eliminate any column twist
- Anchor the column — Make sure the column is secure and cannot fall

DANGER

Falling hazard! Properly support the strut channel during installation.

Attach the Strut Channel

Attach the 8" (203mm) strut channel between the rear columns at the top with 1/2" hardware, consisting of 1-3/4" (44mm) long bolts, lock washers, and nuts. See Figure 12-27.



Attach Strut Channel Figure 12-27

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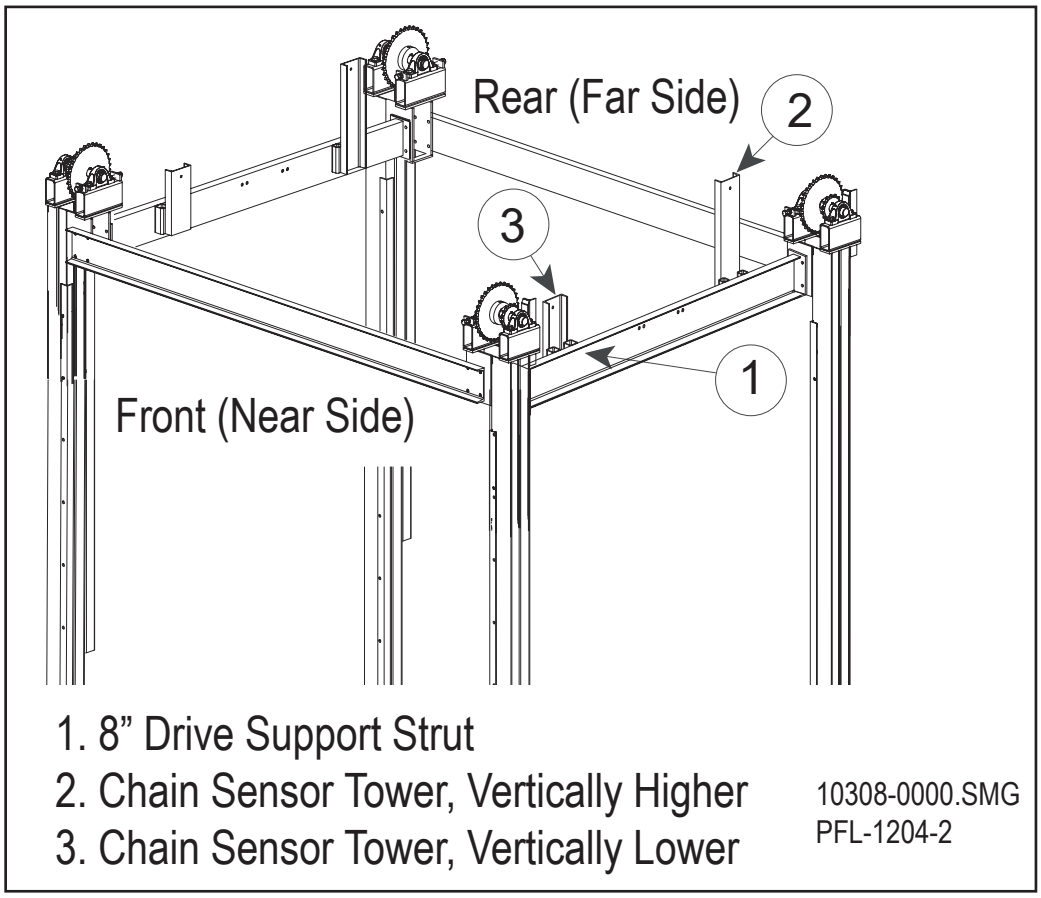
Attach the Drive Support Strut

DANGER

Falling hazard! Properly support the drive support strut during installation.

Attach the 8" (203mm) drive support strut between the front and rear columns at the top with 1/2" hardware, consisting of 1-3/4" (44mm) long bolts, lock washers, and nuts. See Figure 12-28.

NOTE *One chain sensor tower is lower than the other on both the right and left drive support struts. It is important that the high tower is positioned towards the rear (back side) of the VRC. The towers are located toward the inside of the lift structure. See Figure 12-28.*



Attach Drive Support Strut Figure 12-28

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DANGER

Falling column hazard! Properly support the columns during installation. Do not assume that the bolted connection on the carriage and wheelblocks will prevent the columns from falling.

Verify the Guide Angle to Guide Angle Alignment

Refer to the PFlow Industries, Inc. General Arrangement (GA) drawing to confirm the guide angle to guide angle dimension and column to column dimension. Contact the PFlow Industries, Inc. Product Support Department immediately concerning any discrepancies.

1. Measure the distance between the guide angles. See Figure 12-29.
2. Measure the distance between the columns. See Figure 12-29.
3. Verify each of these distances at multiple locations along the columns. See Figure 12-30.

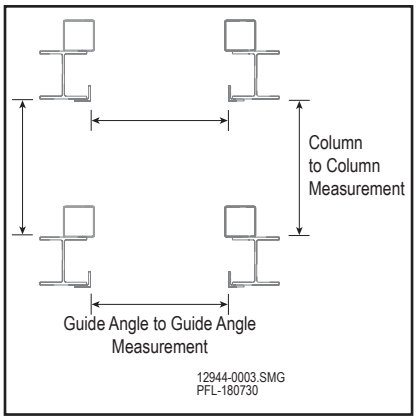
NOTICE

Column alignment is ***critical*** for proper VRC operation. Alignment between the column guide angles must be verified during and after column installation, and bracing.

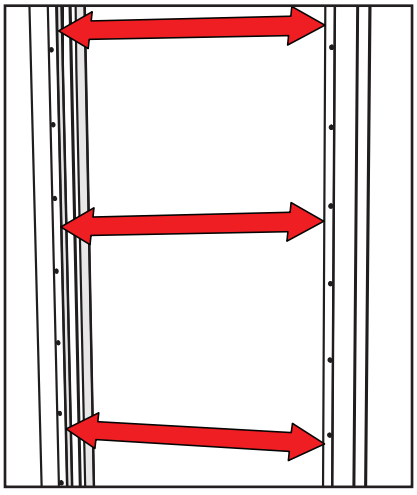
4. Maintain the same guide angle to guide angle dimension from the top to the bottom of the VRC columns (+/- 1/16").

Attach Temporary Bracing

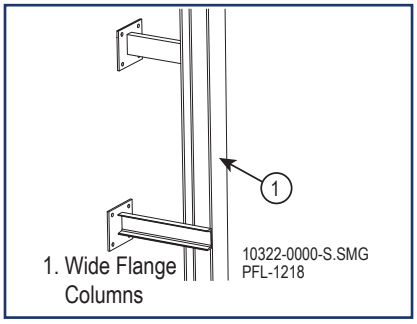
1. Permanently weld a mounting plate to the face of the floor or mezzanine, then tack weld the upper floor-to-column braces to the mounting plate. See Figure 12-31.
2. Verify that the gap from the column guide angle to the wheelblock guide roller is 3/16" (4,76mm). See Figure 12-32.



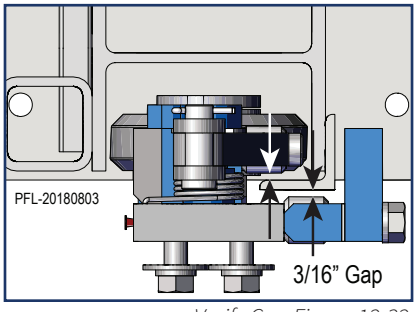
Verify Distances Figure 12-29



Verify Distances at Multiple Points Figure 12-30



Tack Weld Bracing Figure 12-31



Verify Gap Figure 12-32

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Inspect the Oil Level

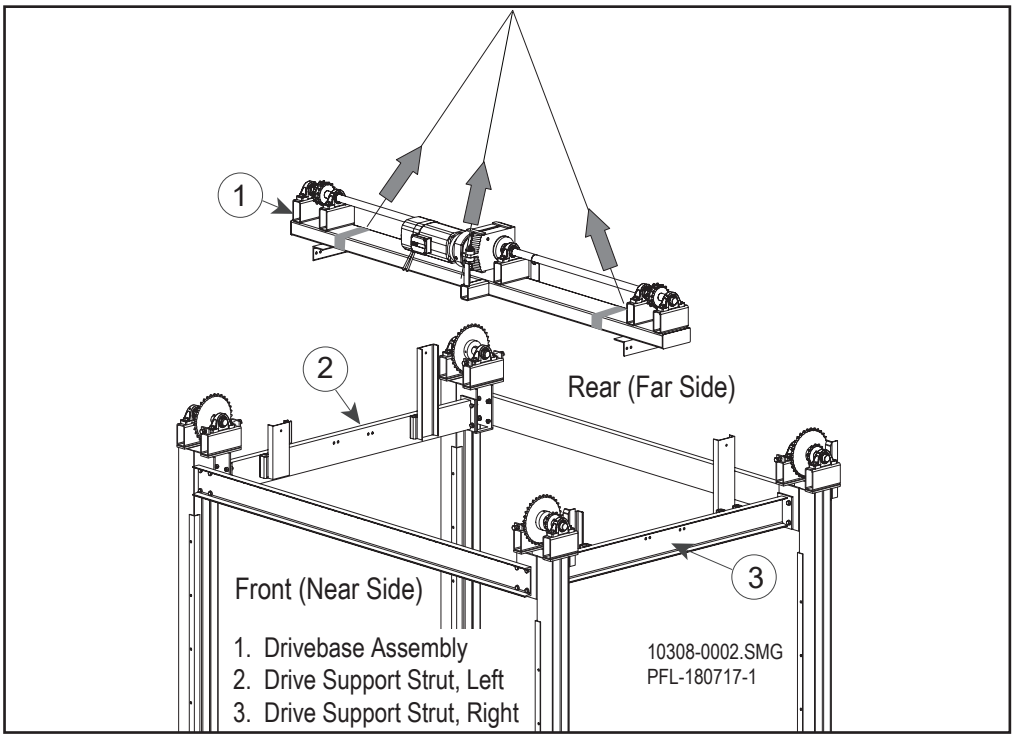
Install the Drivebase Assembly

⚠CAUTION

To prevent personal injury or damaging the drivebase, attach rigging only to the drivebase assembly weldment when lifting the drivebase assembly. Do not attach rigging to any drivebase assembly components (e.g., shaft, gear motor, pillow blocks, etc.).

Inspect the oil level in the gear motor. Replenish as needed.

1. Make sure the columns are firmly secured in place.
2. Verify that the right and left drive support struts are firmly secured in place.
3. Review the weight of the drivebase assembly to confirm that the pick point will withstand the weight of the drivebase assembly.
4. Use a suitable lifting system that complies with local regulations.
5. Review the General Arrangement drawing for accurate motor orientation.
6. Lift the drivebase assembly with the motor facing the correct orientation and place over the top of the right and left drive support struts. See Figure 12-33.
7. Align the four (4) mounting holes on the right and left drive support struts with the holes in the drivebase angle at each end of the drivebase.
8. Attach the drivebase angles to the right and left drive support struts with 1/2" hardware, consisting of 1-3/4" (44mm) long bolts, lock washers, and nuts.
9. Verify that the driveshaft is level. Shim if necessary.
10. Snug bolts down to allow for final adjustments. ***Do not weld at this time.***



Drivebase Assembly Placement Figure 12-33

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Brace the Columns

Review the Bracing Instructions in Section 13 of this installation manual.

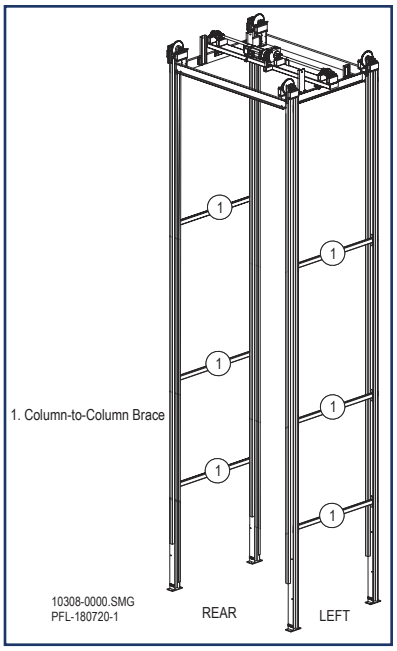
1. Verify GA and bracing drawing details prior to beginning field bracing work.

NOTICE

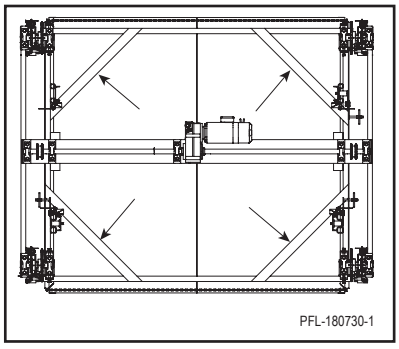
Bracing must resist all dynamic operational loads. The General Arrangement (GA) drawing states the estimated static lateral load that the bracing must support. The GA or bracing drawing includes the position and number of braces required. Each column requires bracing in both front-to-back and side-to-side directions.

2. Verify column-to-column dimension.
3. Fully weld column-to-column braces to the columns. See Figure 12-34.
4. Fully weld the column braces to the face of the upper floor.
5. Fully weld the strut channels and drive support struts to the columns.
6. Fully weld corner braces to the top of the frame. See Figure 12-35.
7. Fully tighten the hex bolts on the drivebase. See Figure 12-36.

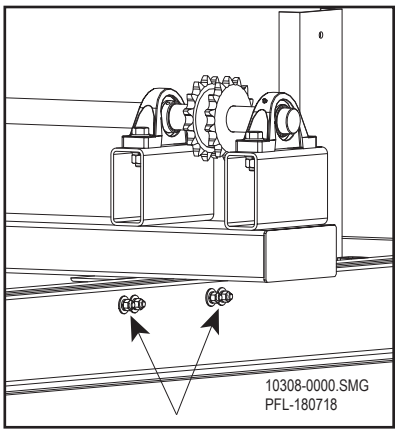
NOTE *Do not weld the drivebase assembly to the left and right drive support struts at this time.*



Bracing Example Figure 12-34



Weld Corner Braces Figure 12-35



Tighten Hex Bolts Figure 12-36

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⚠ WARNING

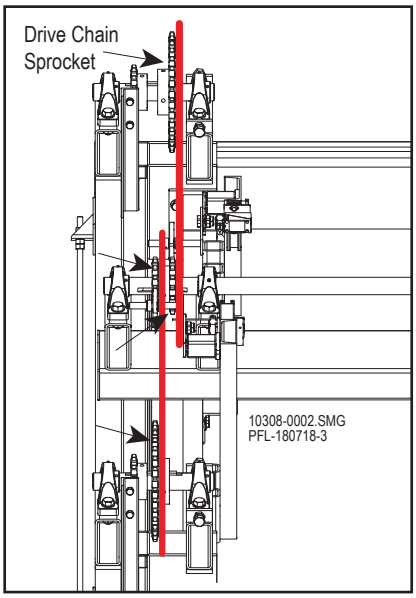
Entanglement hazard! Remove gloves, secure long hair, wear snug-fitting clothing, and avoid wearing jewelry while working with chains.

Crush hazard! Keep hands outside and above the chain. If the lift chain does not reach the wheelblock, carefully work the lift chain around the sprocket until it does reach the wheelblock. Lift the chain from the sides. If the chain drops unaided, the weight of the chain will crush fingers. Do not allow the chain to come off the sprocket.

NOTE *The chain is usually packaged in 10' (3048mm) lengths. Depending on the required overall chain length, there may be smaller sections, one for each column or large drive chain sprocket. Make sure the lift chain is divided into four (4) equal lengths.*

Align the Drive Chain Sprockets

1. Use a straight edge to align the large drive chain sprocket with the corresponding small drive chain sprocket. See Figure 12-37.
2. Verify the alignment on both the back and front sprockets.
3. Tighten and torque the sprocket setscrews as needed. Refer to Section 12 page 22 for torque values.



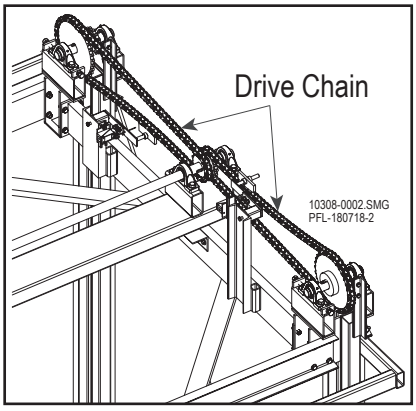
Verify Sprocket Alignment Figure 12-37

Install the Drive Chains

1. Place a 10' (3048mm) section of the drive chain over the small drive chain sprocket.

NOTE *Make sure the retaining clip side of the master link faces away from the other sprocket. Master links and link pins may interfere with each other because of the close proximity.*

2. Work the drive chain around and under the small drive chain sprocket.
3. Work the drive chain back toward the large drive chain sprocket, around and over the large drive chain sprocket.
4. Pull the ends of the drive chain together as tight as possible. A chain puller is recommended.
5. Remove links if the chain is too long.
6. Join the two ends of the drive chain with a master link and clip. See Figure 12-38.



Install the Drive Chain Figure 12-38

Repeat steps 1—5 for each large drive chain sprocket.

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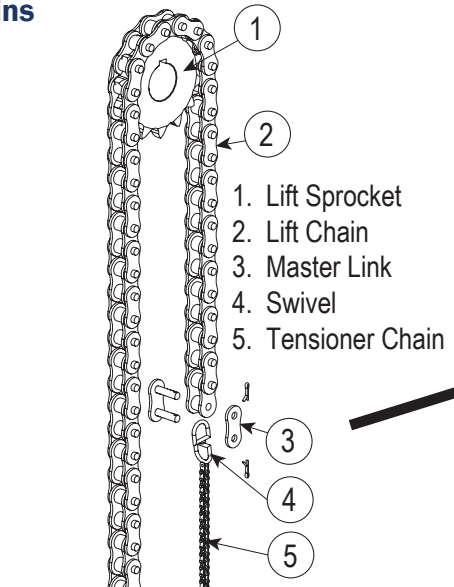
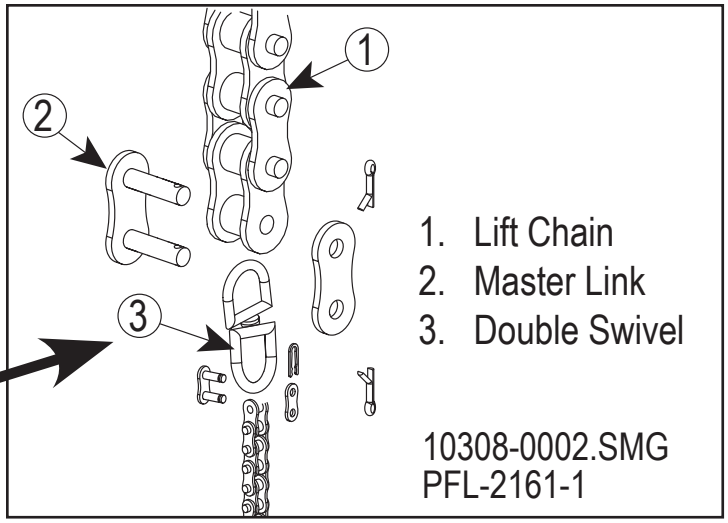
Lift Chains



1. Lift Sprocket
2. Lift Chain
3. Master Link
4. Swivel
5. Tensioner Chain

10308-0002.SMG
PFL-2161



1. Lift Chain
2. Master Link
3. Double Swivel

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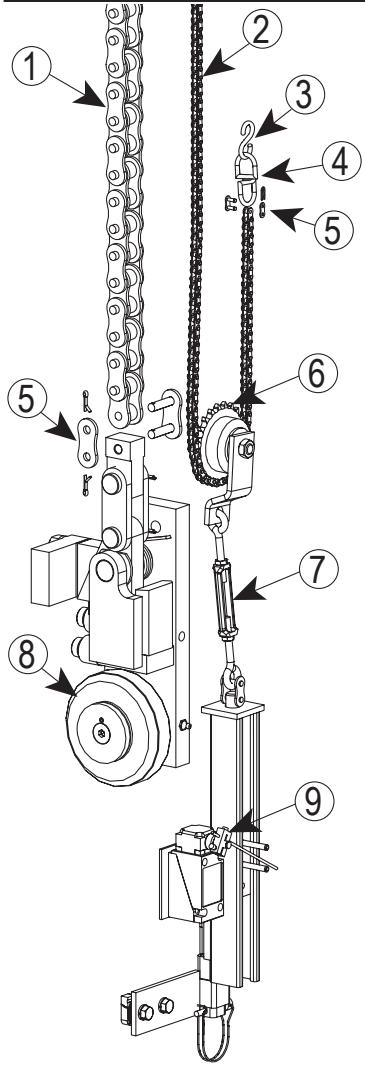
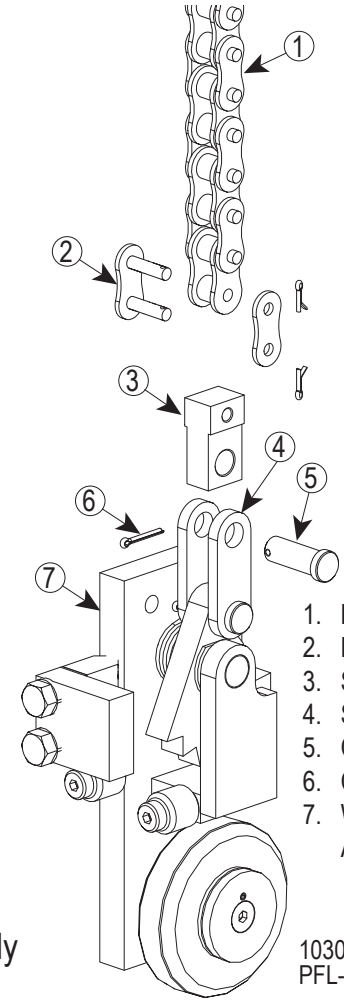
PFL-2161-1



1. Lift Chain
2. Tensioner Chain
3. S-Hook
4. Swivel
5. Master Link
6. Tensioner Sprocket
7. Turnbuckle
8. Wheelblock Assembly
9. Limit Switch

10308-0002.SMG
PFL-1262-2



1. Lift Chain
2. Master Link
3. Safety Cam Toggle
4. Safety Cam Link
5. Clevis Pin
6. Cotter Pin
7. Wheelblock Assembly

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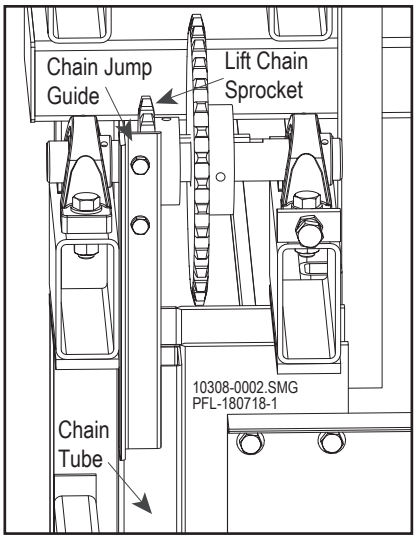
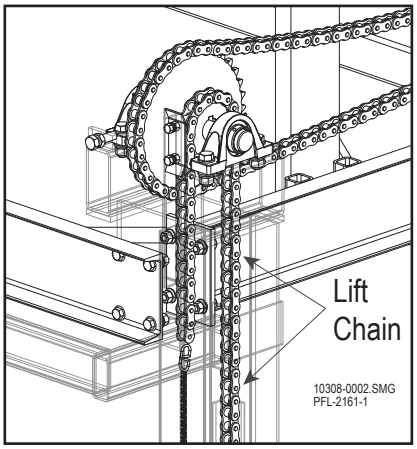
Install the Lift Chains

NOTE *The lift chain is usually packaged in 10' (3048mm) lengths. Depending on the required overall chain length, there may be four (4) smaller sections, one for each column. Make sure the lift chain is divided into four (4) equal lengths.*

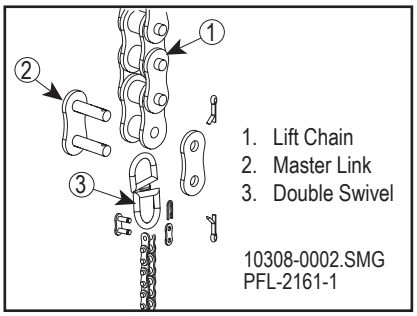
1. Remove the chain jump guide at the top of the column sprocket. See Figure 12-39.
2. Take a 10' (3048mm) section of the lift chain (larger chain) and place a 2' (610mm) section of the chain over the sprocket on the column just above the chain tube. Make sure the retaining clip side of the master link faces the carriage for easy access. See Figure 12-40.
3. Clamp and secure both sides of the lift chain to the sprocket to prevent the lift chain from falling down the column.
4. Separate the #35 tensioner chain (some installations require #50) equally into four (4) sections (one for each column). Mount the swivel to one end of the tensioner chain using the tensioner chain master link. See Figure 12-41, Item 3.
5. Use the lift chain master link to attach the tensioner chain to the end of the 2' (610mm) section of the lift chain. See Figure 12-41, Item 2.
6. Carefully drop the end of the tensioner chain without the swivel down the chain tube. See Figure 12-40. Make sure the chain goes down without any knots or kinks.



Remove Chain Jump Guide Figure 12-39



Place a Section Over the Chain Sprocket Figure 12-40



Attach the Tensioner Chain to the Lift Chain Figure 12-41

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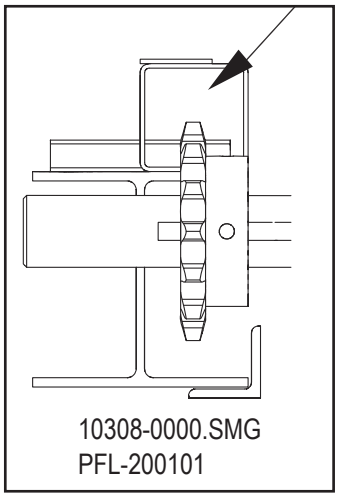
Install the Lift Chains (continued)

7. It may be necessary to slide the lift sprocket to center the chain inside the chain tube. See Figure 12-42. If necessary, loosen the set screws on each side of the sprocket. Move the sprocket to center the chain inside the chain tube. Add Loctite® Blue 242 to the setscrews and tighten the setscrews to a defined torque setting per the list below:

Setscrew Diameter	5/16"	3/8"	1/2"	5/8"	3/4"
Torque lb-ft	13	22	51	110	179

8. Remove the clamps on the lift chain.
9. Carefully work the lift chain around the sprocket so that approximately 30" (762mm) is down the chain tube.



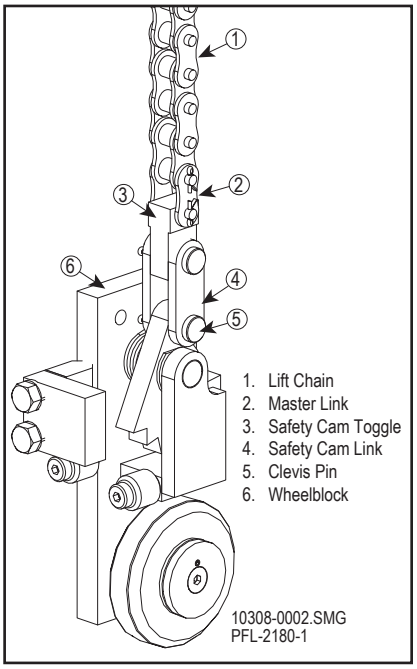
Center the Lift Chain Down the Chain Tube and Tighten Setscrews Figure 12-42

10. Clamp and secure both sides of the lift chain to the sprocket to prevent the lift chain from falling down the column.
11. Join the next 10' (3048mm) section of the lift chain together with a lift chain master link. Remove the clamps on the lift chain and feed the lift chain down the guide angle side of the column.
12. Repeat steps 10—11 until the lift chain reaches the wheelblock.
13. Add Loctite® Blue 242 to the setscrews on each side of the sprocket.

Install the lift chain for each of the remaining columns using steps 1—13.

Attach the Lift Chains to the Wheelblocks

1. Attach the master link to the end of the lift chain and the safety cam toggle. See Figure 12-43, Item 2 and Item 3. Make sure the cotter pin side of the master link faces the carriage for easy access.
2. Secure the master link with the cotter pin and bend one side of the cotter pin backwards.



Attach the Lift Chain to the Wheelblock Figure 12-43

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Adjust the Length of the Lift Chains

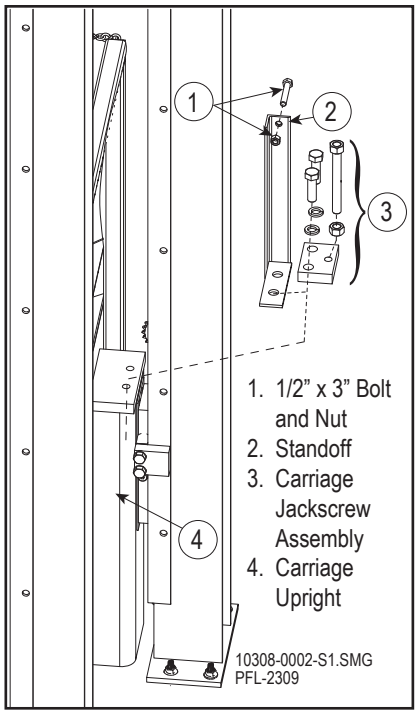
1. Adjust the length of the lift chains in each column to be approximately the same length by working the lift chain around the sprockets.
2. Make sure the lift chain attached to the wheelblock is taut.
3. If a setscrew was used to temporarily secure the safety cam, remove the setscrew, replace with the wheelblock bolt, and tighten the wheelblock bolt.

Install the Lift Chain Standoff and Jackscrew Assembly

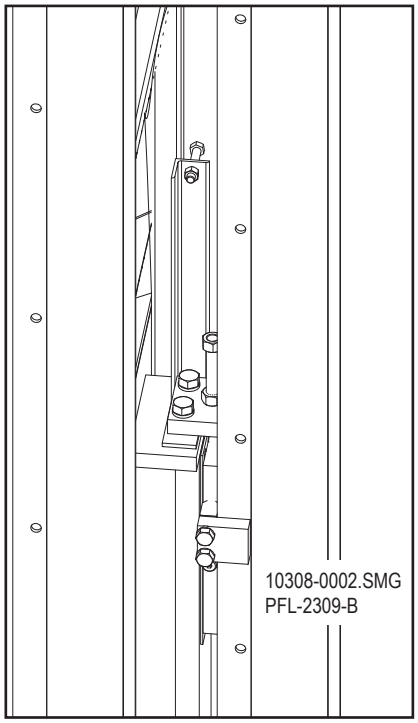
1. Insert the 1/2" x 3" bolt through the standoff and tighten the nut. See Figure 12-44, Item 1 and Item 2.
2. Slide the standoff bracket beneath the carriage jackscrew assembly. See Figure 12-44, Item 3.
3. Bolt the carriage jackscrew assembly to the carriage upright. See Figure 12-45.

NOTE *There are left-hand and right-hand lift chain tensioner carriage standoffs. The placement and style may vary due to carriage construction and DeckLock options.*

Repeat steps 1—4 for each column.



Assemble the Standoff and Jackscrew
Figure 12-44



Assembled Standoff and Jackscrew
Figure 12-45

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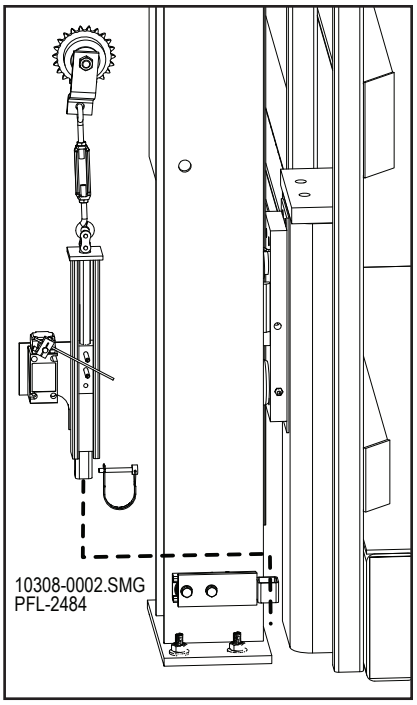
Install the Lift Chain Tensioner

1. Bolt the chain tensioner mounting bracket to the unistrut.
2. Insert the chain tensioner assembly onto the chain tensioner mounting bracket near the bottom of the column. Notice that the limit switch is away from the carriage. See Figure 12-46.
3. Open the turnbuckle to its fullest point.
4. Place the S-hook and swivel on the standoff bolt. See Figure 12-47, Item 2 and Item 3.

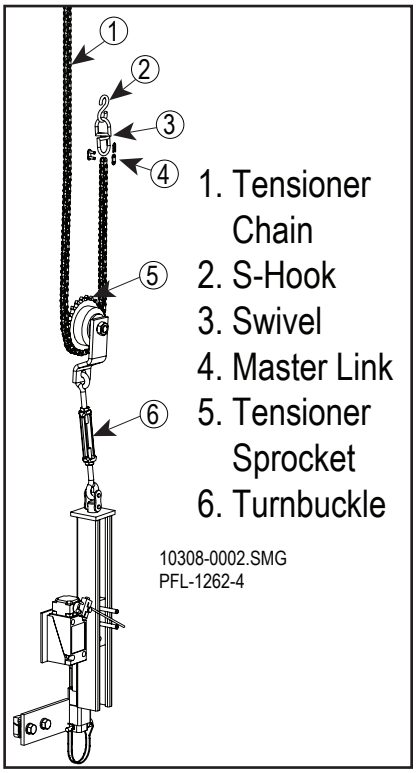
NOTE *The S-hook supplied with the VRC is properly sized for safety purposes.* ***Do not squeeze the S-hook shut.***

5. Place the tensioner chain (size #35 or #50) coming from the chain tube around the tensioner sprocket and cut to length to meet the swivel. See Figure 12-47, Item 1 and Item 5.
6. Attach the tensioner chain (size #35 or #50) to the swivel with the appropriate master link. See Figure 12-47, Item 1 and Item 4.

Install the lift chain tensioner assembly and chain for the other columns using steps 1—6.



Install the Lift Chain Tensioner Assembly
Figure 12-46



Chain Tensioner Assembly Figure 12-47

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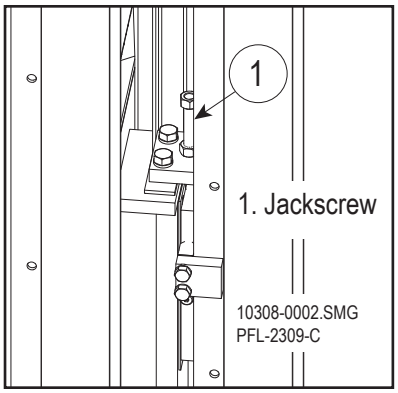
Level the Carriage

Begin the leveling procedure with loose wheelblock bolts and the carriage weight being held with the jackscrew.

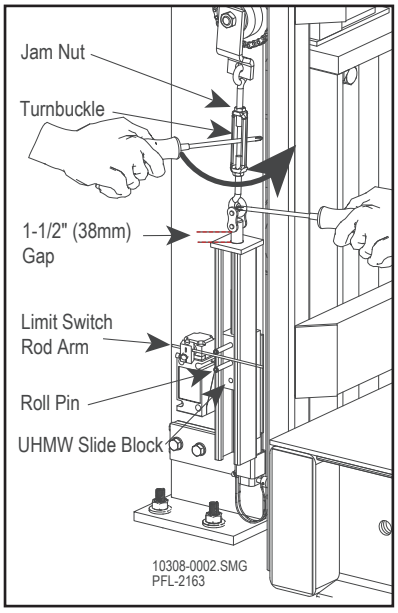
1. Remove the blocks from under the carriage (if used) and remove the temporary anchors or welds holding the carriage secure. The carriage should now be hanging freely from the chains.
2. On one corner of the VRC carriage, tighten the wheelblock mounting bolts.
3. Use a leveling tool to determine which direction the jackscrew on each corner of the carriage needs to be turned to level the VRC carriage. See Figure 12-48.
4. After leveling the carriage, tighten and torque all wheelblock mounting bolts to 112 lb-ft.



Leveling with Jackscrew Figure 12-48

Adjust the Turnbuckle

1. While the carriage is hanging freely from the lift chains, adjust the turnbuckle until the gap from the top of the chain tensioner to the underside of the master link is 1-1/2" (38mm) wide. See Figure 12-49.
2. Tighten both jam nuts on the turnbuckle.



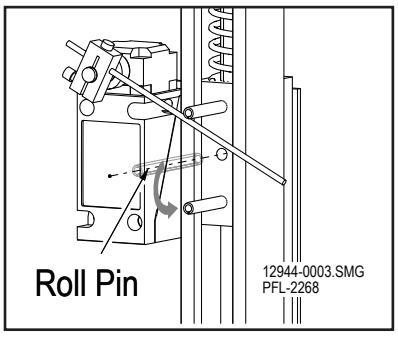
Turnbuckle Adjustment Figure 12-49

Position the Limit Switch Rod Arm

1. Adjust the limit switch rod arm so that the limit switch rod arm is ***centered*** between the two roll pins on the UHMW slide block. See Figure 12-50.
2. Make sure that when all tension on the chain is released (e.g., the chain breaks) that the roll pins will engage the limit switch rod and activate the switch.

NOTE

On VRCs over 20' (6096mm) tall, the limit switch may activate intermittently. If this occurs, move the lower roll pin to the lower hole in the chain tensioner block. Readjust the limit switch rod arm to the center of the roll pins. See Figure 12-50.



Limit Switch Adjustment Figure 12-50

Review for Interference

Make sure the carriage is able to rise 6" (152mm) without interference. Verify that the carriage is level and the chains are equally tight.

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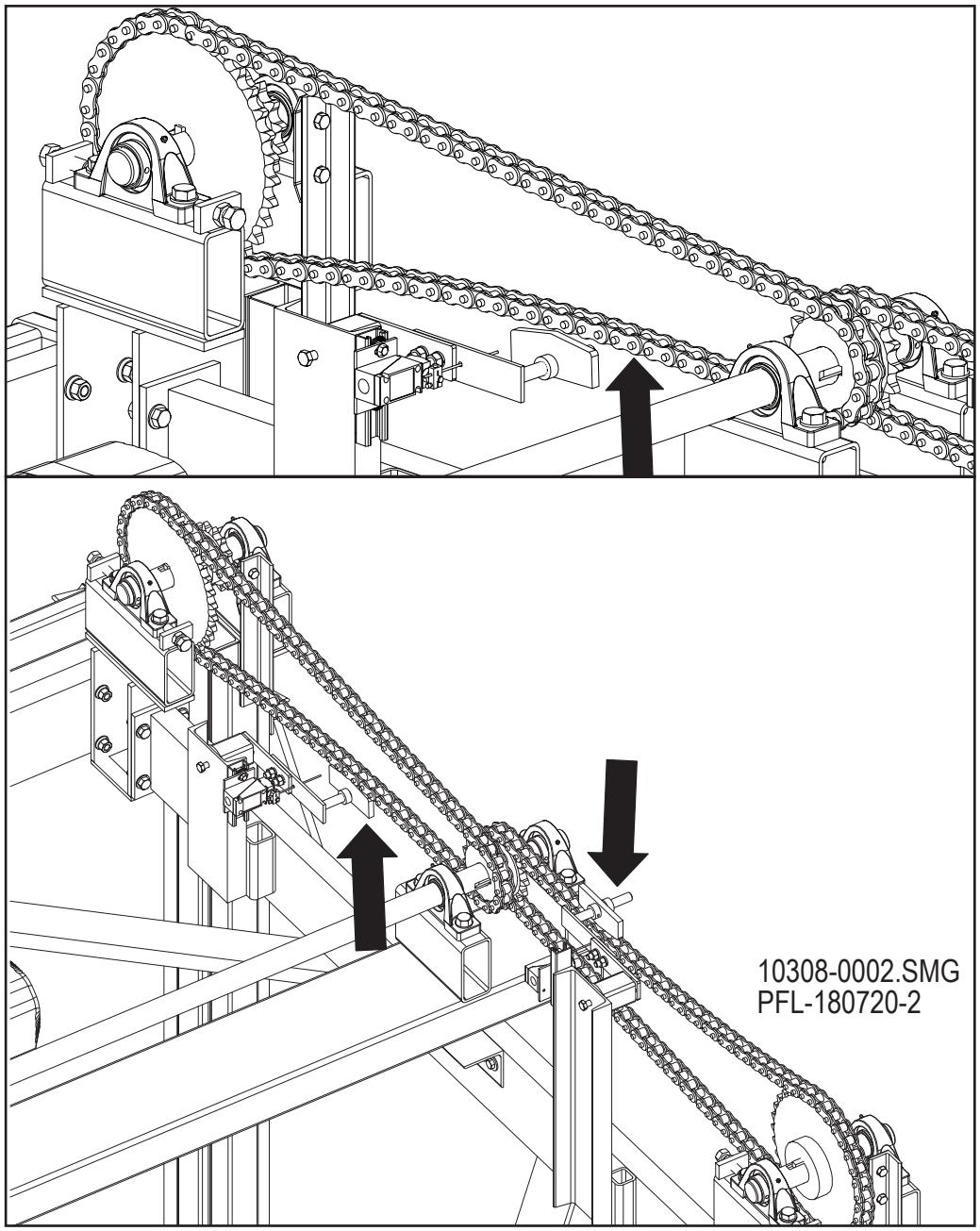
Drive Chain Tensioners

The drive chain tensioners will sense when the drive chain is functioning properly. If the drive chain breaks, the limit switch will trip and interrupt power to the motor. The tensioner will reduce any slack in the chain and enable the chain to work efficiently and quietly.

Each tower requires a drive chain tensioner and limit switch. The drive chain tension guide on the short towers will face up and apply pressure to the bottom chain. The drive chain tension guide on the tall towers will face down and apply pressure to the top chain. The limit switch rod arm is threaded through a hole in the arm of the chain sensor assembly.



Drive Chain Tensioner
Figure 12-51

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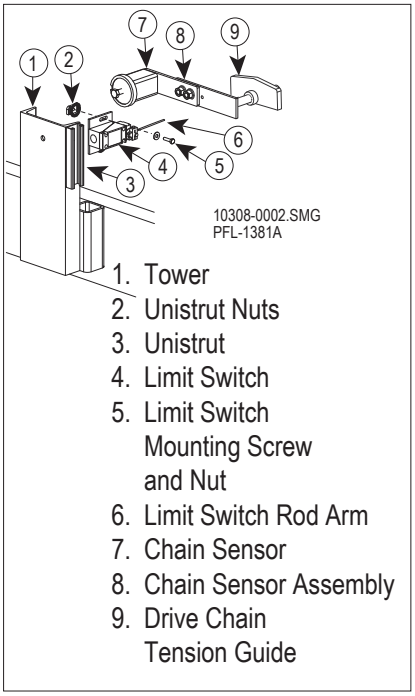
Assemble the Drive Chain Tensioners

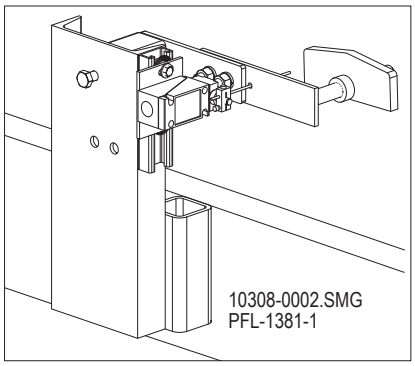
1. Attach the limit switch to the unistrut on the side of the tower with the unistrut nuts, limit switch mounting screws, and nuts. See Figure 12-52, Items 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5.
2. Slide the assembled chain sensor assembly to align the limit switch rod arm through the opening in the chain sensor assembly. See Figure 12-52, Items 6, 7, and 8.
3. Bolt the assembled chain sensor base to the tower.
4. Position the drive chain tension guide to align with the slack side of the drive chain.



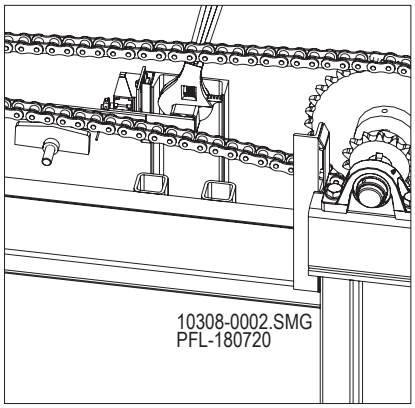
Assemble the Drive Chain Tensioner
Figure 12-52

Adjust the Drive Chain Tensioners

1. Loosen the chain sensor mounting bolt slightly.
2. Grasp the base of the chain sensor with a large, long handled, adjustable wrench or pipe wrench. See Figure 12-54.
3. Turn the chain sensor to remove slack from the drive chain.
4. Adjust the chain sensor assembly to 15° or more as indicated with the marks on the base. Do not exceed 30°.
5. Verify that the limit switch is in tripped condition. The limit switch will return to an open condition if the drive chain breaks.



Assembled Drive Chain Tensioner
Figure 12-53



Adjust Drive Chain Tensioner
Figure 12-54

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WARNING

Carriage drop hazard! Before operating the VRC, replace the setscrew in the safety cam with the previously removed hex head screw and washer. Otherwise the safety cam will not function.

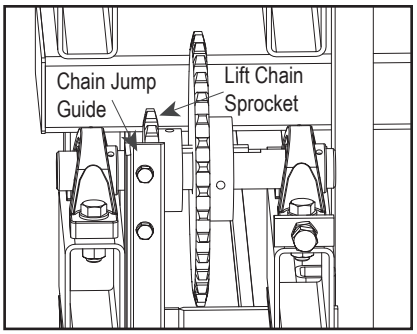
Final Steps - Inspect and Verify

Reinstall the Chain Jump Guides

1. Make sure all wheelblock setscrews are removed and replaced with the previously removed hex head screw and washer.
2. Reinstall the chain jump guides. See Figure 12-54.
3. Adjust the chain jump guides to 1/4" (6mm) away from the lift chain.

Tighten Bolts

4. Torque the 1/2-13 drivebase mounting bolts to 49 lb-ft.
5. Torque the 5/8-11 wheelblock mounting bolts to 150 lb-ft.
6. Tighten all other bolts.



Reinstall the Chain Jump Guides
Figure 12-55

Complete Field Welding

All field welding must conform to the latest edition of AWS D1.1. The weld filler material is to be a minimum of E60xx.

- Fully weld all braces.
- Final weld spliced columns (if applicable).
- Weld the drivebase assembly to the drive support struts.

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Before You Begin

Read this entire manual. Verify the job site dimensions against the PFlow Industries, Inc. General Arrangement (GA) drawing before starting the installation. If the site conditions do not match the GA drawing, please consult the PFlow Industries, Inc. Product Support Department.

⚠ DANGER

Falling column hazard! The installation of this equipment requires a qualified installer with extensive knowledge and experience on how to rig, erect, and support structural steel. Be sure to properly support the columns, posts, and panels during installation. The carriage and wheelblocks cannot prevent the columns from falling. Do not depend on the base plates or feet to prevent the columns, posts, and panels from falling.

NOTICE

ASME B20.1 defines a qualified person as a person who, by possession of a recognized degree or certificate of professional standing, or by extensive knowledge, training, and experience, has successfully demonstrated his/her ability to solve problems relating to the subject matter and work.

⚠ CAUTION

Lifting hazard! Components and accessories may be heavy. Use the appropriate lifting apparatus or get help when moving or lifting.

Required Anchoring and Bracing Guidelines

Anchoring and bracing of the Vertical Reciprocating Conveyor (VRC) is ***required***. Illustrations in this section are to be used for reference only. Job site conditions may require a different alternative to those PFlow Industries, Inc. suggests in this document. A job specific bracing drawing may be provided. Verify drawing details prior to beginning any field bracing work. Before any final field welding is done, verify that the VRC columns and drivebase are aligned correctly.

All field welding must conform to the latest edition of AWS D1.1. The weld filler material is to be a minimum of E60xx. Unless indicated otherwise, all welds are a minimum of 3/16" continuous fillet.

- Fully weld horizontal floor braces.
- Fully weld support bracing at upper levels (unless shown otherwise).
- Fully weld front and rear strut channels.
- Fully weld all VRC connections, drive support strut, and drivebase mounting angles.

Review GA Drawing Figure 13-1

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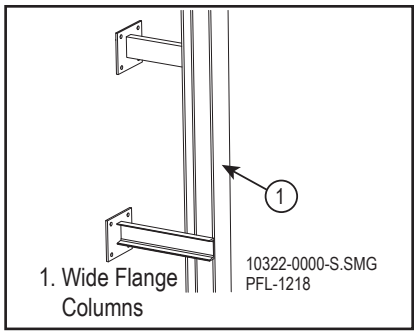
Side-to-Side and Front-to-Back Bracing

Side-to-side and front-to-back bracing of the Vertical Reciprocating Conveyor (VRC) is required. Bracing of the VRC and enclosures is the responsibility of the installer.

It is the customer's responsibility to make sure that the job site conditions have a structure with enough strength to be used for bracing in order to withstand the forces of weight and gravity.



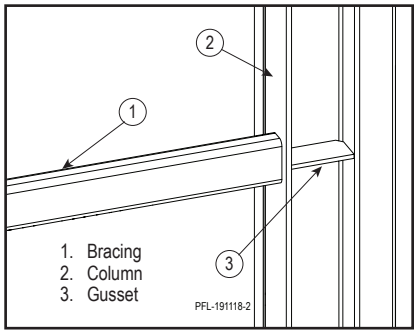
Bracing Columns Figure 13-2

Install Gusset Bracing

Some jobs require the installation of gussets. These plates will be included in the parts crate. Place one (1) gusset inside the column, directly in line with each point where a bracing member meets the column. Fillet weld all three (3) edges. See Figure 13-3 and Figure 13-4.

NOTE

If PFlow Industries, Inc. prepared seismic bracing materials, the bracing requirements and the General Arrangement (GA) drawing are provided in the shipping packet.

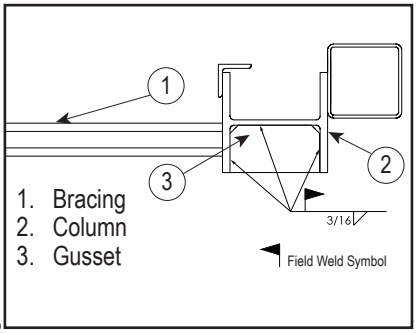


Bracing Columns Figure 13-3

NOTICE

PFlow Industries, Inc. does not supply anchor bolts nor guarantee that the above material is sufficient for the application. It is the installer's responsibility to verify the information included in the shipping packet prior to commencing work.

Use minimum 1/2" x 4" stud type expansion bolts when anchor beam base plates are used.



Bracing Columns Figure 13-4

Bracing Supplies

Typically, for a two-level VRC, PFlow Industries, Inc. supplies:

- Up to (8) 10' (3048mm) lengths of 4" (102mm) channel or
  up to (8) 10' (3048mm) lengths of tube
  2" x 4" x 1/4" (51mm x 102mm x 6mm)
- (2) 10' (3048mm) lengths of angle per supplied gate
  1-1/2" x 1-1/2" x 3/16" (38mm x 38mm x 5mm)
- Up to (8) mounting plates
- Up to (8) bracing gussets

Each additional level is supplied with the following:

- Up to (8) 10' (3048mm) lengths of 4" (102mm) channel or
  up to (8) 10' (3048mm) lengths of tube
  2" x 4" x 1/4" (51mm x 102mm x 6mm)
- (2) 10' (3048mm) lengths of angle per supplied gate
  1-1/2" x 1-1/2" x 3/16" (38mm x 38mm x 5mm)
- Up to (8) mounting plates
- Up to (8) bracing gussets

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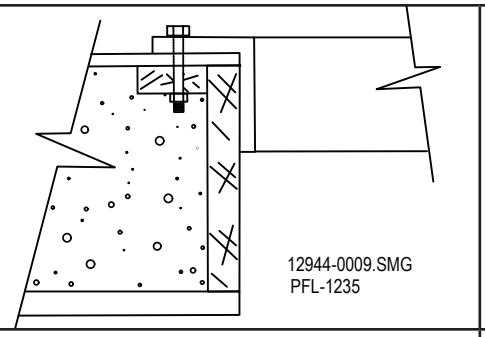
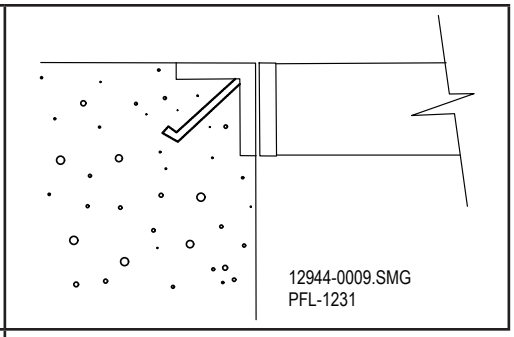
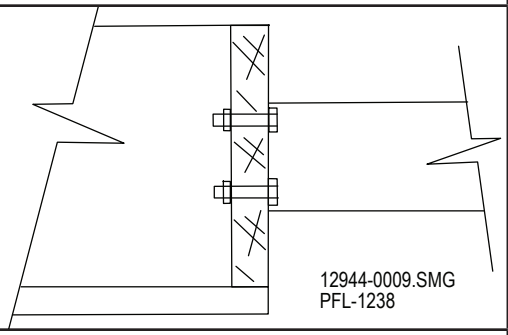
Anchoring Guidelines



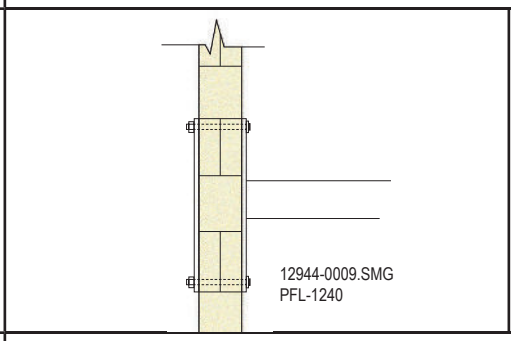
Using a tie plate Figure 13-3



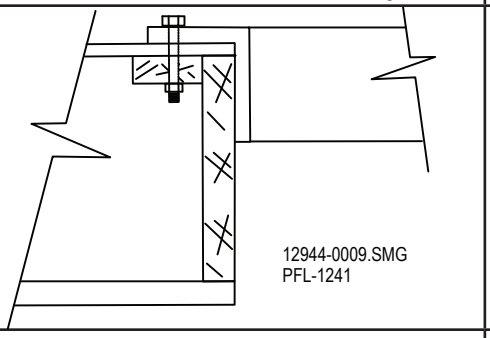
Welding to a curb angle Figure 13-4



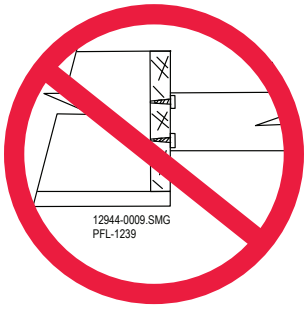
Anchoring to a wood floor - through bolting Figure 13-5



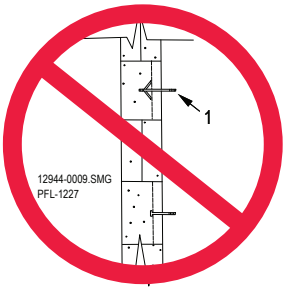
Anchoring to a CMU wall with backing plates Figure 13-6



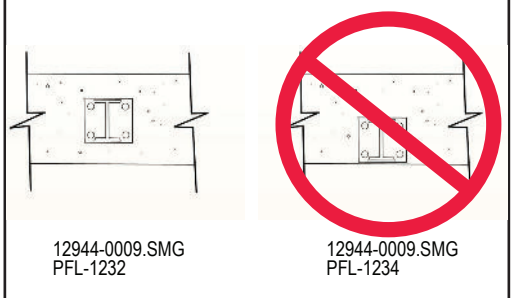
Anchoring to a wooden floor (preferred method) Figure 13-7



Anchoring to a wooden floor (not recommended) Figure 13-8



Anchoring to CMU wall (not recommended) Figure 13-9



Anchoring mounting plate to solid floor Figure 13-10

NOTICE Always follow the anchor manufacturers recommended anchoring instructions.

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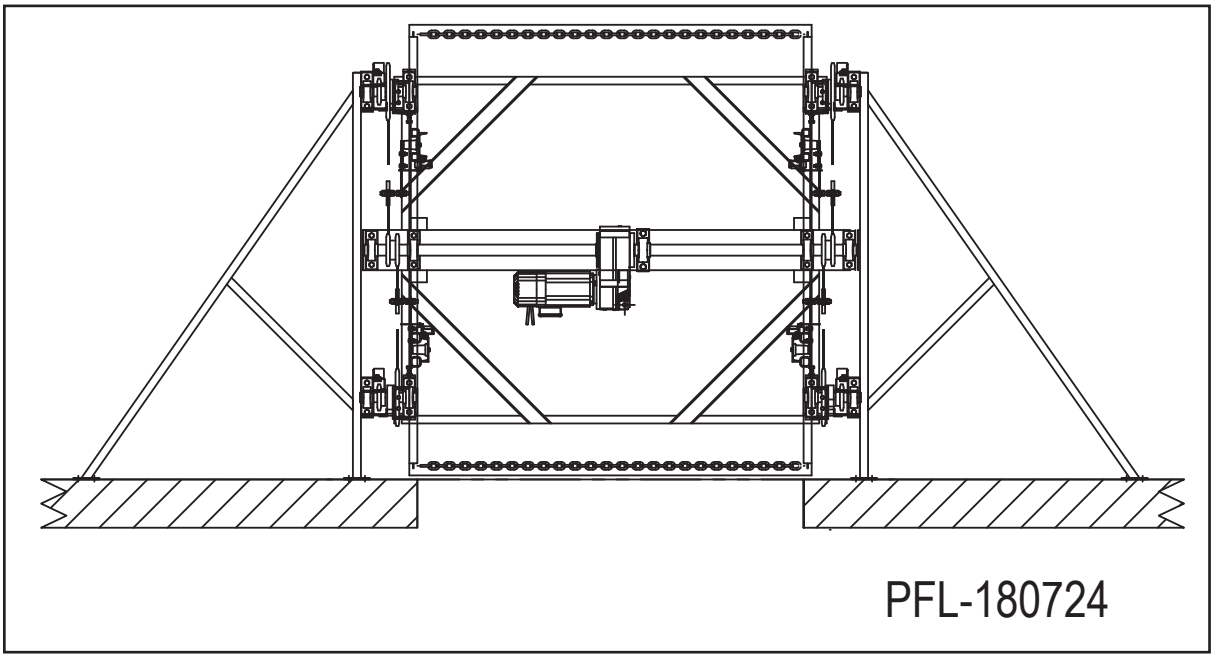
Bracing Guidelines

The following guidelines illustrate acceptable methods of attaching bracing to a building.

DANGER

Falling column hazard! To avoid serious personal injury or death, do not lift the carriage or load the VRC until the VRC bracing is adequately sized and welded.



Facing a Mezzanine Figure 13-11

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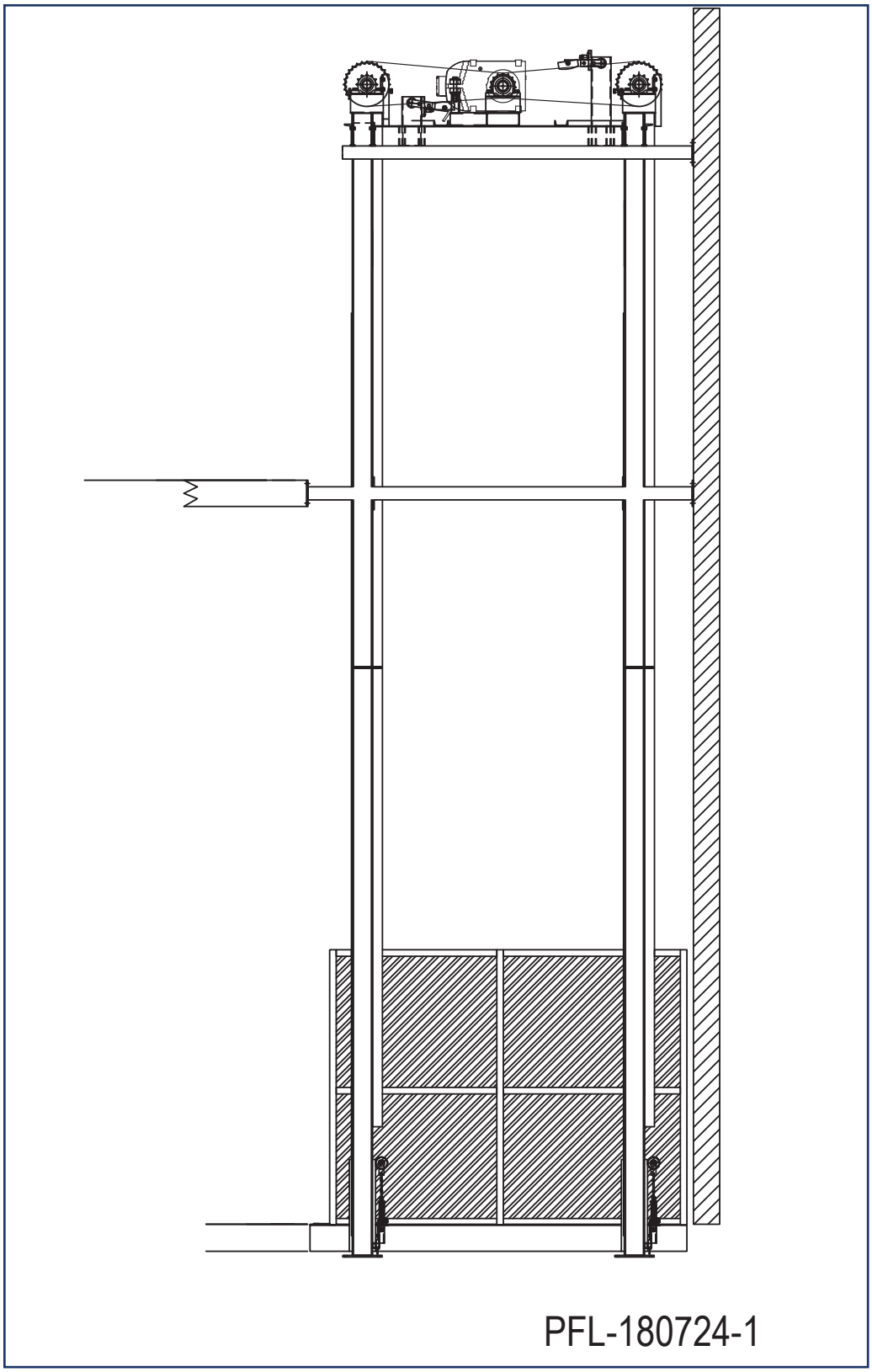

Through a Floor Figure 13-12

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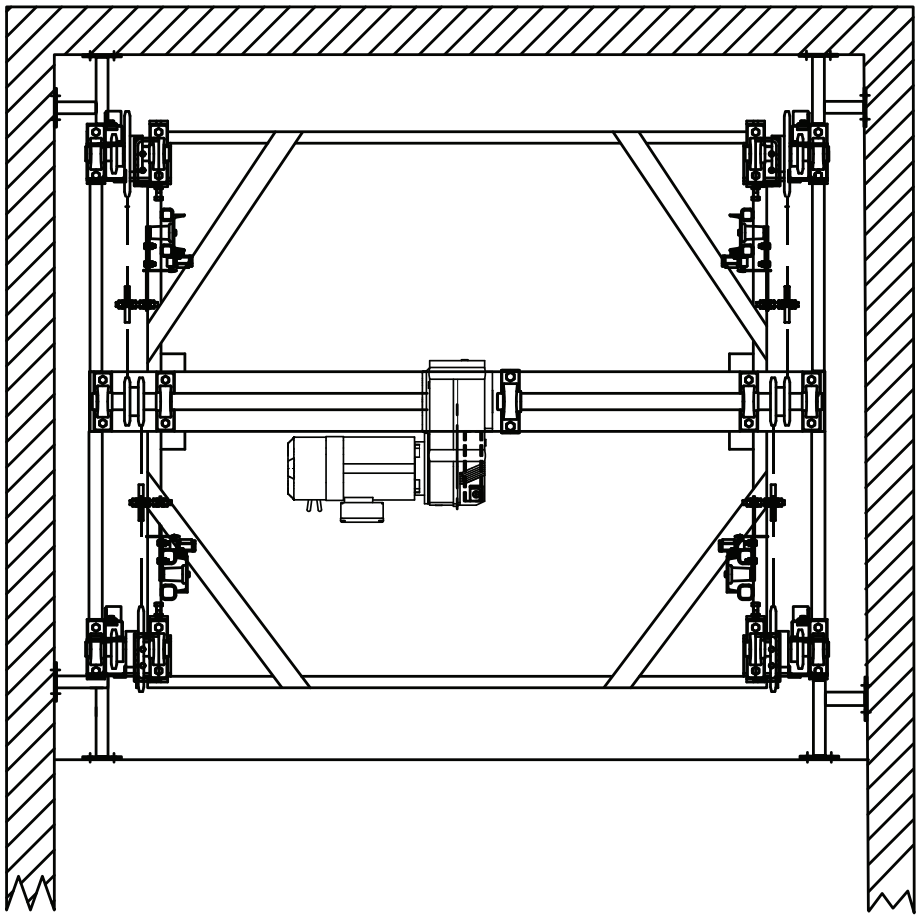

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In a Shaftway Figure 13-13

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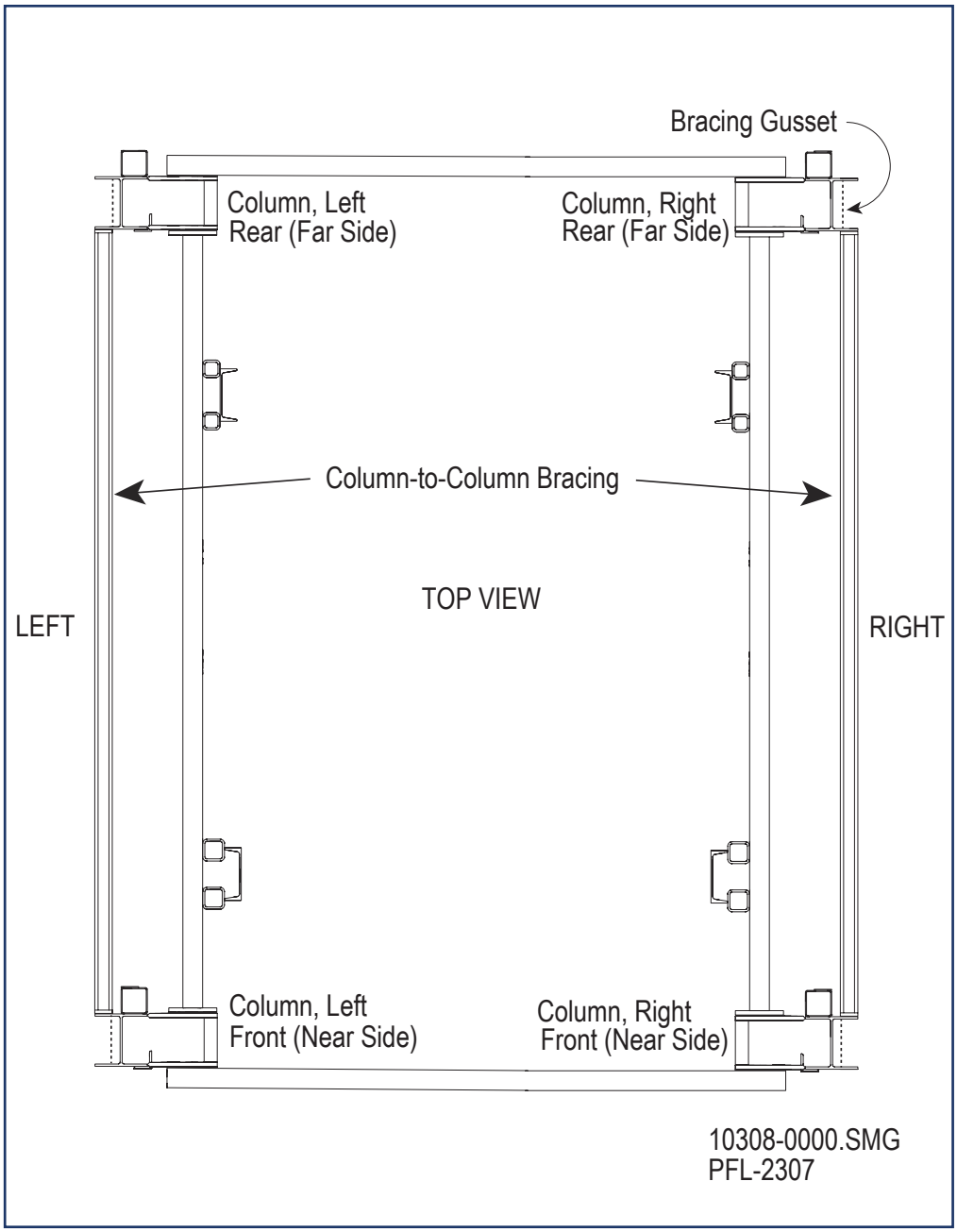

Column-to-Column Bracing Figure 13-15

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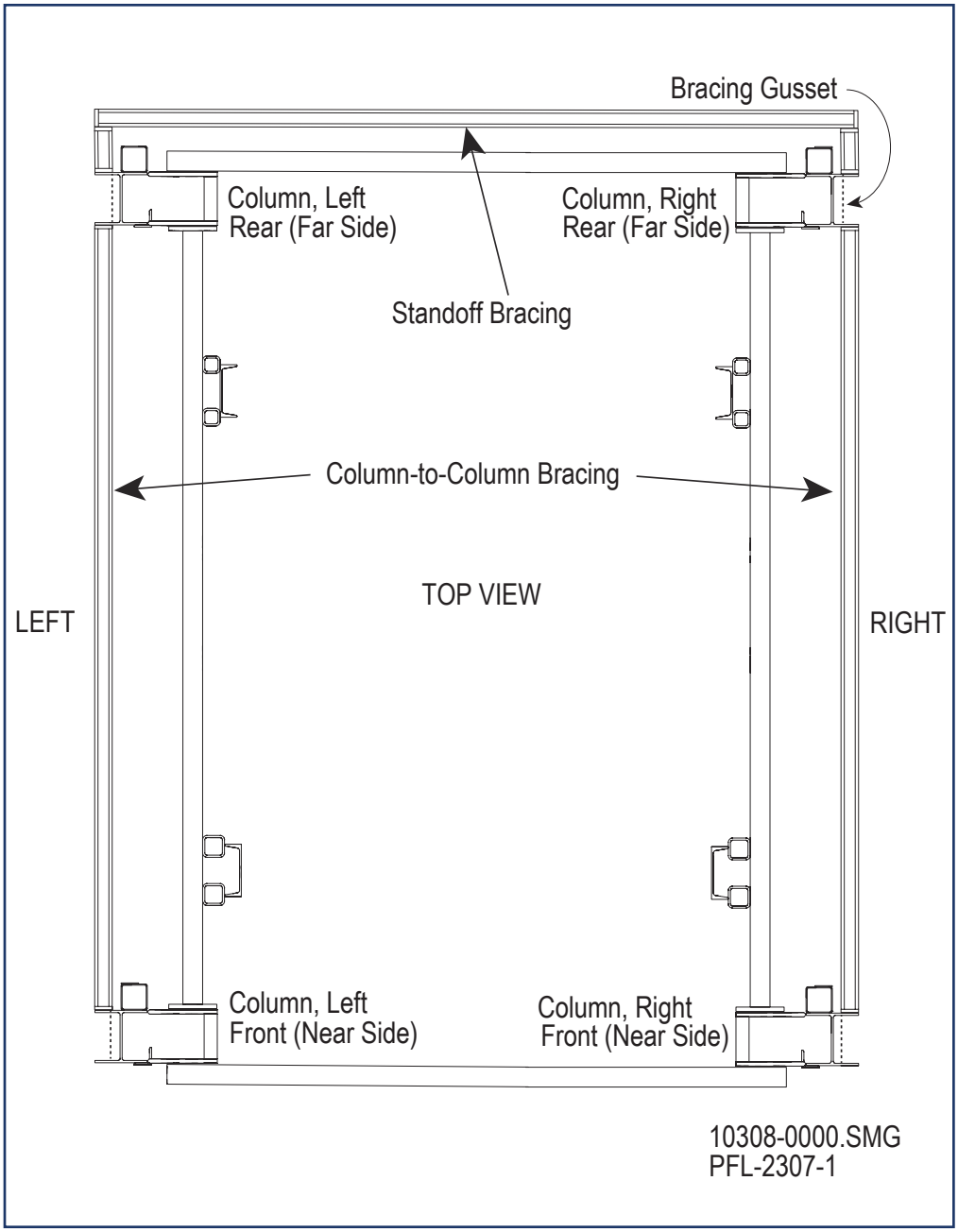

Standoff Bracing Figure 13-16

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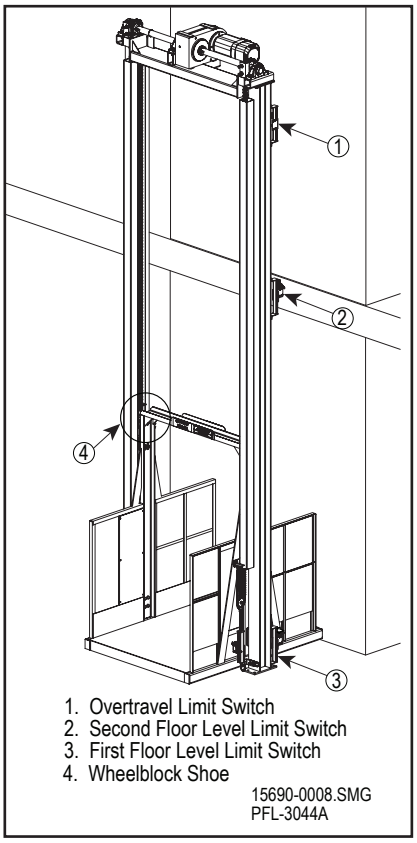
Before You Begin

Read this entire manual. Verify the job site dimensions against the PFlow Industries, Inc. General Arrangement (GA) drawing before starting the installation. If the site conditions do not match the GA drawing, please consult the PFlow Industries, Inc. Product Support Department.

Two-Level Limit Switches

The standard Vertical Reciprocating Conveyor (VRC) incorporates one (1) limit switch at each level to stop the carriage and one (1) overtravel limit switch. See Figure 14-1.

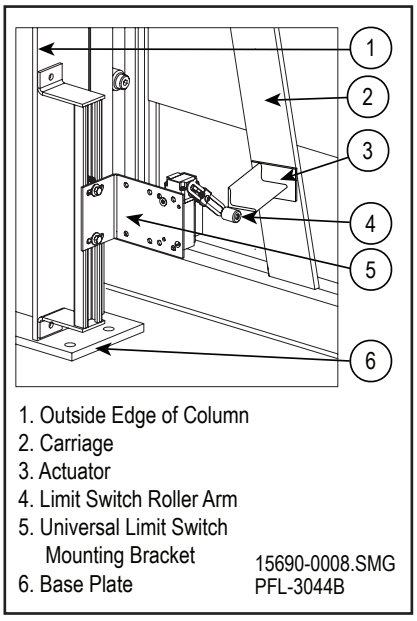
The following instructions and diagrams are the most commonly used method of mounting the limit switches. Due to varying site conditions, the instructions and diagrams may not apply to all applications.



Limit Switch Locations Figure 14-1

Install the Lower Level Limit Switch

1. Position the carriage at the desired first level.
2. Towards the bottom of the column, clamp a universal limit switch mounting bracket flush with the outside edge of the column. See Figure 14-2.
3. Position the limit switch actuator on the carriage so that the limit switch roller arm contacts the bottom of the actuator while the limit switch roller arm is in the down position. See Figure 14-2.
4. Review the travel length of the carriage up the column to make sure there are no obstructions for the actuator as it travels from level to level.
5. Tack weld the actuator and bracket into place. ***Do not finish weld at this time.***



First Level Limit Switch Figure 14-2

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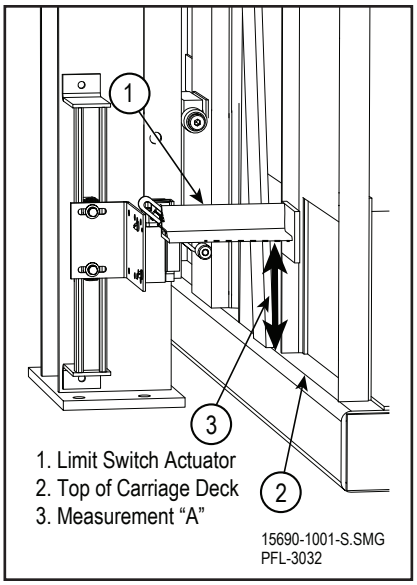
Make Needed Measurements

Measure the distance from the top of the carriage deck to the bottom plate of the limit switch actuator. See Figure 14-3. Measurement "A" is needed to determine the location of the upper level limit switch.

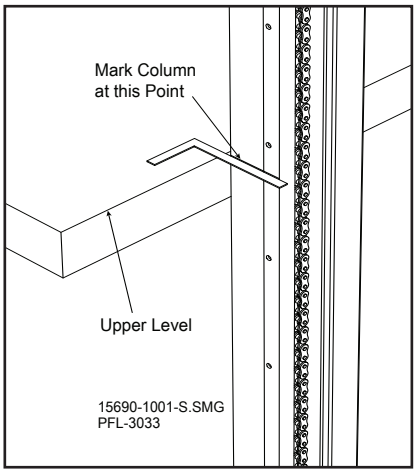
The limit switch actuator should be free to make contact with the limit switch roller arm. The roller arm is adjustable, and repositioning may be required to ensure proper contact.



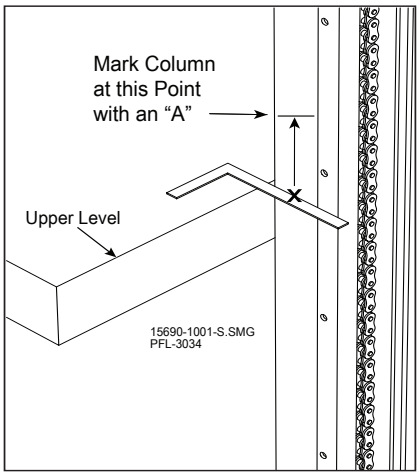
Measurement Needed Figure 14-3

Install the Second Level Limit Switch

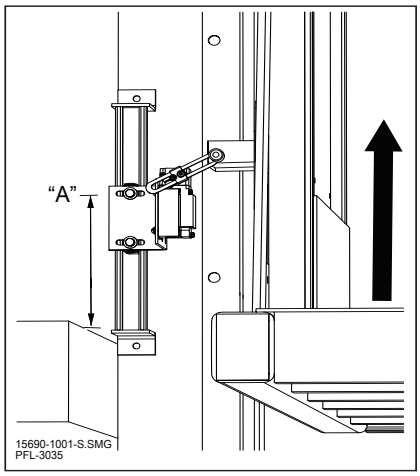
1. Mark the column at the upper floor level using a long straightedge. See Figure 14-4. This position is where the carriage deck is when the VRC is stopped at that level.
2. Add measurement "A" above the floor level mark placed on the column. See Figure 14-5.
3. Center the upper level limit switch assembly.
4. Position the upper level limit switch assembly flush with the outside edge of the column.
5. The limit switch will operate in the upward direction off the top of the limit switch actuator. See Figure 14-6.
6. Tack weld the limit switch assembly into place. ***Do not finish weld at this time.***



Upper Level Position Figure 14-4



Upper Level Limit Switch Position Figure 14-5



Upper Level Limit Switch Position Figure 14-6

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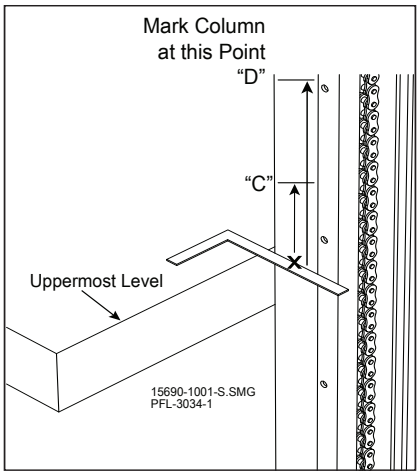
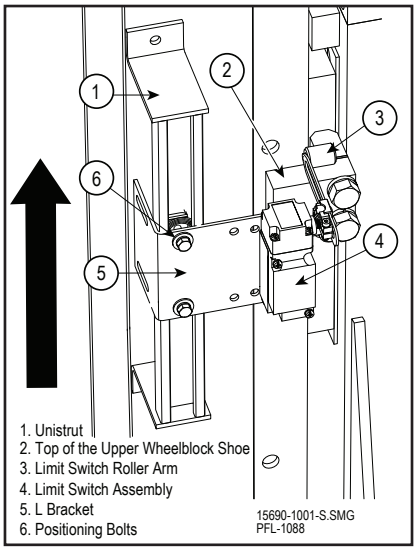
Install the Overtravel Limit Switch

1. Measure the distance from the top of the carriage deck to the top of the wheelblock shoe. Measurement “D” is needed to determine the location of the overtravel limit switch.
2. Add measurement “D” above the floor level mark placed on the column at the upper level. See Figure 14-7.
3. Center the unistrut on the column at mark “D”.
4. Position the unistrut flush with the outside edge of the column.
5. Tack weld the unistrut into place.
6. Place the L Bracket of the limit switch assembly in the unistrut slides. See Figure 14-8.
7. Position the limit switch roller arm to make contact with the top surface of the wheelblock shoe when the carriage is in the uppermost position. Make sure the overtravel limit switch is not activated. See Figure 14-8.
8. Tighten the positioning bolts on the overtravel limit switch assembly.



Overtravel Limit Switch Position
Figure 14-7



Overtravel Limit Switch Position
Figure 14-8

Finish Weld

Finish weld the actuator to the carriage and all unistrut mounts to the face of the column.

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Before You Begin

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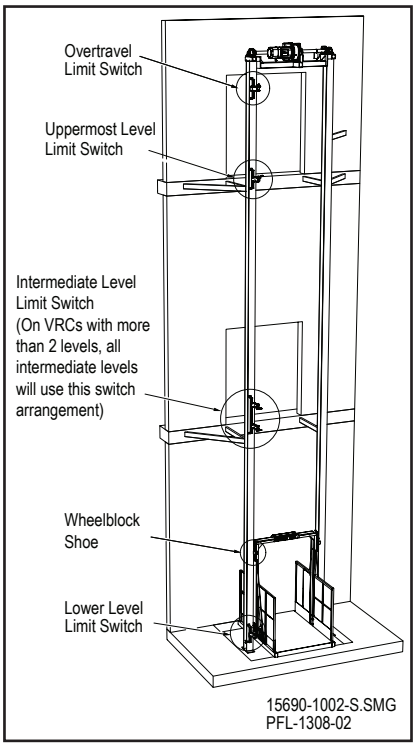
Three-Level or More Limit Switches

The standard Vertical Reciprocating Conveyor (VRC) incorporates one (1) limit switch at the lower level, two (2) limit switches at each intermediate level, one (1) limit switch at the uppermost level, and one (1) overtravel limit switch to stop the carriage. See Figure 14-9.

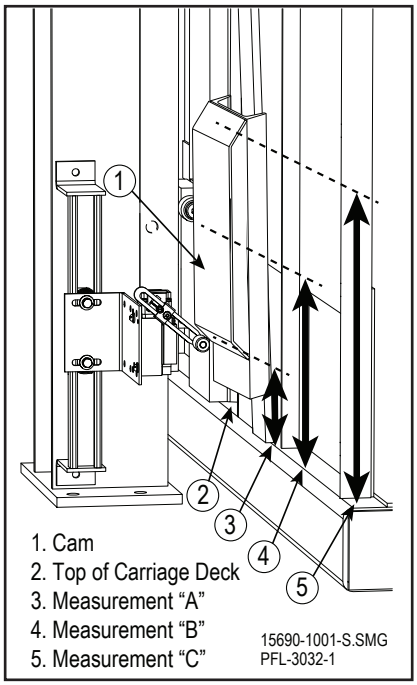
The following instructions and diagrams are the most commonly used method of mounting the limit switches. Due to varying site conditions, the instructions and diagrams may not apply to all applications.



Limit Switch Locations Figure 14-9

Install the Lower Level Limit Switch

1. Position the carriage at the desired first level.
2. Towards the bottom of the column, clamp a universal limit switch mounting bracket flush with the outside edge of the column. See Figure 14-10.
3. Position the limit switch cam on the carriage to allow the limit switch roller arm to contact the bottom of the cam while the limit switch roller arm is in the down position. See Figure 14-10.
4. Review the full travel length of the carriage up the column to make sure there are no obstructions for the limit switch cam as it travels from level to level.
5. Tack weld the limit switch cam to the carriage and the limit switch mounting bracket to column. ***Do not finish weld at this time.***



First Level Limit Switch Figure 14-10

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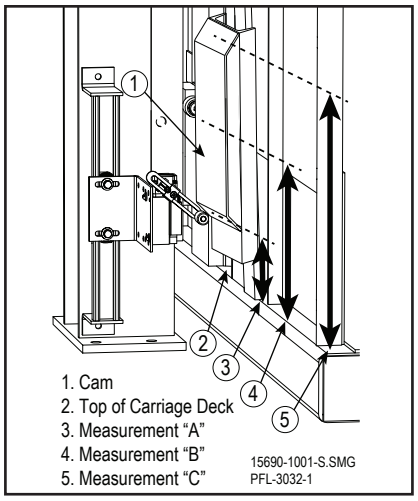
Make Needed Measurements

Measure the distance from the top of the carriage deck to the bottom angle of the limit switch cam. See Figure 14-11. Measurement "C" is needed to determine the location of the uppermost level limit switch.

Measure the distance from the top of the carriage deck to the center of the limit switch cam. See Figure 14-3. Measurement "B" is needed to determine the location of the intermediate level limit switch.

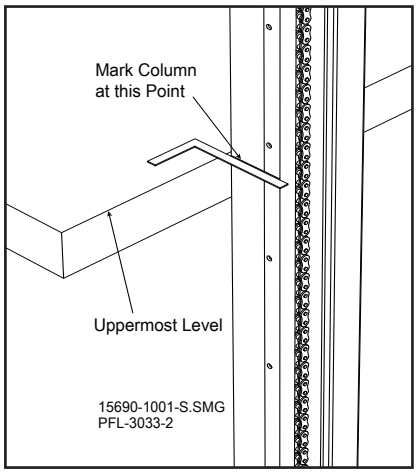
The limit switch cam should be free to make contact with the limit switch roller arm. The roller arm is adjustable, and repositioning may be required to ensure proper contact.



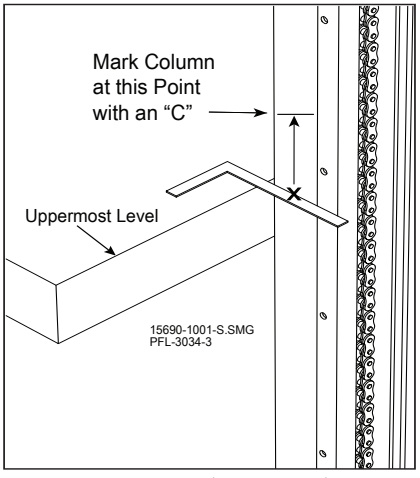
Measurement Needed Figure 14-11

Install the Uppermost Level Limit Switch

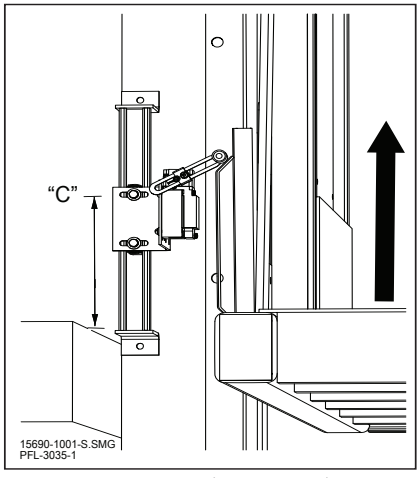
1. Mark the column at the uppermost floor level using a long straightedge. See Figure 14-12. This position is where the carriage deck is when the VRC is stopped at that level.
2. Add measurement "C" above the floor level mark placed on the column. See Figure 14-13.
3. Center the uppermost level limit switch assembly flush with the outside edge of the column on mark "C". See Figure 14-13.
4. The uppermost level limit switch will operate in the upward direction off the top of the limit switch cam. See Figure 14-14.
5. Tack weld the uppermost level limit switch mounting bracket into place. ***Do not finish weld at this time.***



Uppermost Level Position Figure 14-12



Uppermost Level Limit Switch Position Figure 14-13



Uppermost Level Limit Switch Position Figure 14-14

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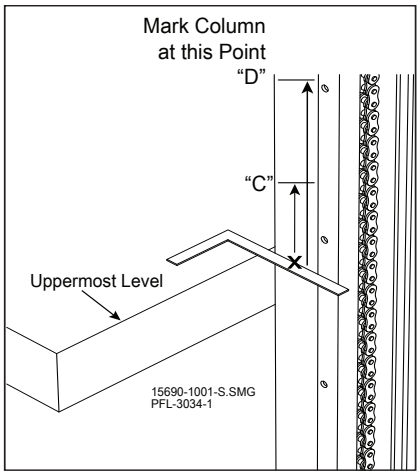
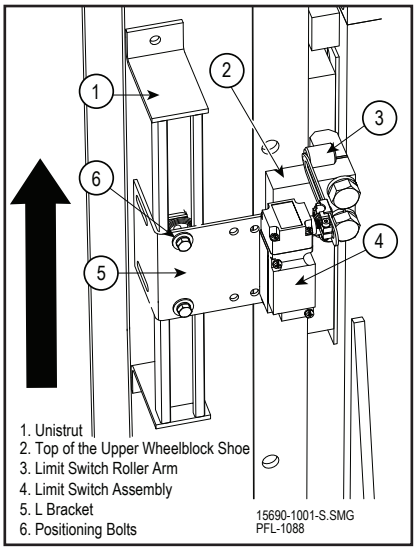
Install the Overtravel Limit Switch

1. Measure the distance from the top of the carriage deck to the top of the wheelblock shoe. Measurement "D" is needed to determine the location of the overtravel limit switch.
2. Add measurement "D" above the floor level mark placed on the column at the uppermost level. See Figure 14-15.
3. Center the unistrut on the column at mark "D".
4. Position the unistrut flush with the outside edge of the column.
5. Tack weld the unistrut into place. ***Do not finish weld at this time.***
6. Place the L Bracket of the limit switch assembly in the unistrut slides. See Figure 14-16.
7. Position the limit switch roller arm to make contact with the top surface of the wheelblock shoe when the carriage is in the uppermost position. Make sure the limit switch is not actuated. See Figure 14-16.
8. Tighten the positioning bolts on the overtravel limit switch assembly.



Overtravel Limit Switch Position
Figure 14-15



Overtravel Limit Switch Position
Figure 14-16

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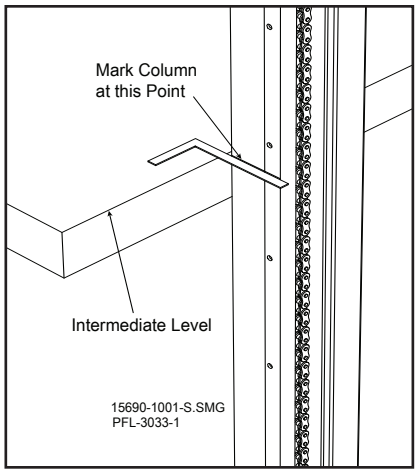
Install the Intermediate Floor Level Limit Switch

1. Mark the column at each intermediate floor level using a long straightedge. This position is where the carriage deck is when the VRC is stopped at that level. See Figure 14-17.
2. Add measurement "B" above the floor level mark placed on the column. See Figure 14-18.
3. Center the intermediate limit switch mounting bracket on mark "B".
4. Position the intermediate limit switch mounting bracket flush with the outside edge of the column. See Figure 14-19.
5. Tack weld the intermediate limit switch mounting bracket into place. ***Do not finish weld at this time.***

Repeat steps 1-5 for each intermediate floor level.

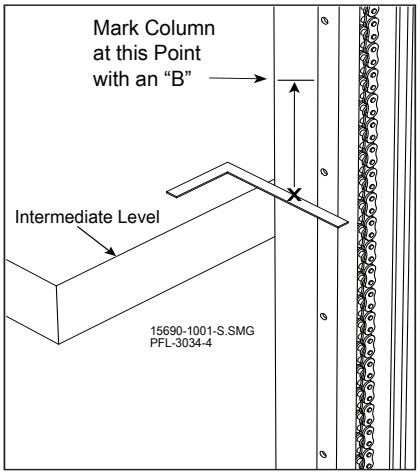


Intermediate Floor Level Position Figure 14-17

NOTE

The VRC stops rising when the upper intermediate level limit switch contacts the top of the limit switch cam. The upper intermediate level limit switch is passive when the VRC is moving down.

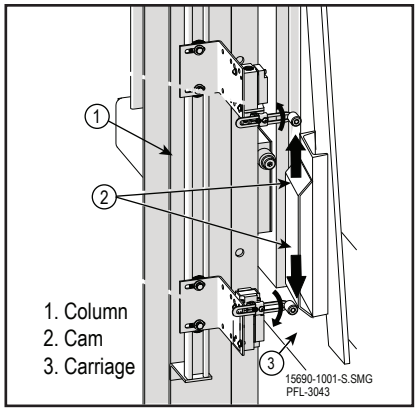
The VRC stops lowering when the lower intermediate level limit switch contacts the bottom of the limit switch cam. The lower intermediate level limit switch is passive when the VRC is moving up. See Figure 14-19.



Intermediate Level Limit Switch Position Figure 14-18

Finish Weld

Finish weld the cam to the carriage and all unistrut mounts to the face of the column.



Intermediate Floor Level Limit Switch Positions Figure 14-19

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Before You Begin

Read this entire manual.

Before starting the installation, verify the job site dimensions and the dimensions of the delivered materials against the PFlow Industries, Inc. General Arrangement (GA) drawing. Review and verify the enclosure positions and attachment fit-up to the gate post enclosure angle. If the site conditions do not match the GA drawing, please consult the PFlow Industries, Inc. Product Support Department.

⚠ DANGER

Falling gate hazard! The installation of this equipment requires a qualified installer with extensive knowledge and experience on how to rig and erect structural steel. Make sure to properly support, tie off, or temporarily brace the gate posts, gate panels, and gate assembly during installation. Do not depend on the gate post feet to support the gate posts while the gate is being positioned or assembled. Final bracing of the gate assembly must be to the Vertical Reciprocating Conveyor (VRC) or building structure. The use of structural angle is recommended.

Falling Hazard! The gate panel safety latch may not be operational while the gate is being installed. If you must leave a gate or gate panel unattended, put up barriers and signs warning personnel to stay clear.

⚠ CAUTION

Lifting hazard! Components and accessories are heavy.
To prevent serious personal injury, use the appropriate lifting apparatus, tie offs, or help when moving, lifting or assembling the components or accessories.

NOTICE

ASME B20.1 defines a qualified person as a person who, by possession of a recognized degree or certificate of professional standing, or by extensive knowledge, training, and experience, has successfully demonstrated his/her ability to solve problems relating to the subject matter and work.

Identify Components

Gate components, posts, panels, and header assembly have color coded tags. Each gate tag is a different color.

Level	Tag Color
1st (bottom)	Green
2nd	Yellow
3rd	Red
4th	Blue
Other	Cream

The preferred method of installing a gate is to pre-assemble the full gate assembly on the floor, secure the pieces, and then stand it up. If for some reason pre-assembly is not possible, use these instructions as a general guide for the assembling, positioning, and securing of the gates.

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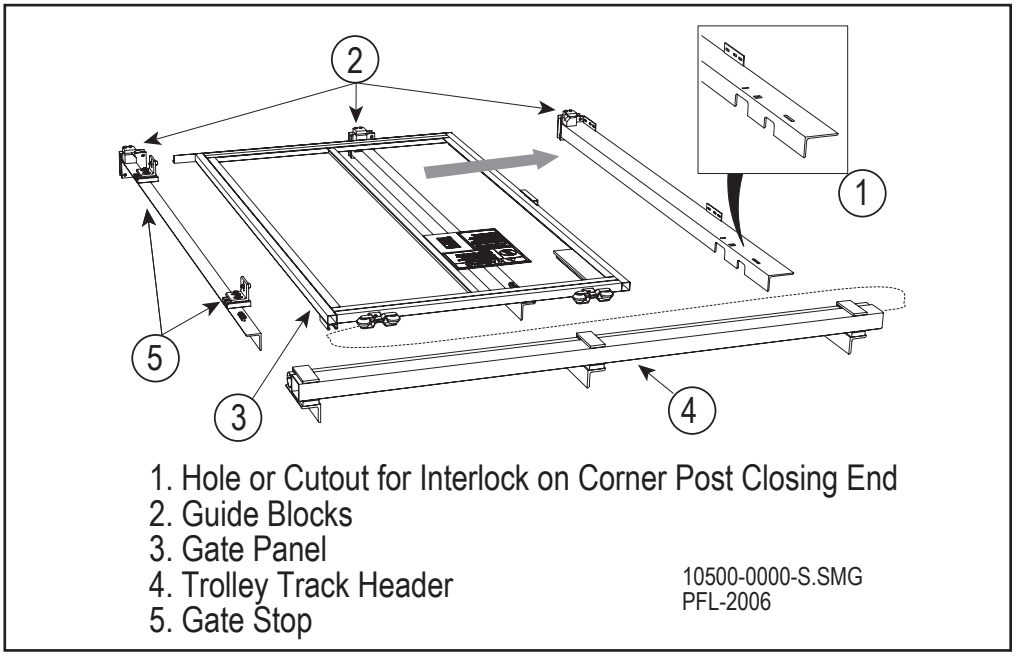
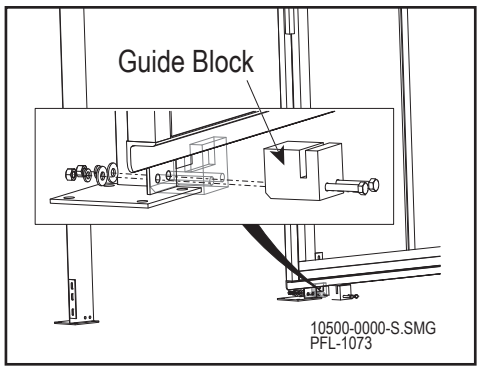
Assemble the Sliding Gate



Sliding Gate Layout Figure 16-1

1. Lay the three (3) gate posts on the floor parallel to each other.
2. Position the gate post with the hole or cutout for the interlock on the closing end.
3. Position the post with two (2) guide block mounting holes near the base plate in the center. See Figure 16-1.
4. Position the third post (with gate stops) on the opening end.
5. Bolt the trolley track header to the gate posts.
6. Place the gate panel face down towards the ground and slide the gate panel into the trolley track header.
7. Bolt the guide block to the middle post. See Figure 16-2.
8. Slide the gate to its closed position.
9. Add the remaining guide blocks.



Bolt Guide Block Figure 16-2

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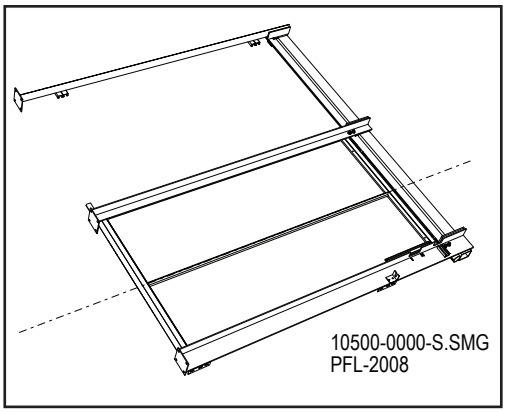
Assemble the Sliding Gate (continued)

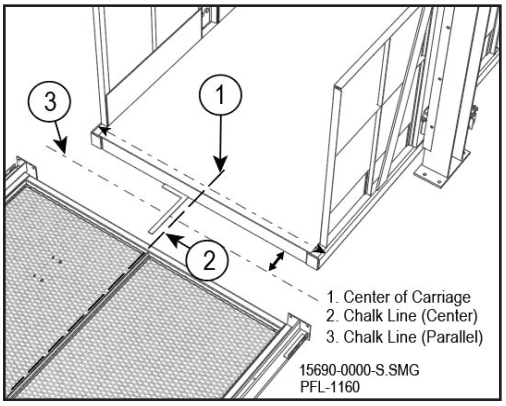
10. Locate and mark the center of the gate panel on the gate panel with a pencil. See Figure 16-3.
11. Measure the outside edge to the outside edge of the carriage and mark the center line with a pencil. See Figure 16-4.
12. Position a carpenter square on the edge of the carriage to extend the center line onto the floor 10" (254mm) away from the carriage. See Figure 16-4.
13. Mark a chalk line on the floor to ensure the center of the gate is on the center line of the carriage. See Figure 16-4.

NOTE *The ideal position of the gate panel is a maximum of 6" (152mm) from the inside of the gate panel to the front edge of the carriage. Local codes may have specific requirements concerning this distance.*

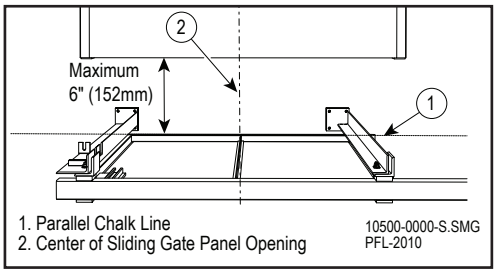
14. When the measurement from the gate panel to the carriage has been determined, snap a chalk line to identify the position of the gate panel parallel to the carriage. See Figure 16-5.



Mark Center Line of Sliding Gate Layout Figure 16-3



Establish Center Line Figure 16-4



Alignment Figure 16-5

Install the Gate Post Extensions

Gate post extensions (if supplied) are to be bolted to the bottom of the gate posts before the gate post is raised. Refer to Section 20 for instructions.

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DANGER

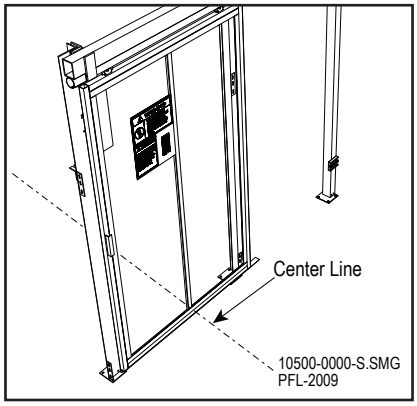
Falling gate hazard! Be sure to properly support, tie off, or temporarily brace the gate posts, gate panels, and gate assembly during installation. Do not depend on the gate post feet to support the gate posts while the gate is being positioned or assembled. Final bracing of the gate assembly must be to the Vertical Reciprocating Conveyor (VRC) or building structure. The use of structural angle is recommended.

Raise and Secure the Sliding Gate

1. Raise and secure the gate assembly. The track and gate are to be facing away from the carriage.
2. Align the center of the closed gate to the center of the carriage. See Figure 16-6.
3. Align the inside of the gate panel on the parallel chalk line. See Figure 16-5.

Anchor the Gate Post Base Plates

4. Drill and anchor the gate post base plates to the floor with 3/8" anchors, 3-1/2" (89mm) long.



Align the Raised Gate Assembly Figure 16-6

DANGER

Falling gate hazard! The anchor hole depth should always be deeper than the length of the anchor bolt. The recommended wedge anchor size is 3/8" diameter by 3-1/2" (89mm) long.

Plumb and Square the Gate

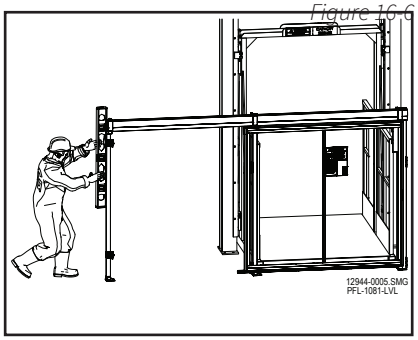
1. Plumb and square the gate posts using a plumb bob or a level that is 4' (1219mm) or longer. See Figure 16-7.
2. Measure from the gate post to the Vertical Reciprocating Conveyor (VRC) column.

Install Support Braces

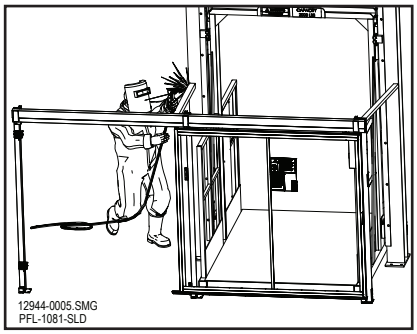
3. Cut two (2) 1-1/2" x 1-1/2" (38mm x 38mm) steel angle support braces and weld to each gate post and to the VRC columns or wall. See Figure 16-8.
4. Tighten all bolts.

Verify Gate Operation

5. Verify that the gate slides easily from side to side.
6. Confirm that the gate is plumb and square.
7. Weld the trolley track header to the gate posts.
8. Make sure the gate opens and closes properly. Adjust the gate panel as necessary. Additional bracing may be necessary.



Plumb the Gate Figure 16-7



Weld Support Braces Figure 16-8

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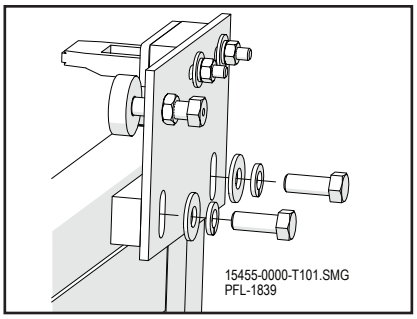
Install the Gate Interlock

Install the gate panel interlock and interlock keeper assembly. See Figure 16-9. Refer to the interlock installation section in the installation manual.



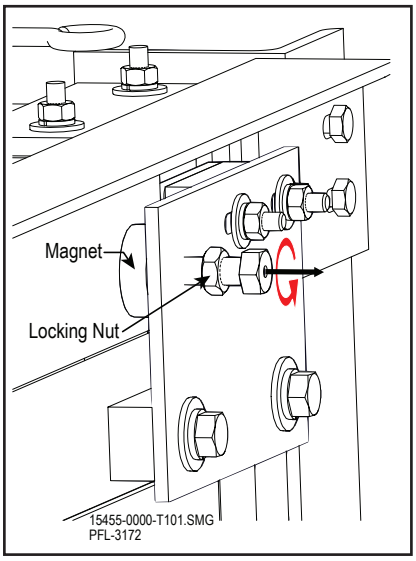
Install Interlock Keeper Assembly
Figure 16-9

Verify the Gate Interlock Operation

1. Verify that the gate panel slides smoothly.
2. Verify that the gate door opens when the carriage is present and does not open when the carriage is not present.
3. Verify that the gate panel remains locked when the carriage leaves the floor level.

Adjust the Interlock Keeper Assembly Magnet

1. With the VRC carriage on the same level as the gate, make sure that the interlock keeper assembly magnet holds the panel closed until the operator pulls open the panel. The magnet will require field adjustment to fine tune the panel “held closed” feature.
2. Adjust the panel position by backing off the magnet locking nut. See Figure 16-10.
3. Rotate the magnet hex head bolt to position the panel.
4. Secure the magnet position by tightening the magnet locking nut.



Adjust Panel Position Figure 16-10

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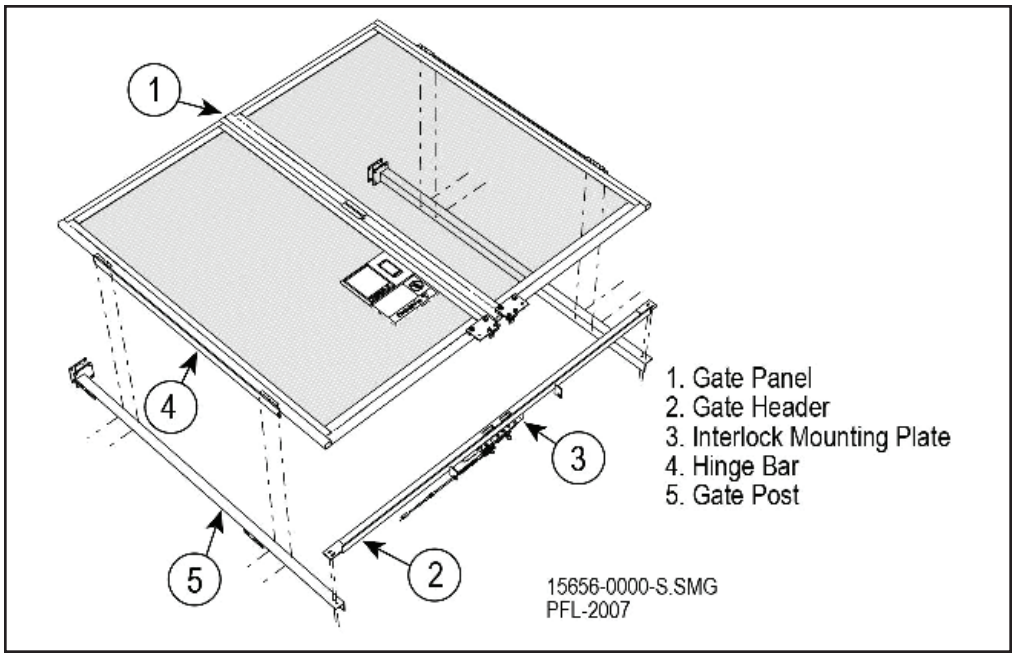
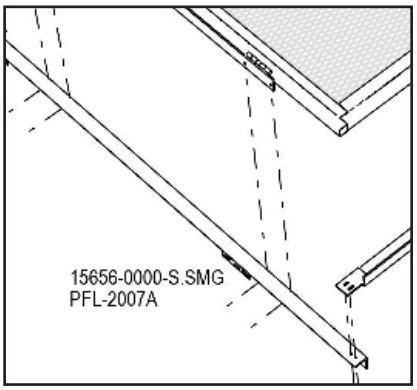
Assemble the Bi-Parting Swing Gate



Bi-Parting Swing Gate Layout Figure 16-11

1. Lay the two (2) gate posts on the floor parallel to each other. See Figure 16-11.
2. Place the gate header at the top of the gate posts and bolt the gate header to each gate post. See Figure 16-12 for correct orientation.
3. Place the gate panels face up and position between the parallel gate posts and align with the hinge bars.
4. Bolt each hinge bar to its respective gate post. See Figure 16-12.



Bi-Parting Swing Gate Layout Figure 16-12

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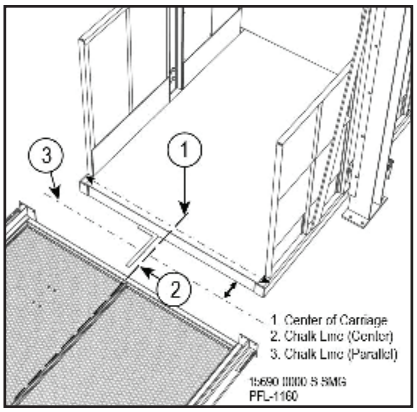
Assemble the Bi-Parting Swing Gate (continued)

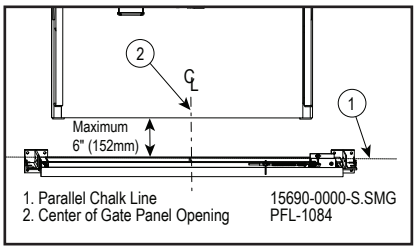
5. Locate and mark the center of the gate assembly on the gate assembly with a pencil (where the gate panels meet in the center.) See Figure 16-13.
6. Measure the outside edge to the outside edge of the carriage to locate the center line. Mark the center line with a pencil on the top of the carriage deck. See Figure 16-13.
7. Position a carpenter square on the edge of the carriage to extend the center line onto the floor 10" (254mm) away from the carriage. See Figure 16-13.
8. Mark a chalk line on the floor to ensure the center of the gate assembly is on the center line of the carriage. See Figure 16-13.

NOTE *The ideal position of the gate panel is a maximum of 6" (152mm) from the inside of the gate panel to the front edge of the carriage. Local codes may have specific requirements concerning this distance.*

9. When the measurement from the gate panel to the carriage has been determined, snap a chalk line to identify the position of the gate panel parallel to the carriage. See Figure 16-13.



Establish Center and Parallel Line
Figure 16-13



Alignment Figure 16-14

Install the Gate Post Extensions

Gate post extensions (if supplied) are to be bolted to the bottom of the gate posts before the gate post is raised. Refer to Section 20 for instructions.

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DANGER

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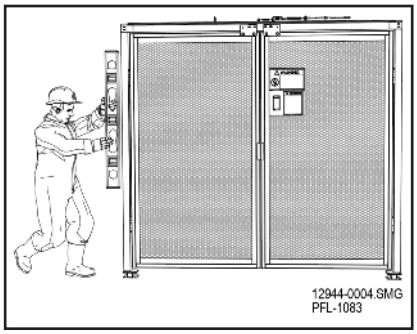
Raise and Secure the Gate Assembly

1. Raise and secure the gate assembly.
2. Align the center of the closed gate to the center of the carriage. See Figure 16-14 on the previous page.
3. Align the backside of the gate panels on the parallel chalk line. See Figure 16-14 on the previous page.

Anchor the Gate Post Base Plates

4. Drill and anchor the gate post base plates to the floor with 3/8" anchors, 3-1/2" (89mm) long.



Plumb the Gate Figure 16-15

DANGER

Falling gate hazard! The anchor hole depth should always be deeper than the length of the anchor bolt. The recommended wedge anchor size is 3/8" diameter by 3-1/2" (89mm) long.

Plumb and Square the Gate

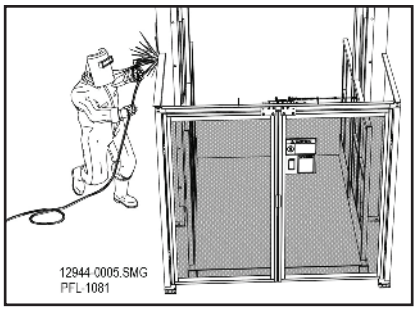
1. Plumb and square the gate posts using a plumb bob or a level that is 4' (1219mm) or longer. See Figure 16-15.
2. Measure from the gate post to the Vertical Reciprocating Conveyor (VRC) column.

Install Support Braces

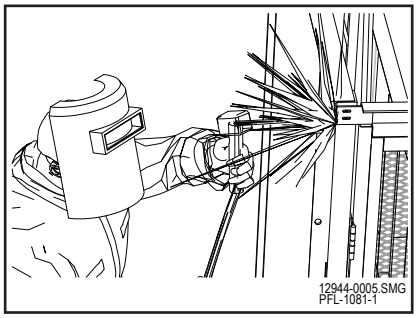
3. Cut two (2) 1-1/2" x 1-1/2" (38mm x 38mm) steel angle support braces and weld to each gate post and to the VRC columns or wall. See Figure 16-16.
4. Tighten all bolts.

Verify the Gate Panel Swing

5. Verify the gate panel swing for proper site operational clearance.
6. Confirm that the gate is plumb and square.
7. Weld the gate header to the gate posts. See Figure 16-17.



Weld Support Braces Figure 16-16



Weld Gate Header to Gate Posts Figure 16-17

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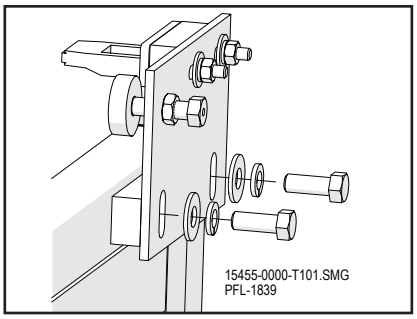
Install the Gate Interlock

Install the gate panel interlock and interlock keeper assembly. See Figure 16-18. Refer to the interlock installation section in the installation manual.



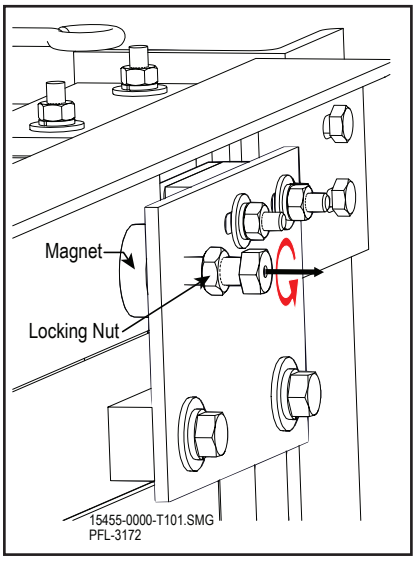
Install Interlock Keeper Assembly
Figure 16-18

Verify the Gate Interlock Operation

1. Verify that the gate panel swings smoothly.
2. Verify that the gate door opens when the carriage is present and does not open when the carriage is not present.
3. Verify that the gate panel remains locked when the carriage leaves the floor level.

Adjust the Interlock Keeper Assembly Magnet

1. With the VRC carriage on the same level as the gate, make sure that the interlock keeper assembly magnet holds the panel closed until the operator pulls open the panel. The magnet will require field adjustment to fine tune the panel “held closed” feature.
2. Adjust the panel position by backing off the magnet locking nut. See Figure 16-19.
3. Rotate the magnet hex head bolt to position the panel.
4. Secure the magnet position by tightening the magnet locking nut.



Adjust Panel Position Figure 16-19

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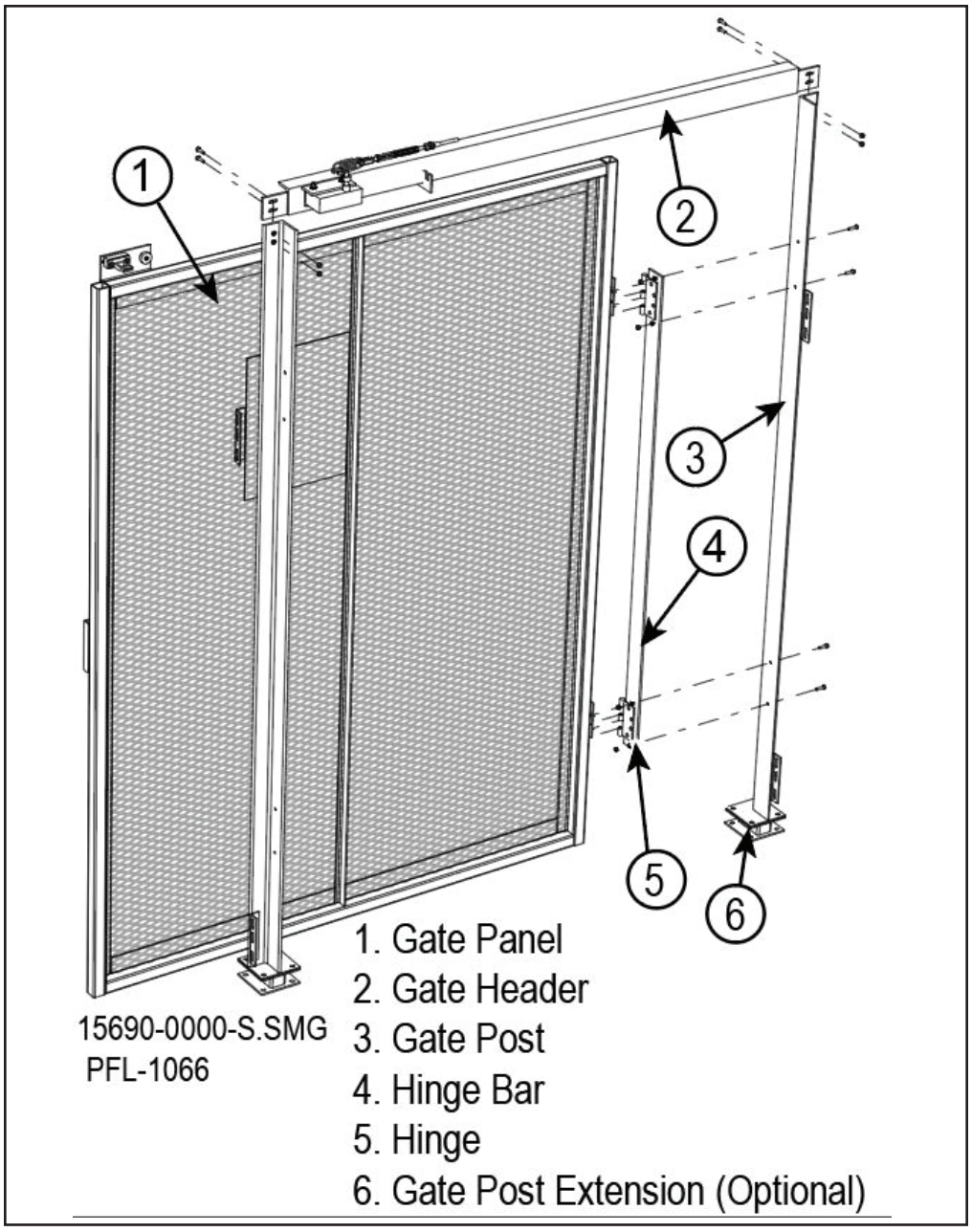
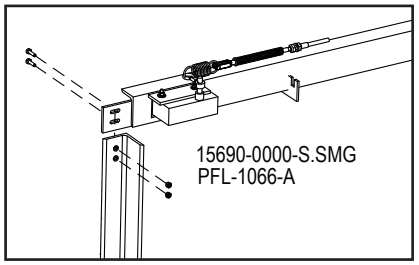
Assemble the Swing Gate



Swing Gate Layout Figure 16-20

1. Lay the gate posts on the floor parallel to each other. See Figure 16-20.
2. Place the gate header at the top of the gate posts and bolt in position with the hardware provided. See Figure 16-21.
3. Position the back side of the gate panel between the parallel gate posts and align with the hinge bars.



Place Gate Header Figure 16-21

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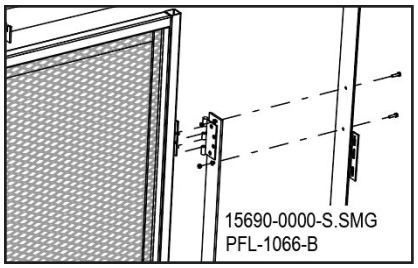
Assemble the Swing Gate (continued)

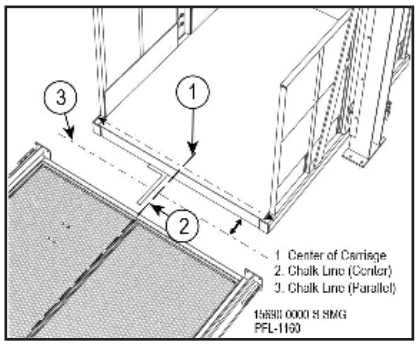
4. Bolt the gate post to the gate panel hinge bar. See Figure 16-22.
5. Locate and mark the center of the gate panel on the gate panel with a pencil. See Figure 16-23.
6. Measure the outside edge to the outside edge of the carriage to locate the center line. Mark the center line with a pencil on the top of the carriage deck. See Figure 16-23.
7. Position a carpenter square on the edge of the carriage to extend the center line onto the floor 10" (254mm) away from the carriage. See Figure 16-23.
8. Mark a chalk line on the floor to ensure the center of the panel is on the center line of the carriage. See Figure 16-23.

NOTE *The ideal position of the gate panel is a maximum of 6" (152mm) from the inside of the gate panel to the front edge of the carriage. Local codes may have specific requirements concerning this distance.*

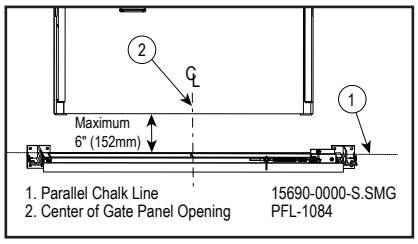
9. When the measurement from the back side of the gate panel to the carriage has been determined, snap a chalk line to identify the position of the gate panel parallel to the carriage. See Figure 16-23.



Bolt Gate Post to Hinge Panel Figure 16-22



Establish Center and Parallel Line Figure 16-23



Alignment Figure 16-24

Install the Gate Post Extensions

Gate post extensions (if supplied) are to be bolted to the bottom of the gate posts before the gate post is raised. Refer to Section 20 for instructions.

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DANGER

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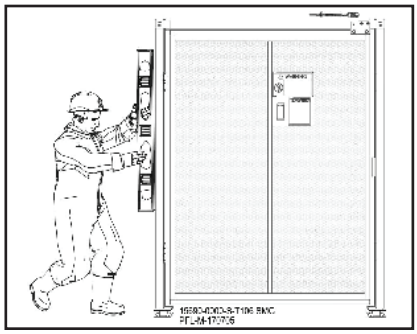
Raise and Secure the Swing Gate Assembly

1. Raise and secure the gate assembly.
2. Align the center of the gate to the center of the carriage. See Figure 16-24.
3. Align the back side of the gate panel on the parallel chalk line. See Figure 16-24.

Anchor the Gate Post Base Plates

4. Drill and anchor the gate post base plates to the floor with 3/8" anchors, 3-1/2" (89mm) long.



Plumb the Gate Figure 16-25

DANGER

Falling gate hazard! The anchor hole depth should always be deeper than the length of the anchor bolt. The recommended wedge anchor size is 3/8" diameter by 3-1/2" (89mm) long.

Plumb and Square the Gate

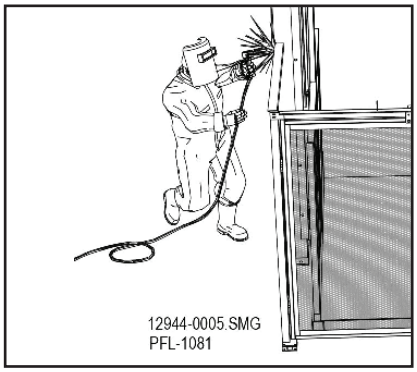
1. Plumb and square the gate posts using a plumb bob or a level that is 4' (1219mm) or longer. See Figure 16-25.
2. Measure from the gate post to the Vertical Reciprocating Conveyor (VRC) column.

Install Support Braces

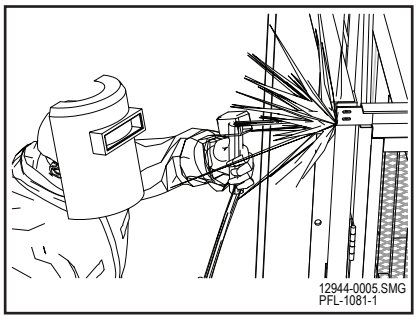
3. Cut two (2) 1-1/2" x 1-1/2" (38mm x 38mm) steel angle support braces and weld to each gate post and to the VRC columns or wall. See Figure 16-26.
4. Tighten all bolts.

Verify the Gate Panel Swing

5. Verify the gate panel swing for proper operation and site operational clearance.
6. Confirm that the gate is plumb and square.
7. Weld the gate header to the gate posts. See Figure 16-27.



Weld Support Braces Figure 16-26



Weld Gate Header to Gate Posts Figure 16-27

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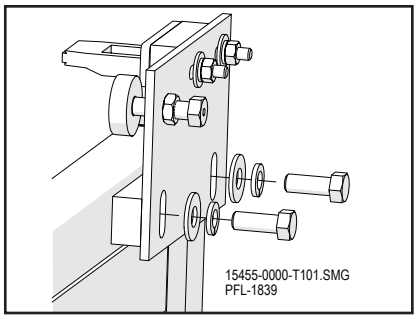
Install the Gate Interlock

Install the gate panel interlock and interlock keeper assembly. See Figure 16-28. Refer to the interlock installation section in the installation manual.



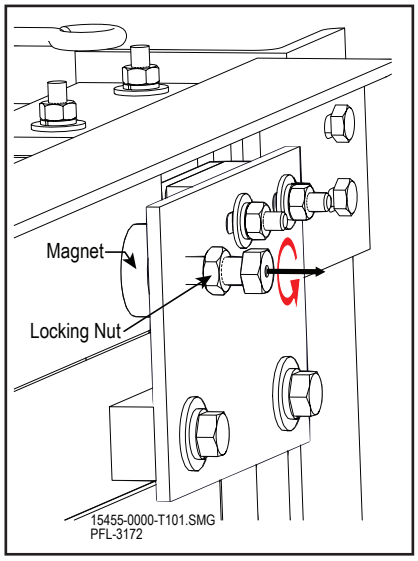
Install Interlock Keeper Assembly
Figure 16-28

Verify the Gate Interlock Operation

1. Verify that the gate panel swings smoothly.
2. Verify that the gate door opens when the carriage is present and does not open when the carriage is not present.
3. Verify that the gate panel remains locked when the carriage leaves the floor level.

Adjust the Interlock Keeper Assembly Magnet

1. With the VRC carriage on the same level as the gate, make sure that the interlock keeper assembly magnet holds the panel closed until the operator pulls open the panel. The magnet will require field adjustment to fine tune the panel “held closed” feature.
2. Adjust the panel position by backing off the magnet locking nut. See Figure 16-29.
3. Rotate the magnet hex head bolt to position the panel.
4. Secure the magnet position by tightening the magnet locking nut.



Adjust Panel Position Figure 16-29

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Establish Placement

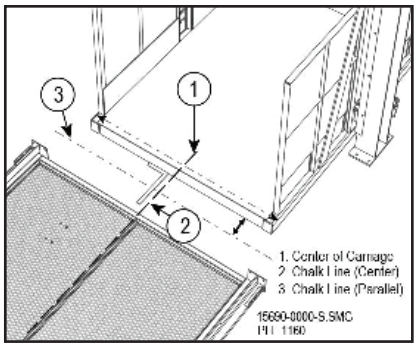
NOTE *It is often possible to assemble the gate on the ground. However, it may not be possible to erect the fully assembled gate.*

Horizontal assembly and vertical assembly methods are included in this manual. Both methods require additional support and temporary bracing during assembly.

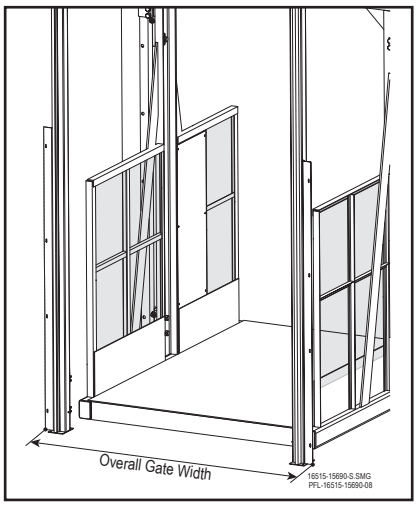
1. Measure the outside edge to the outside edge of the carriage to locate the center line. Mark the center line with a pencil on the top of the carriage deck. See Figure 16-30.
2. Position a carpenter square on the edge of the carriage to extend the center line onto the floor 10" (254mm) away from the carriage. See Figure 16-30.
3. Mark a chalk line on the floor to ensure the center of the gate is on the center line of the carriage. See Figure 16-30.

NOTE *The ideal position of the gate panel is a maximum of 6" (152mm) from the inside of the gate panel to the front edge of the carriage. Local codes may have specific requirements concerning this distance.*

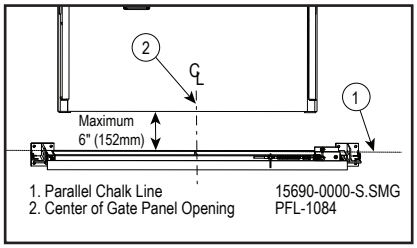
4. When the measurement from the back side of the gate panel to the carriage has been determined, snap a chalk line to identify the position of the gate panel parallel to the carriage. See Figure 16-30.
5. Reference the PFlow Industries, Inc. General Arrangement (GA) drawing to determine the overall gate width.
6. Measure the overall gate width and mark the final position for the gate posts. See Figure 16-31.



Establish Center Line Figure 16-30



Establish Gate Width Figure 16-31



Alignment Figure 16-32

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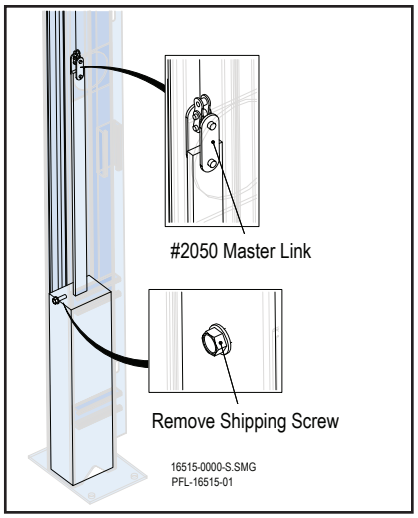
Prepare the Chains in the Gate Posts

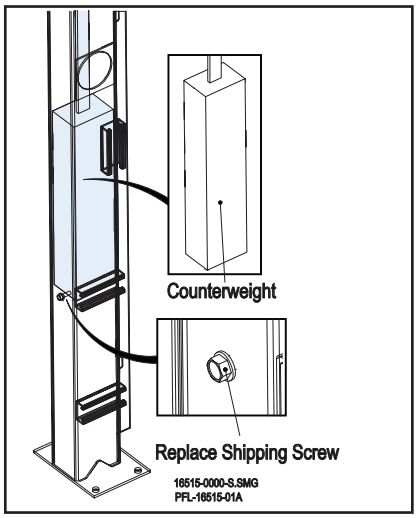
For shipping purposes, the single vertical acting gate panel counterweight is secured with a shipping screw located toward the bottom of the gate post assembly.

To prevent the chain from falling down into the gate post:

1. Remove shipping screw located toward the bottom of the gate post assembly. See Figure 16-33.
2. Pull the counterweight chain forward until the counterweight is moved forward about 2' (610mm).
3. Make sure the counterweight is above the shipping screw and replace the shipping screw. See Figure 16-34.
4. Tie one end of a string to the counterweight chain about 3 links back.
5. Tie the other end of the string to the base plate of the gate post assembly.
6. Carefully handle the gate post assembly to keep the counterweight inside the gate post tube. Keep the counterweight above the shipping screw until the gate post is stood upright.



Post Assembly Counterweight Figure 16-33



Post Assembly Counterweight Figure 16-34

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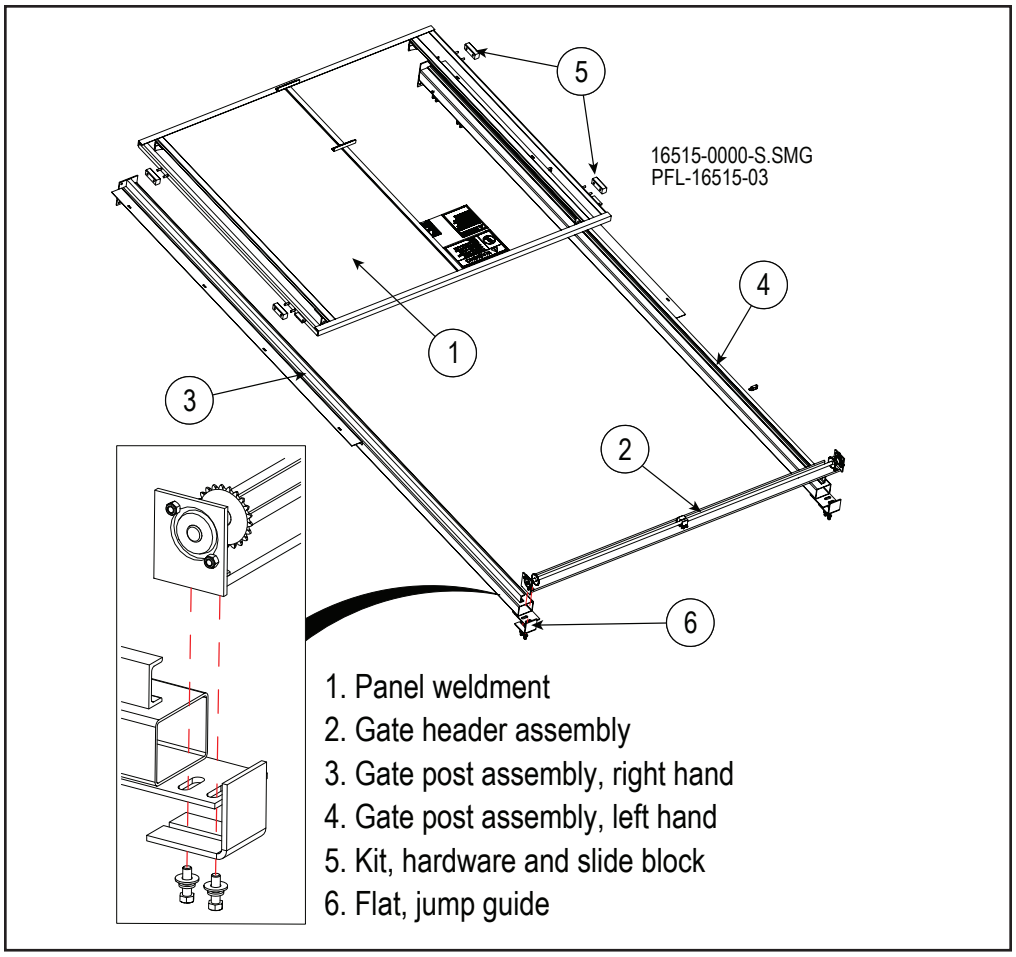


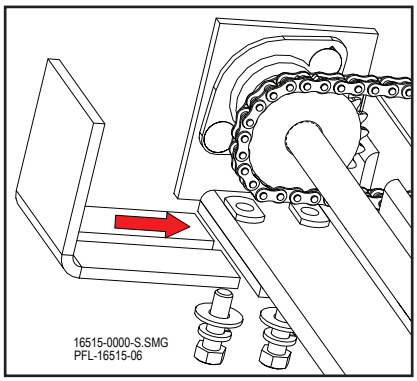
Single VA Gate Layout Figure 16-35

Begin Horizontal Assembly

1. Lay the gate in the proper position to allow for safe handling and efficient fit-up to the VRC. See Figure 16-35.
2. Lay each gate post (left side and right side) with the panel guide channel facing up, and the channel open towards the middle.

Install the Header

1. Position the gate header with the sprockets facing up and ends flush.
2. Position the chain jump guides to leave space for the chain. See Figure 16-36.
3. Bolt the chain jump guides and header to the post using four (4) 3/8-16 x 1-1/4" long bolts with lock and flat washers (weld-nut on header angle).
4. Align the gate header, making sure the posts are square, and snug the attachment hardware.



Position Chain Jump Guides Figure 16-36

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⚠ WARNING

Entanglement hazard! Remove gloves, secure long hair, wear snug-fitting clothing, and avoid wearing jewelry while working with chains.

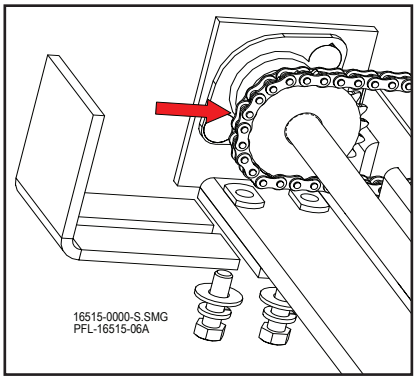
Crush hazard! Keep hands outside and above the chain. If the lift chain does not reach the wheelblock, carefully work the lift chain around the sprocket until it does reach the wheelblock. Lift the chain from the sides. If the chain drops unaided, the weight of the chain will crush fingers. Do not allow the chain to come off the sprocket.

Header falling hazard! Loosen but do not remove the bolts when adjusting the chain jump guide or the headers. Once assembled, the header can fall if the bolts are completely removed.

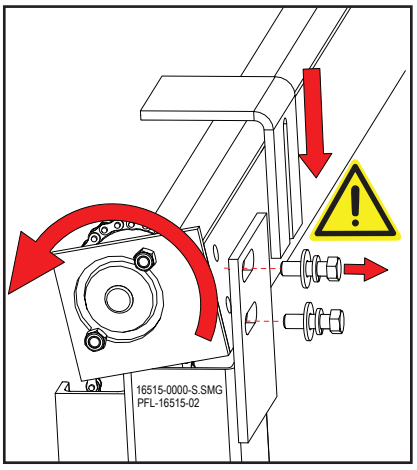
NOTE *The chains must be equal in length on both sides of the sprocket to align the position of the counterweight. If the chains are not equal, work the chain on the front side of the sprockets.*

Install the Chains

1. Make sure to eliminate any chain twist. The chain should be straight between the counterweight tab and the sprocket.
2. Remove the #2050 master links from the end of the #35 chain on each post.
3. Place the center link on top of the sprocket. See Figure 16-37.
4. Thread the chain over the sprocket on the header.
5. Pull the chain tight over the sprocket to remove the slack in the chain without moving the counterweight.
6. Re-attach the #2050 master links to the #35 chain and remove the string.
7. Verify that the chains on each end of the gate are equal in length from the sprocket to the panel.
8. Loosen the header/post hardware to allow the chain jump guide to slide down into position. Do not loosen the hardware to the point that the header falls off. See Figure 16-38.
9. Set the space between the chain jump guides approximately +/- 1/8" from the top of the chain.
10. Securely attach the chain jump guide.



Position Center of Chain Figure 16-37



Attach Chain Jump Guides Figure 16-38

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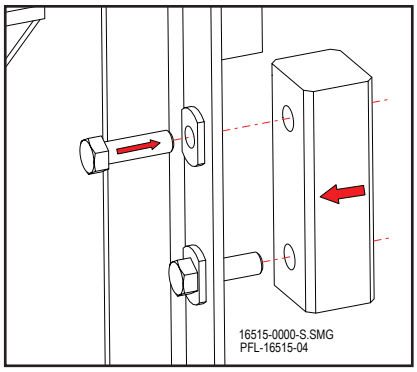
Assemble the Gate Panel

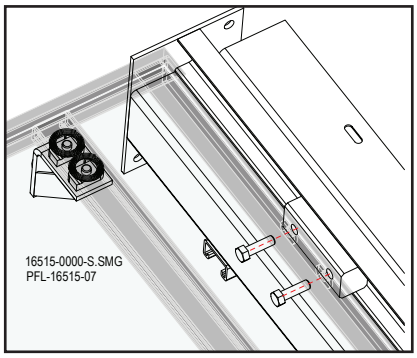
1. Place the gate panel face up between the guide tracks on the gate posts.
2. Insert the guide blocks and attach to the gate panel and guide track. See Figure 16-39 and Figure 16-40.
3. Attach the panel bumper to the bottom of the panel. See Figure 16-41.



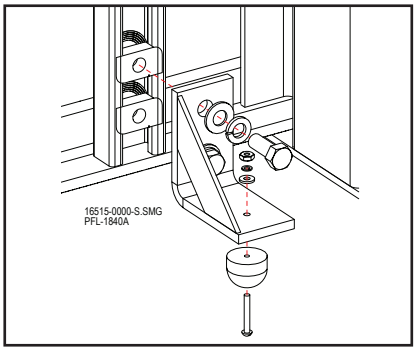
Attach Guide Blocks to Gate Panel Figure 16-39

Attach the Gate Panel to the Gate Chains

1. Slide the gate panel toward the header. It should move without binding on the guide tracks.
2. Connect the #2050 master link to the gate panel. See Figure 16-40 and Figure 16-42.
3. Verify that the chain length is equal on each side.
4. Slide the gate panel to the bottom of the gate posts.

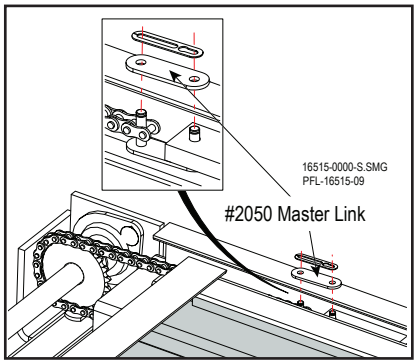


Attach Guide Blocks to Guide Track Figure 16-40



Attach Panel Bumper Figure 16-41

Connect Master Link Figure 16-43



Connect Master Link Figure 16-42

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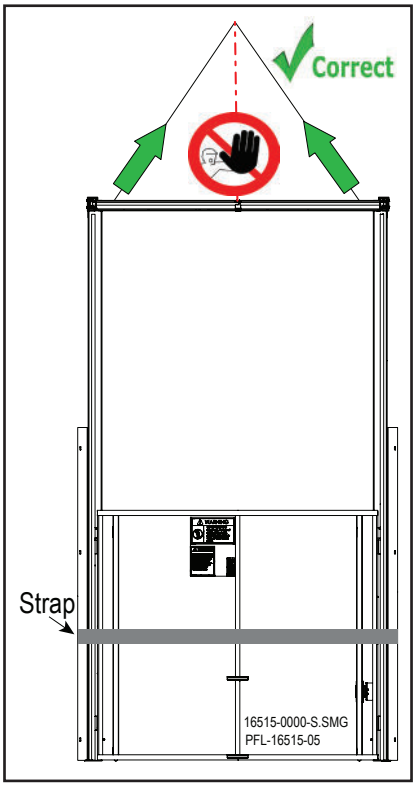
Raise and Secure the Gate

1. Place a strap around the gate posts to secure and maintain the assembly in place. See Figure 16-44.

DANGER

Falling gate hazard! Do not lift the VA gate assembly by the header shaft or by a single strap at the center of the header.

2. Place two (2) straps around the header, one near each gate post. Avoid the brackets at the top of each post. See Figure 16-44.
3. To avoid sudden panel and counterweight movement, slowly raise and secure the gate assembly into place.
4. Tie off or continue to support the gate assembly to prevent tipping or accidental movement.



Secure and Lift Gate Assembly Figure 16-44

Align the Gate Assembly

1. Align the center of the gate to the center of the carriage with the front side of the gate panel facing out.
2. Align the back side of the gate panel on the parallel chalk line.

Anchor the Gate Post Base Plates

3. Drill and anchor the gate post base plates to the floor with 3/8" anchors, 3-1/2" (89mm) long.

DANGER

Falling gate hazard! The anchor hole depth should always be deeper than the length of the anchor bolt. The recommended wedge anchor size is 3/8" diameter by 3-1/2" (89mm) long.

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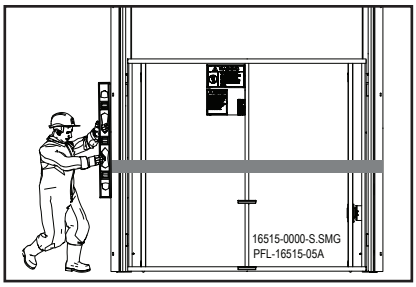
Plumb and Square the Gate

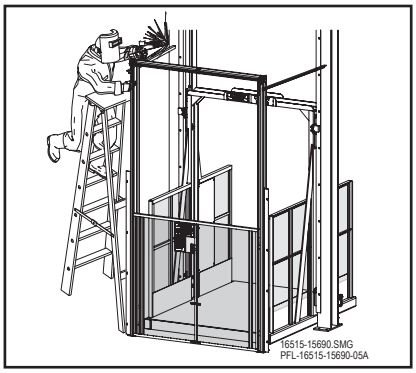
1. Plumb and square the gate posts using a plumb bob or a level that is 4' (1219mm) or longer. See Figure 16-45.
2. Measure from the gate post to the Vertical Reciprocating Conveyor (VRC) column.



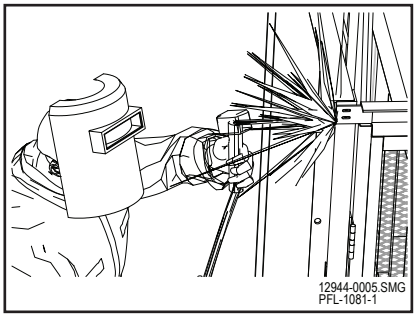
Plumb the Gate Figure 16-45

Install Support Braces

1. Cut two (2) 1-1/2" x 1-1/2" (38mm x 38mm) steel angle support braces and weld to each gate post and to the VRC columns or wall. See Figure 16-46.
2. Tighten all bolts.
3. Confirm that the gate is plumb and square.
4. Weld the gate header to the gate posts. See Figure 16-47.
5. Remove all straps on the gate.
6. Slowly slide the panel down until the chains are tight and the counterweights are off the shipping screws.
7. Remove the counterweight shipping screw.



Weld Support Braces Figure 16-46



Weld Gate Header to Gate Posts Figure 16-47

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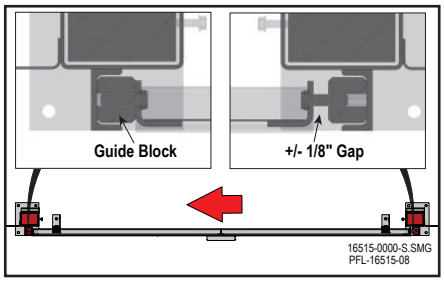
Adjust the Gate Panel

⚠WARNING

The gate panel must float freely within the guide track or the panel interlock will not operate safely. Make sure the gate is fit properly.

Guide block fit up is important for the gate panel to operate properly and safely. This over-rides any other horizontal alignment dimensions.



Guide Block Gap 16-48

1. Snug the gate panel and slide the blocks on one side of the channel guides.
2. Set a +/- 1/8" (3mm) gap between the opposite side guide block and the gate panel. Align the gate post or trim the guide blocks if necessary. The guide block must stay trapped in the guide track. See Figure 16-48.
3. Make sure the gate header is level horizontally and that the gate posts are plumb and square in both directions. Shim and / or adjust as necessary.
4. Verify that the panel travels up and down evenly and is not binding on the guide tracks.
5. Adjust the bumpers as necessary.
6. Adjust the post spacing or panel slide blocks as necessary.
7. Secure and brace the gate posts to the enclosure panels, the building structure, or the VRC columns as required.
8. Verify that the gate panel moves freely during travel from the top to the bottom of the posts.
9. Verify that the gate panel clears the fully open height. If the counterweight bottoms out in the gate post before the gate panel is fully open, remove chain links to shorten the chain length.
10. Lift the gate panel approximately 2' (610mm) off the floor to verify that the gate panel is properly counterbalanced with panel accessories (e.g., cams, interlock flats) on the panel. The gate panel should remain in this position.
    - If the gate continues to rise, add steel bar stock to the inside bottom center of the gate panel frame.
    - If the gate drops, contact PFlow Industries, Inc. Product Support Department for instructions.
11. Verify that the counterweight is not hitting the post base plate.

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Install the Gate Panel Interlock

Install the gate panel interlock. Refer to the interlock installation section in the installation manual.

Verify the Gate Operation

1. Verify that the gate panel runs smoothly.
2. Verify that the gate panel opens when the carriage is present and does not open when the carriage is not present.
3. Verify that the gate panel remains locked when the carriage leaves the floor level.

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Establish Placement

Make sure the placement of the gate has been established. Follow instructions beginning in Section 16, page 14.

Prepare the Chains in the Gate Posts

Make sure the chains and counterweights are prepared before raising the gate posts. Follow instructions beginning in Section 16, page 15.

⚠CAUTION

Lifting hazard! Components and accessories are heavy.
To prevent serious personal injury, use the appropriate lifting apparatus, tie offs, or help when moving, lifting or assembling the components or accessories.

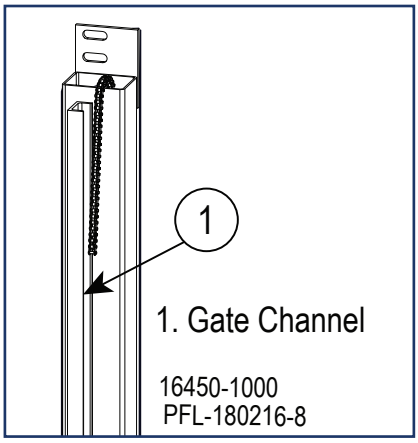
Raise and Secure the Gate Posts

1. Raise, position, and secure one gate post with the back face of the gate post on the parallel chalk line. Make sure the channel on the gate post is facing out and the opening of the channel is facing in. See Figure 16-49.

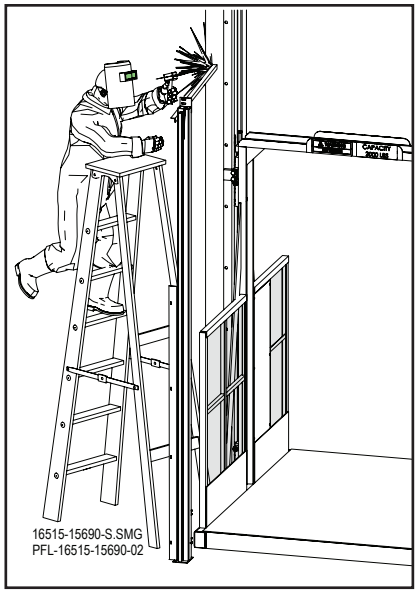
⚠DANGER

Falling gate hazard! The anchor hole depth should always be deeper than the length of the anchor bolt. The recommended wedge anchor size is 3/8" diameter by 3-1/2" (89mm) long.

2. Drill and anchor the gate post base plate to the floor with 3/8" anchors, 3-1/2" (89mm) long.
3. Temporarily brace the gate post to the Vertical Reciprocating Conveyor (VRC) column or wall. See Figure 16-50.
4. Raise, position, and secure the other gate post with the back face of the gate post on the parallel chalk line. Make sure the channel on the gate post is facing out and the opening of the channel is facing in.
5. Temporarily brace the second gate post to the VRC column or wall. See Figure 16-50. ***Do not anchor this post at this time.***



Channel Position Figure 16-49



Temporarily Brace Gate Post Figure 16-50

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⚠ WARNING

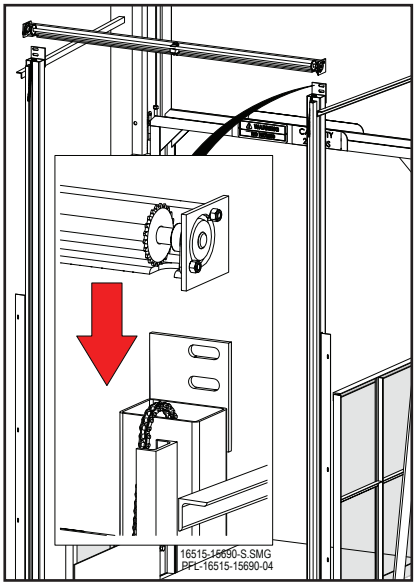
Entanglement hazard! Remove gloves, secure long hair, wear snug-fitting clothing, and avoid wearing jewelry while working with chains.

Crush hazard! Keep hands outside and above the chain. If the lift chain does not reach the wheelblock, carefully work the lift chain around the sprocket until it does reach the wheelblock. Lift the chain from the sides. If the chain drops unaided, the weight of the chain will crush fingers. Do not allow the chain to come off the sprocket.

Header falling hazard! Loosen but do not remove the bolts when adjusting the chain jump guide or the headers. Once assembled, the header can fall if the bolts are completely removed.

Install the Header

1. Position the gate header with the sprockets facing out and with the ends flush. See Figure 16-51.
2. Position the chain jump guides to leave space for the chain. See Figure 16-52.
3. Bolt the chain jump guides and gate header to the gate post using four (4) 3/8-16 x 1-1/4" long bolts with lock and flat washers (weld-nut on header angle).
4. Align the gate header, making sure the gate posts are square, and snug the attachment hardware.

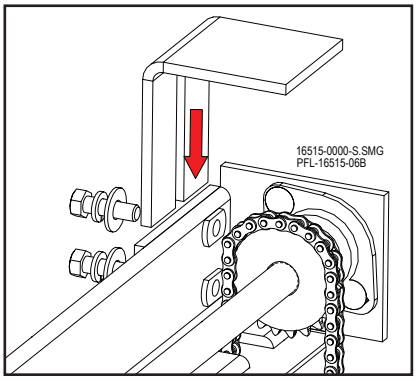


Position Chain Jump Guides Figure 16-51

Install the Chains

NOTE *The chains must be equal in length on both sides of the sprocket to align the position of the counterweight. If the chains are not equal, work the chain on the front side of the sprockets.*

1. Make sure to eliminate any chain twist. The chain should be straight between the counterweight tab and the sprocket.
2. Remove the #2050 master links from the end of the #35 chain on each post.
3. Place the center link on top of the sprocket.



Position Chain Jump Guides Figure 16-52

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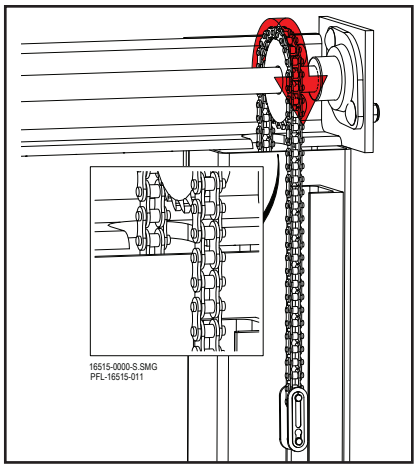
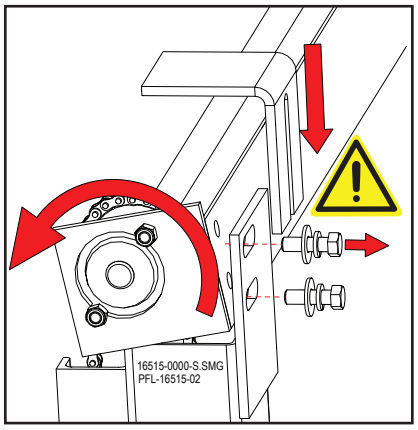
Install the Chains (continued)

4. Thread the chain over the sprockets on the header. See Figure 16-53.
5. Pull the chain tight over the sprocket to remove the slack in the chain without moving the counterweight.
6. Re-attach the #2050 master links to the #35 chain and remove the strings.
7. Verify that the chains on each end of the gate are equal in length from the sprocket to the panel.
8. Loosen the header/post hardware to allow the chain jump guide to slide down into position. Do not loosen the hardware to the point that the header falls off. See Figure 16-54.
9. Set the space between the chain jump guides approximately +/- 1/8" from the top of the chain.
10. Securely attach the chain jump guide.
11. Remove the counterweight shipping screw.
12. Carefully pull the chain up high enough to have the counterweight above the shipping screw.
13. Re-install the counterweight shipping screw.



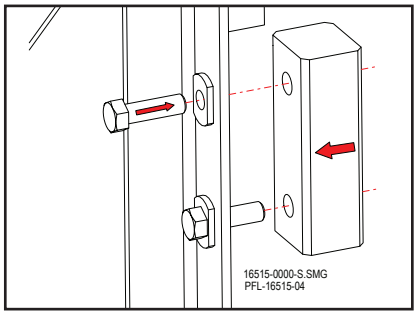
Thread Chain Over the Sprockets Figure 16-53



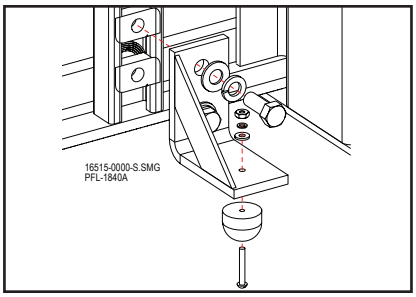
Attach Chain Jump Guides Figure 16-54

Assemble the Gate Panel

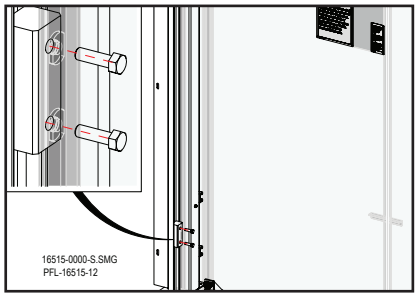
1. Place the gate panel between the guide tracks on the gate posts.
2. Insert the guide blocks and attach to the gate panel and guide track. See Figure 16-55 and Figure 16-56.
3. Attach the panel bumper at the bottom of the panel. See Figure 16-57.



Attach Guide Blocks Figure 16-55



Attach Panel Bumper Figure 16-57



Attach Guide Blocks Figure 16-56

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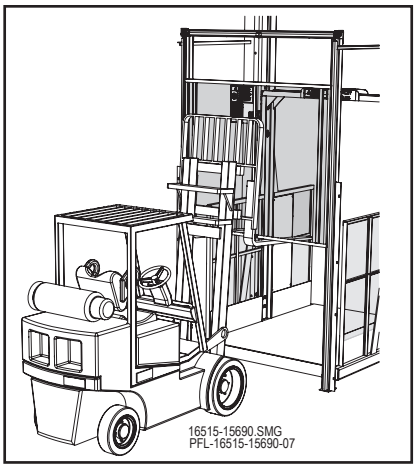
Attach the Gate Panel to the Gate Chains

1. Use an appropriate lifting device to carefully slide the gate panel up towards the gate header. See Figure 16-58.

NOTE *The gate panel should move up without binding on the guide tracks.*

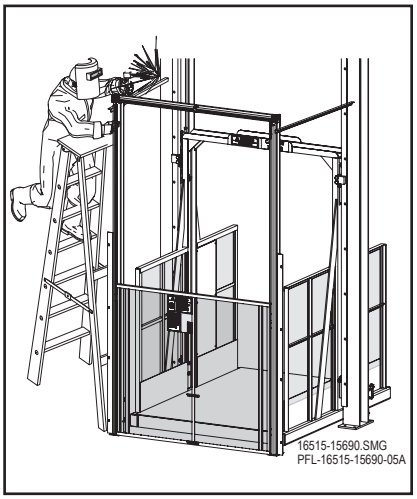
2. Continue to support the gate panel and attach the gate panel to the chains.
3. Connect the #2050 master links to the gate panel and remove the string.
4. Verify the chain length is equal on each side.



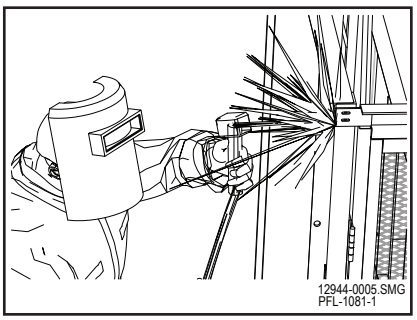
Lift Gate Panel Figure 16-58

Install Support Braces

1. Measure from the gate post to the Vertical Reciprocating Conveyor (VRC) column.
2. Cut two (2) 1-1/2" x 1-1/2" (38mm x 38mm) steel angle support braces and weld to each gate post and to the VRC columns or wall. See Figure 16-59.
3. Confirm that the gate is plumb and square.
4. Tighten all bolts.
5. Weld the gate header to the gate posts. See Figure 16-60.
6. Slowly slide the panel down until the chains are tight and the counterweights are off the shipping screws.
7. Remove the counterweight shipping screw.



Weld Support Braces Figure 16-59



Weld Gate Header to Gate Posts Figure 16-60

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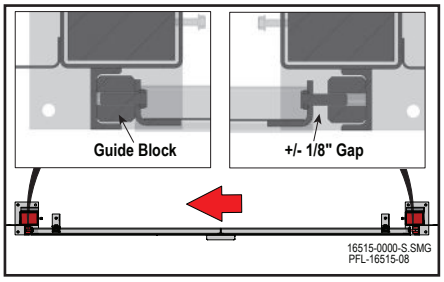
Adjust the Gate Panel

⚠ WARNING

The gate panel must float freely within the guide track or the panel interlock will not operate safely. Make sure the gate is fit properly.

Guide block fit up is important for the gate panel to operate properly and safely. This over-rides any other horizontal alignment dimensions.



Guide Block Gap 16-61

1. Snug the gate panel and slide the blocks on one side of the channel guides.
2. Set a +/- 1/8" (3mm) gap between the opposite side guide block and the gate panel. Align the gate post or trim the guide blocks if necessary. The guide block must stay trapped in the guide track. See Figure 16-61.
3. Make sure the gate header is level horizontally and that the gate posts are plumb and square in both directions. Shim and / or adjust as necessary.
4. Verify that the panel travels up and down evenly and is not binding on the guide tracks.
5. Adjust the bumpers as necessary.
6. Adjust the post spacing or panel slide blocks as necessary.
7. Secure and brace the gate posts to the building structure or the VRC columns as required.
8. Verify that the gate panel moves freely during travel from the top to the bottom of the posts.
9. Verify that the gate panel clears the fully open height. If the counterweight bottoms out in the gate post before the gate panel is fully open, remove chain links to shorten the chain length.
10. Lift the gate panel approximately 2' (610mm) off the floor to verify that the gate panel is properly counterbalanced with panel accessories (e.g., cams, interlock flats) on the panel. The gate panel should remain in this position.
    - If the gate continues to rise, add steel bar stock to the inside bottom center of the gate panel frame.
    - If the gate drops, contact PFlow Industries, Inc. Product Support Department for instructions.
11. Verify that the counterweight is not hitting the post base plate.

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Install the Gate Interlock

Install the gate panel interlock. Refer to the interlock installation section in the installation manual.

Verify the Gate Operation

1. Verify that the gate panel runs smoothly.
2. Verify that the gate door opens when the carriage is present and does not open when the carriage is not present.
3. Verify that the gate panel remains locked when the carriage leaves the floor level.

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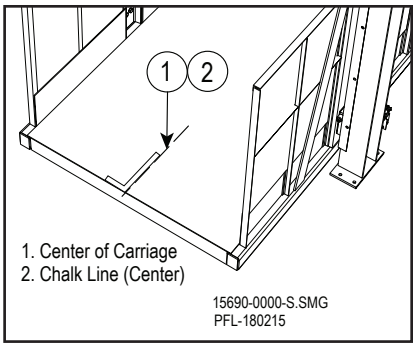
Establish Placement

NOTE *It is often possible to assemble the gate on the ground. However, it may not be possible to erect the fully assembled gate.*

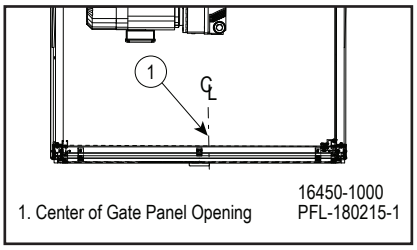
Horizontal assembly and vertical assembly methods are included in this manual. Both methods require additional support and temporary bracing during assembly.

1. Measure the outside edge to the outside edge of the carriage to locate the center line. Mark the center line with a pencil on the top of the carriage deck. See Figure 16-62 and Figure 16-63.
2. Position a carpenter square on the edge of the carriage to extend the center line onto the carriage deck.

NOTE *The ideal position of the outside edge of the gate post is at the front edge of the carriage.*



Establish Center Line Figure 16-62



Alignment Figure 16-63

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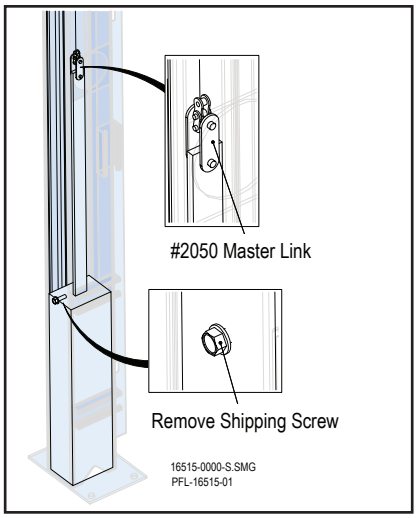
Prepare the Chains in the Gate Posts

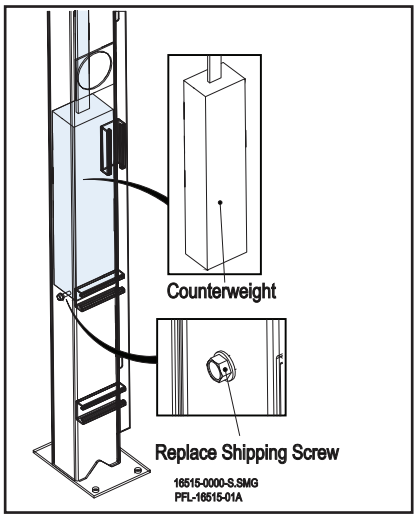
For shipping purposes, the single vertical acting gate panel counterweight is secured with a shipping screw located toward the bottom of the gate post assembly.

To prevent the chain from falling down into the gate post:

1. Remove shipping screw located toward the bottom of the gate post assembly. See Figure 16-64.
2. Pull the counterweight chain forward until the counterweight is moved forward about 2' (610mm).
3. Make sure the counterweight is above the shipping screw and replace the shipping screw. See Figure 16-65.
4. Tie one end of a string to the counterweight chain about 3 links back.
5. Tie the other end of the string to the base plate of the gate post assembly.
6. Carefully handle the gate post assembly to keep the counterweight inside the gate post tube. Keep the counterweight above the shipping screw until the gate post is stood upright.



Post Assembly Counterweight Figure 16-64



Post Assembly Counterweight Figure 16-65

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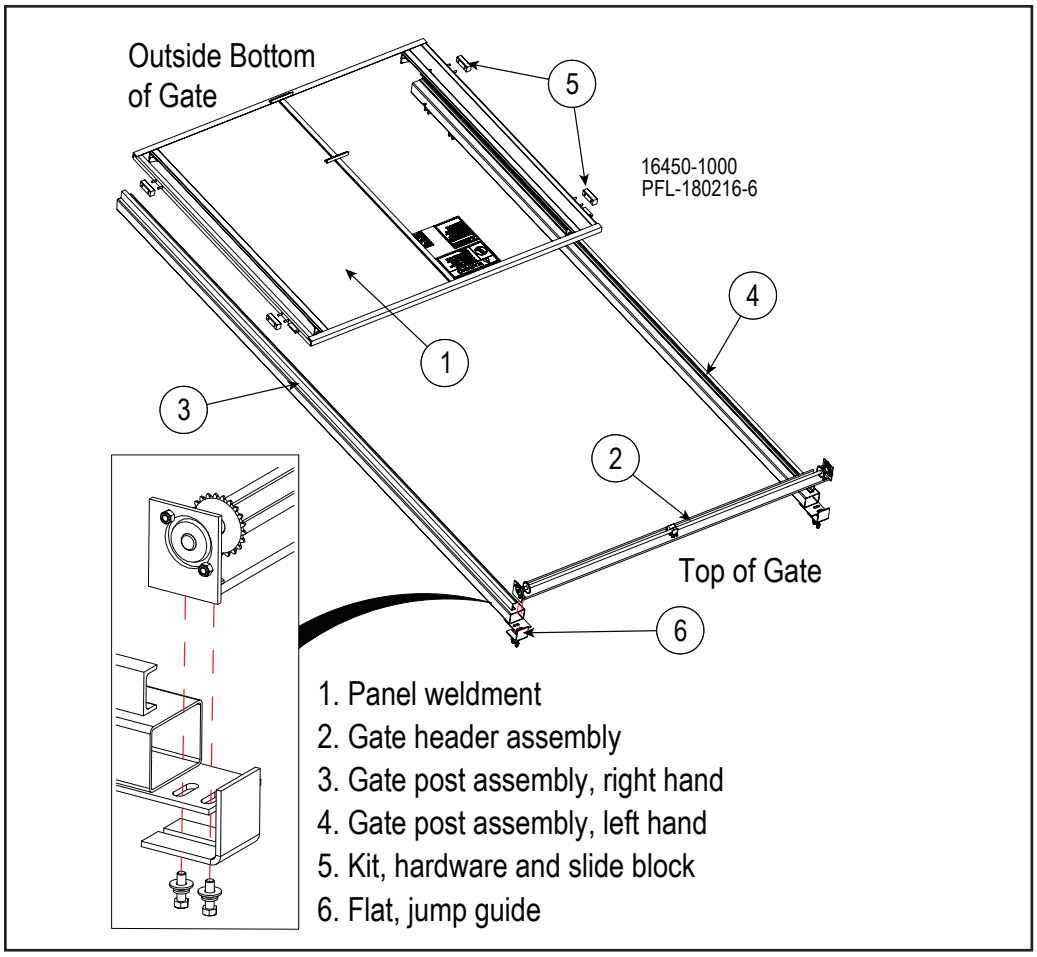


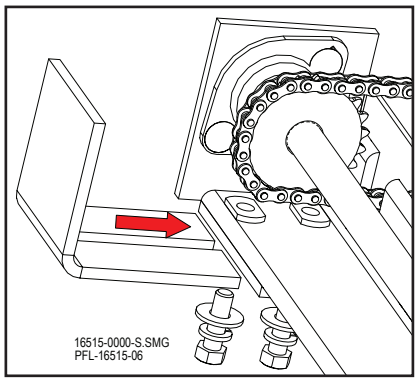
Single VA Gate Layout Figure 16-66

Begin Horizontal Assembly

1. Lay the gate in the proper position to allow for safe handling and efficient fit-up to the VRC. See Figure 16-66.
2. Lay each gate post (left side and right side) with the panel guide channel facing up, and the channel open towards the middle.

Install the Header

1. Position the gate header with the sprockets facing up and ends flush.
2. Position the chain jump guides to leave space for the chain. See Figure 16-67.
3. Bolt the chain jump guides and header to the post using four (4) 3/8-16 x 1-1/4" long bolts with lock and flat washers (weld-nut on header angle).
4. Align the gate header, making sure the posts are square, and snug the attachment hardware.



Position Chain Jump Guides Figure 16-67

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⚠ WARNING

Entanglement hazard! Remove gloves, secure long hair, wear snug-fitting clothing, and avoid wearing jewelry while working with chains.

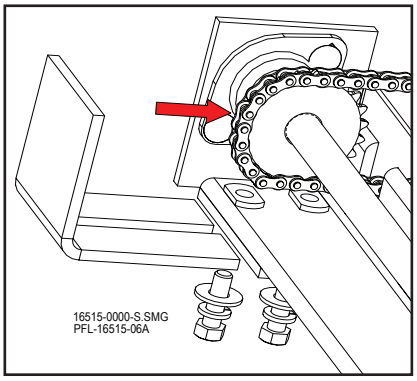
Crush hazard! Keep hands outside and above the chain. If the lift chain does not reach the wheelblock, carefully work the lift chain around the sprocket until it does reach the wheelblock. Lift the chain from the sides. If the chain drops unaided, the weight of the chain will crush fingers. Do not allow the chain to come off the sprocket.

Header falling hazard! Loosen but do not remove the bolts when adjusting the chain jump guide or the headers. Once assembled, the header can fall if the bolts are completely removed.

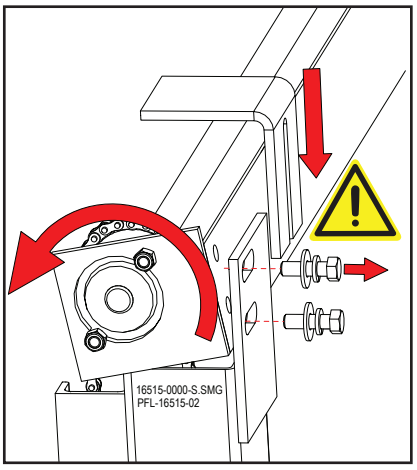
Install the Chains

NOTE *The chains must be equal in length on both sides of the sprocket to align the position of the counterweight. If the chains are not equal, work the chain on the front side of the sprockets.*

1. Make sure to eliminate any chain twist. The chain should be straight between the counterweight tab and the sprocket.
2. Remove the #2050 master links from the end of the #35 chain on each post.
3. Place the center link on top of the sprocket. See Figure 16-68.
4. Thread the chain over the sprockets on the header.
5. Pull the chain tight over the sprocket to remove the slack in the chain without moving the counterweight.
6. Re-attach the #2050 master links to the #35 chain and remove the strings.
7. Verify that the chains on each end of the gate are equal in length from the sprocket to the panel.
8. Loosen the header/post hardware to allow the chain jump guide to slide down into position. Do not loosen the hardware to the point that the header falls off. See Figure 16-69.
9. Set the space between the chain jump guides approximately +/- 1/8" from the top of the chain.
10. Securely attach the chain jump guides.



Position Center of Chain Figure 16-68



Attach Chain Jump Guides Figure 16-69

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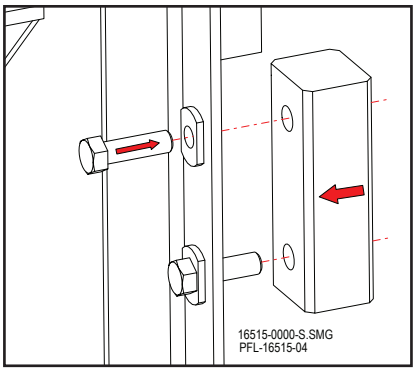
Assemble the Gate Panel

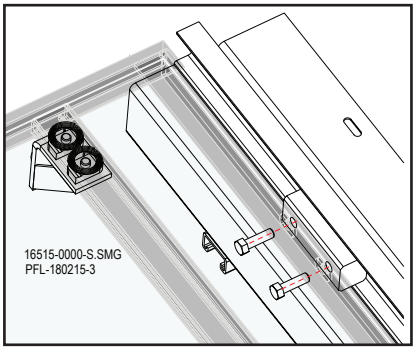
1. Place the gate panel face up between the guide tracks on the gate posts.
2. Insert the guide blocks and attach to the gate panel and guide track. See Figure 16-70 and Figure 16-71.

Attach the Gate Panel to the Gate Chains

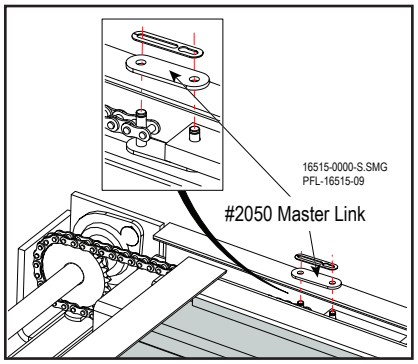
1. Slide the gate panel toward the header. It should move without binding on the guide tracks.
2. Connect the #2050 master link to the gate panel. See Figure 16-72 and Figure 16-73.
3. Verify that the chain length is equal on each side.
4. Slide the gate panel to the bottom of the gate posts.



Attach Guide Blocks to the Gate Panel Figure 16-70



Attach Guide Blocks to the Guide Track Figure 16-71



Connect Master Link Figure 16-72

Connect Master Link Figure 16-73

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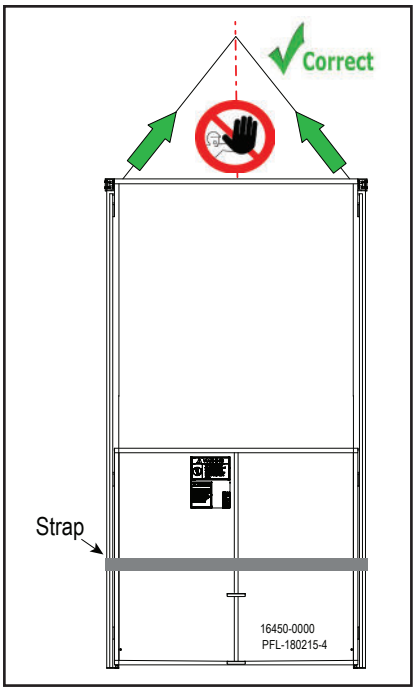
Raise and Secure the Gate

DANGER

Falling gate hazard! Do not lift the VA gate assembly by the header shaft or by a single strap at the center of the header.

1. Place a strap around the gate posts to secure and maintain the assembly in place. See Figure 16-74.
2. Place two (2) straps around the header, one near each gate post. Avoid the brackets at the top of each gate post. See Figure 16-74.
3. To avoid sudden panel and counterweight movement, slowly raise and secure the gate assembly into place.
4. Tie off or continue to support the gate assembly to prevent tipping or accidental movement.



Secure and Lift Gate Assembly Figure 16-74

Align the Gate Assembly

1. Align the center of the gate to the center of the carriage with the front side of the gate panel facing out.
2. Position the gate posts at the front of the carriage.

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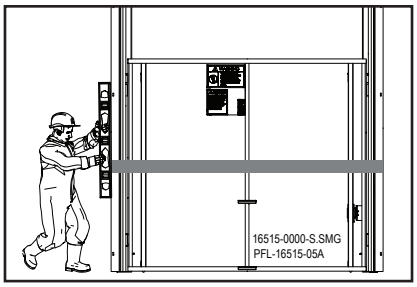
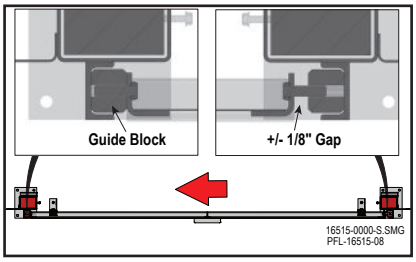
Plumb and Square the Gate

1. Plumb and square the gate posts using a plumb bob or a level that is 4' (1219mm) or longer. See Figure 16-75.
2. Snug the gate panel and slide the blocks on one side of the channel guides.
3. Set a +/- 1/8" (3mm) gap between the opposite side guide block and the gate panel. Align the gate post or trim the guide blocks if necessary. The guide block must stay trapped in the guide track. See Figure 16-76.
4. Make sure the gate header is level horizontally and that the gate posts are plumb and square in both directions. Shim and / or adjust as necessary.
5. Verify that the panel travels up and down evenly and is not binding on the guide tracks.



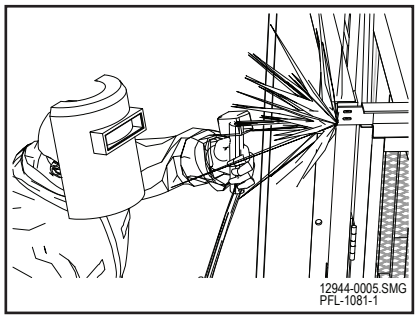
Plumb the Gate Figure 16-75



Guide Block Gap 16-76

Weld the Gate Posts

1. Weld the bottom of the gate posts to the carriage deck.
2. Weld the ends of the carriage panel or rails to the gate posts.



Weld Gate Header to Gate Posts Figure 16-77

Install Support Braces

1. Measure from the gate post to the carriage upright.
2. Cut two (2) 1-1/2" x 1-1/2" (38mm x 38mm) steel angle support braces and weld to each gate post and to the carriage upright.
3. Tighten all bolts.
4. Confirm that the gate is plumb and square.
5. Weld the gate header to the gate posts. See Figure 16-77.
6. Remove all straps on the gate.
7. Slowly slide the panel down until the chains are tight and the counterweights are off the shipping screws.
8. Remove the counterweight shipping screw.

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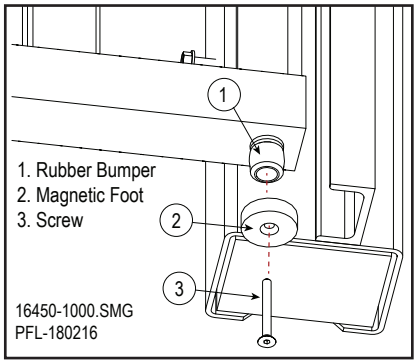
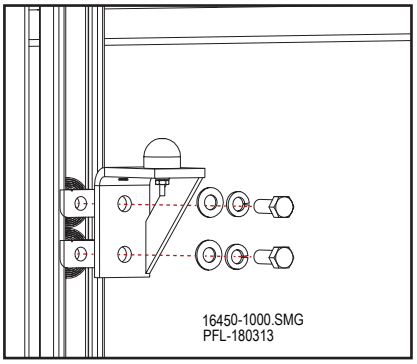
Attach the Bumpers

1. Attach the panel magnetic foot to the bottom of the panel. See Figure 16-78.
2. Attach the panel bumper brackets to the top of the gate panel. See Figure 16-79.



Attach Panel Magnetic Foot Figure 16-78



Attach Top Bumper Brackets Figure 16-79

⚠ WARNING

The gate panel must float freely within the guide track or the panel interlock will not operate safely. Make sure the gate is fit properly.

Adjust the Gate Panel

Guide block fit up is important for the gate panel to operate properly and safely. This over-rides any other horizontal alignment dimensions.

1. Verify that the gate panel travels up and down evenly from the top to the bottom of the posts and is not binding on the guide tracks.
2. Adjust the bumpers as necessary.
3. Verify that the gate panel clears the fully open height. If the counterweight bottoms out in the gate post before the gate panel is fully open, remove chain links to shorten the chain length.
4. Lift the gate panel approximately 2' (610mm) off the floor to verify that the gate panel is properly counterbalanced with panel accessories (e.g., cams, interlock flats) on the panel. The gate panel should remain in this position.
   - If the gate continues to rise, add steel bar stock to the inside bottom center of the gate panel frame.
   - If the gate drops, contact PFlow Industries, Inc. Product Support Department for instructions.
5. Verify that the counterweight is not hitting the post base plate.

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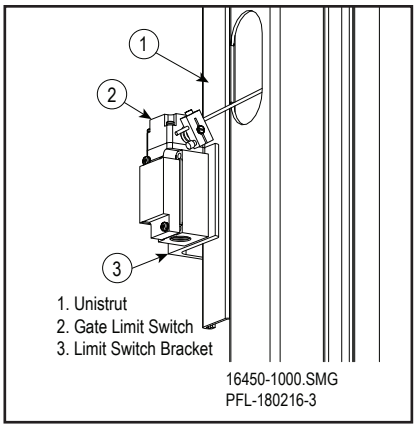
NOTE

The drop cord is supplied by PFlow Industries, Inc. The wires from the junction box on the carriage to the switch on the gate post is not supplied by PFlow Industries, Inc.

Install the Gate Limit Switch and Stationary Junction Boxes

1. Attach the gate limit switch and bracket to the unistrut mounted on the gate post. See Figure 16-80.
2. Mount the ***carriage mounted junction box*** on the outside of the carriage making sure there are no obstructions above the junction box.
3. On a two-level VRC, mount the ***stationary junction box*** on the same side of the VRC as the carriage mounted junction box. Mount the stationary junction box on the outside of the floor to beam bracing.
4. On a multiple level VRC, mount the ***stationary junction box*** on the same side of the VRC as the carriage mounted junction box. Mount the stationary junction box approximately 8' (2438mm) above the halfway point of the vertical travel of the VRC.



Attach Gate Limit Switch
Figure 16-80

Verify the Gate Operation

1. Verify that the gate panel opens when the carriage is present and does not open when the carriage is not present.
2. Verify that the gate panel remains locked when the carriage leaves the floor level.

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Establish Placement

Make sure the placement of the gate has been established. Follow instructions beginning in Section 16, page 29.

Prepare the Chains in the Gate Posts

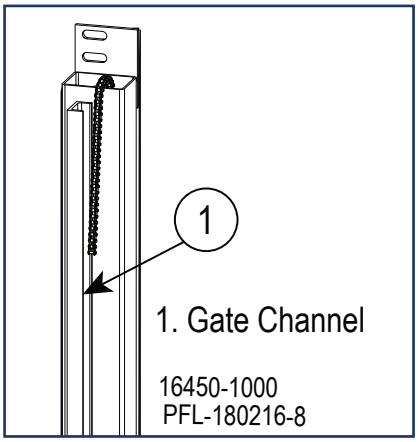
Make sure the chains and counterweights are prepared before raising the gate posts. Follow instructions beginning in Section 16, page 30.

⚠CAUTION

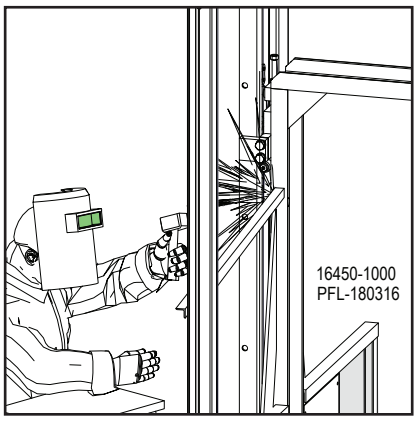
Lifting hazard! Components and accessories are heavy.
To prevent serious personal injury, use the appropriate lifting apparatus, tie offs, or help when moving, lifting or assembling the components or accessories.

Raise and Secure the Gate Posts

1. Raise, position, and secure one gate post on the carriage deck edge. Make sure the channel on the gate post is facing out and the opening of the channel is facing in. See Figure 16-81.
2. Temporarily brace the gate post to the Vertical Reciprocating Conveyor (VRC) carriage or the carriage column. See Figure 16-82.
3. Raise, position, and secure the other gate post on the carriage deck edge. Make sure the channel on the gate post is facing out and the opening of the channel is facing in.
4. Temporarily brace the second gate post to the VRC carriage or the carriage column.



Channel Position Figure 16-81



Temporarily Brace Gate Post Figure 16-82

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⚠ WARNING

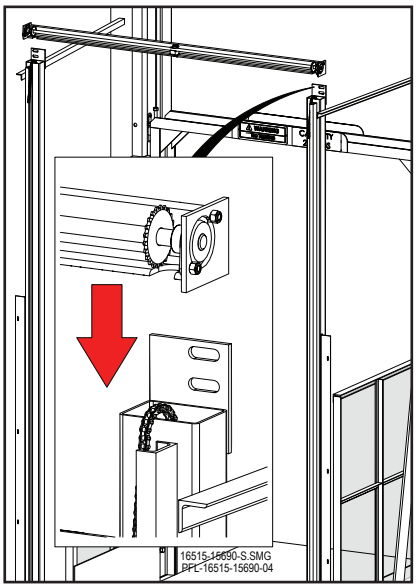
Entanglement hazard! Remove gloves, secure long hair, wear snug-fitting clothing, and avoid wearing jewelry while working with chains.

Crush hazard! Keep hands outside and above the chain. If the lift chain does not reach the wheelblock, carefully work the lift chain around the sprocket until it does reach the wheelblock. Lift the chain from the sides. If the chain drops unaided, the weight of the chain will crush fingers. Do not allow the chain to come off the sprocket.

Header falling hazard! Loosen but do not remove the bolts when adjusting the chain jump guide or the headers. Once assembled, the header can fall if the bolts are completely removed.

Install the Header

1. Position the gate header with the sprockets facing out and with the ends flush. See Figure 16-83.
2. Position the chain jump guides to leave space for the chain. See Figure 16-84.
3. Bolt the chain jump guides and gate header to the gate post using four (4) 3/8-16 x 1-1/4" long bolts with lock and flat washers (weld-nut on header angle).
4. Align the gate header, making sure the gate posts are square, and snug the attachment hardware.

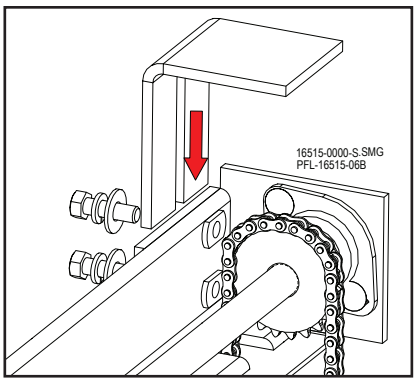


Position Chain Jump Guides Figure 16-83

Install the Chains

NOTE *The chains must be equal in length on both sides of the sprocket to align the position of the counterweight. If the chains are not equal, work the chain on the front side of the sprockets.*

1. Making sure to eliminate any chain twist, the chain should be straight between the counterweight tab and the sprocket.
2. Remove the #2050 master links from the end of the #35 chain on each post.
3. Place the center link on top of the sprocket.



Position Chain Jump Guides Figure 16-84

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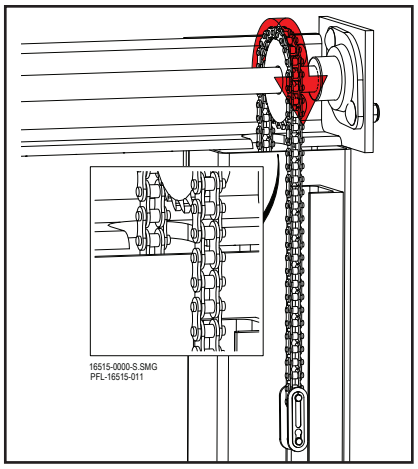
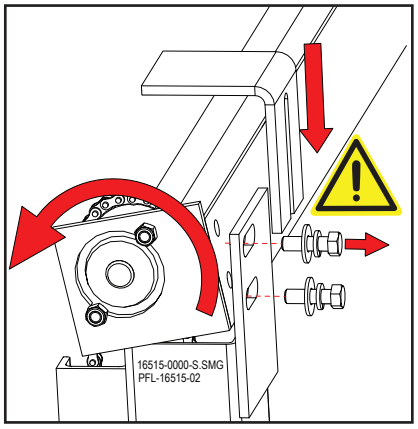
Install the Chains (continued)

4. Thread the chain over the sprockets on the header. See Figure 16-85.
5. Pull the chain tight over the sprocket to remove the slack in the chain without moving the counterweight.
6. Re-attach the #2050 master links to the #35 chain and remove the strings.
7. Verify that the chains on each end of the gate are equal in length from the sprocket to the panel.
8. Loosen the header/post hardware to allow the chain jump guide to slide down into position. Do not loosen the hardware to the point that the header falls off. See Figure 16-86.
9. Set the space between the chain jump guides approximately +/- 1/8" from the top of the chain.
10. Securely attach the chain jump guide.
11. Remove the counterweight shipping screw.
12. Carefully pull the chain up high enough to have the counterweight above the shipping screw.
13. Re-install the counterweight shipping screw.



Thread Chain Over the Sprockets Figure 16-85



Attach Chain Jump Guides Figure 16-86

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Assemble the Gate Panel

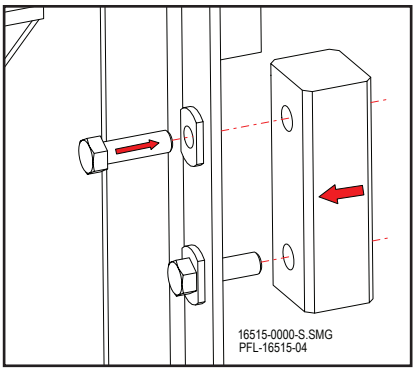
1. Place the gate panel face up between the guide tracks on the gate posts.
2. Insert the guide blocks and attach to the gate panel and guide track. See Figure 16-87 and Figure 16-88.

Attach the Gate Panel to the Gate Chains

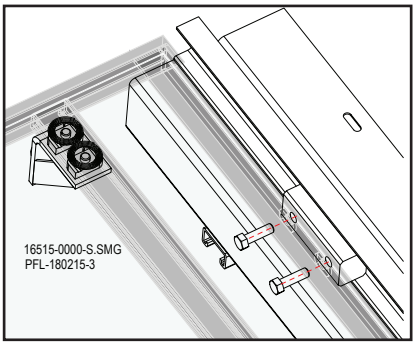
1. Use an appropriate lifting device to carefully slide the gate panel up towards the gate header. See Figure 16-89.

NOTE *The gate panel should move up without binding on the guide tracks.*

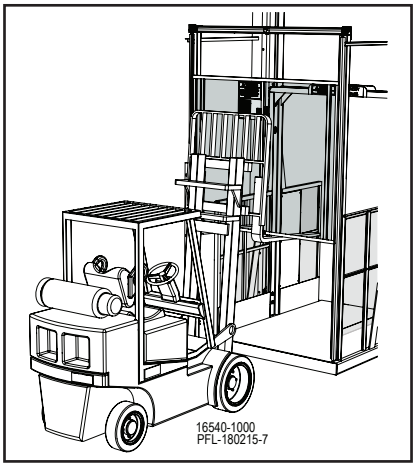
2. Continue to support the gate panel and attach the gate panel to the chains.
3. Connect the #2050 master links to the gate panel and remove the string.
4. Verify the chain length is equal on each side.



Attach Guide Blocks to Gate Panel
Figure 16-87



Attach Guide Blocks to Guide Track
Figure 16-88



Lift Gate Panel Figure 16-89

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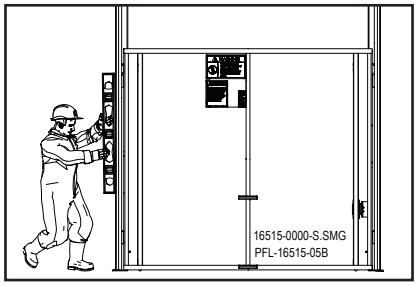
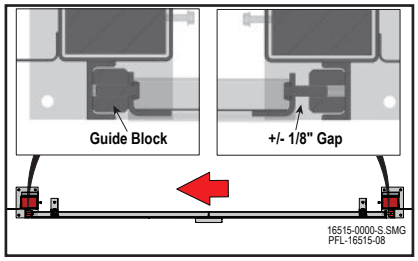
Plumb and Square the Gate

1. Plumb and square the gate posts using a plumb bob or a level that is 4' (1219mm) or longer. See Figure 16-90.
2. Snug the gate panel and slide the blocks on one side of the channel guides.
3. Set a +/- 1/8” (3mm) gap between the opposite side guide block and the gate panel. Align the gate post or trim the guide blocks if necessary. The guide block must stay trapped in the guide track. See Figure 16-91.
4. Make sure the gate header is level horizontally and that the gate posts are plumb and square in both directions. Shim and / or adjust as necessary.
5. Verify that the panel travels up and down evenly and is not binding on the guide tracks.



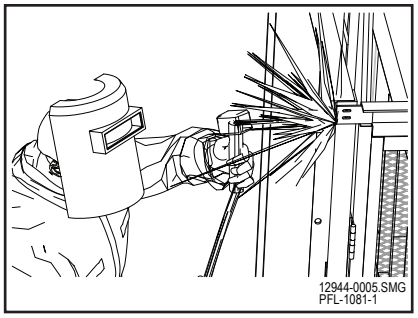
Plumb the Gate Figure 16-90



Guide Block Gap 16-91

Weld the Gate Posts

1. Weld the bottom of the gate posts to the carriage deck.
2. Weld the ends of the carriage panel or rails to the gate posts.



Weld Gate Header to Gate Posts Figure 16-92

Install Support Braces

1. Measure from the gate post to the carriage upright.
2. Cut two (2) 1-1/2" x 1-1/2" (38mm x 38mm)steel angle support braces and weld to each gate post and to the carriage uprights.
3. Remove the temporary bracing.
4. Tighten all bolts.
5. Confirm that the gate is plumb and square.
6. Weld the gate header to the gate posts. See Figure 16-92.
7. Slowly slide the panel down until the chains are tight and the counterweights are off the shipping screws.
8. Remove the counterweight shipping screw.

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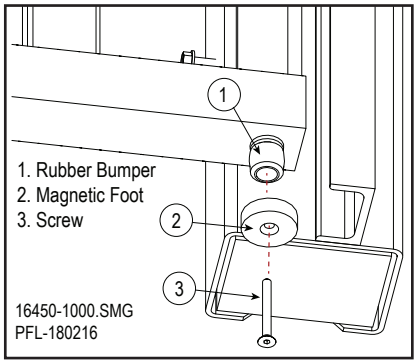
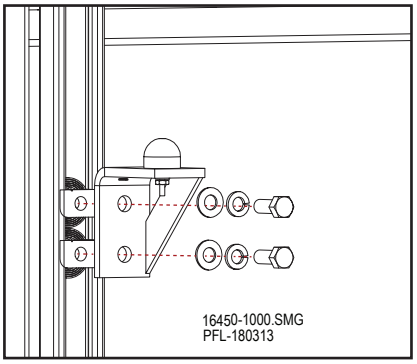
Attach the Bumpers

1. Attach the panel magnetic foot to the bottom of the panel. See Figure 16-93.
2. Attach the panel bumper brackets to the top of the gate panel. See Figure 16-94.



Attach Panel Magnetic Foot Figure 16-93



Attach Top Bumper Brackets Figure 16-94

⚠ WARNING

The gate panel must float freely within the guide track or the panel interlock will not operate safely. Make sure the gate is fit properly.

Adjust the Gate Panel

Guide block fit up is important for the gate panel to operate properly and safely. This over-rides any other horizontal alignment dimensions.

1. Verify that the gate panel travels up and down evenly from the top to the bottom of the posts and is not binding on the guide tracks.
2. Adjust the bumpers as necessary.
3. Verify that the gate panel clears the fully open height. If the counterweight bottoms out in the gate post before the gate panel is fully open, remove chain links to shorten the chain length.
4. Lift the gate panel approximately 2' (610mm) off the floor to verify that the gate panel is properly counterbalanced with panel accessories (e.g., cams, interlock flats) on the panel. The gate panel should remain in this position.
   - If the gate continues to rise, add steel bar stock to the inside bottom center of the gate panel frame.
   - If the gate drops, contact PFlow Industries, Inc. Product Support Department for instructions.
5. Verify that the counterweight is not hitting the post base plate.

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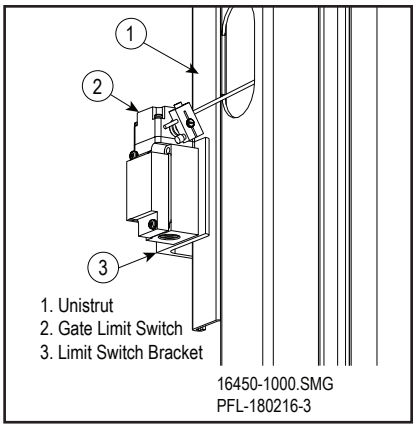
NOTE

The drop cord is supplied by PFlow Industries, Inc. The wires from the junction box on the carriage to the switch on the gate post is not supplied by PFlow Industries, Inc.

Install the Gate Limit Switch and Stationary Junction Boxes

1. Attach the gate limit switch and bracket to the unistrut mounted on the gate post. See Figure 16-95.
2. Mount the ***carriage mounted junction box*** on the outside of the carriage making sure there are no obstructions above the junction box.
3. On a two-level VRC, mount the ***stationary junction box*** on the same side of the VRC as the carriage mounted junction box. Mount the stationary junction box on the outside of the floor to beam bracing.
4. On a multiple level VRC, mount the ***stationary junction box*** on the same side of the VRC as the carriage mounted junction box. Mount the stationary junction box approximately 8' (2438mm) above the halfway point of the vertical travel of the VRC.



Attach Gate Limit Switch
Figure 16-95

Verify the Gate Operation

1. Verify that the gate panel opens when the carriage is present and does not open when the carriage is not present.
2. Verify that the gate panel remains locked when the carriage leaves the floor level.

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Before You Begin

Read this entire manual.

Before starting the installation, verify the job site dimensions and the dimensions of the delivered materials against the PFlow Industries, Inc. General Arrangement (GA) drawing. If the site conditions or the delivered materials do not match the GA drawing, please consult the PFlow Industries, Inc. Product Support Department.

⚠WARNING

- Falling equipment hazard! The installation, maintenance, or servicing of this equipment requires qualified personnel with extensive knowledge and experience on how to rig, erect, and support structural steel.

- Lockout/tagout equipment before performing any adjustments or maintenance. If the equipment is not locked out, it could start unexpectedly and cause injury or damage. ***Make sure all personnel are aware of the potential for stored energy to be present even after the power has been locked out.*** Refer to ANSI Z244.1 and OSHA 29 CFR 1910.147 for minimum requirements for a lockout/tagout system. There may be additional state or local requirements.

- Falling hazard! Close all gates before the carriage is moved. Never leave the lift unattended with the gates in the open position. Never close gates when a person is on the carriage or within the fenced area.
- Make sure the gate is, and remains, secured to prevent unsafe use of the gate. Always lock the gate panel closed if the gate area is unattended.

NOTICE

ASME B20.1 defines a qualified person as a person who, by possession of a recognized degree or certificate of professional standing, or by extensive knowledge, training, and experience, has successfully demonstrated his/her ability to solve problems relating to the subject matter and work.

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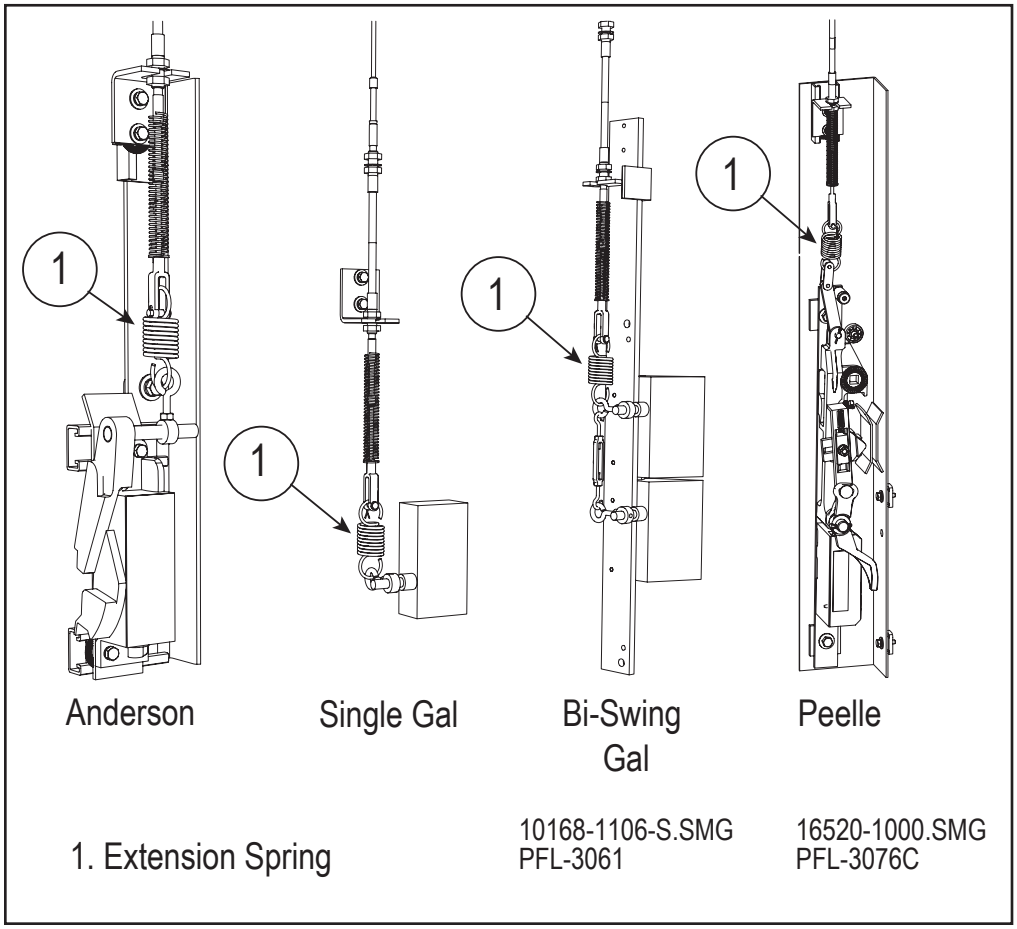
The Purpose of the Gate Cable Interlock

The electromechanical interlock is a safety device used to mechanically prevent the gate from opening. When the carriage is at that level and the gate is open, the VRC should not operate. Replacement components are only available as shown on the next few pages. Some configurations may vary by application. One of four (4) different manufacturer's components may be used for this installation. See Figure 17-1.



Cable Interlocks Figure 17-1

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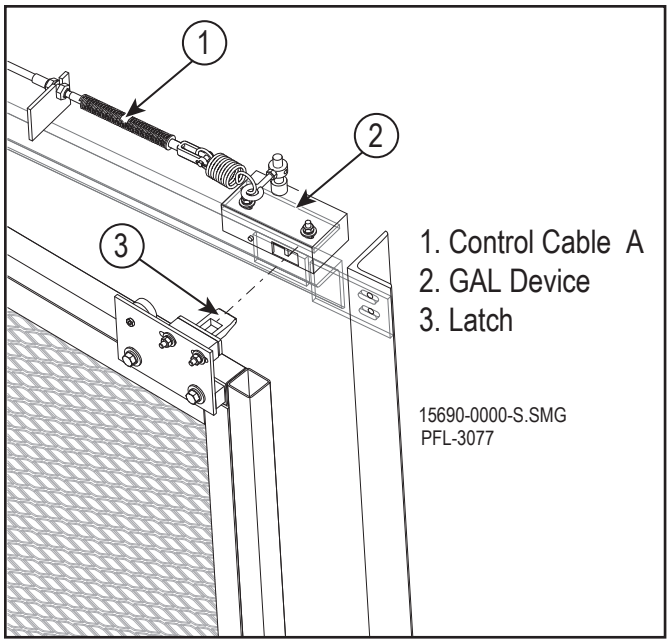
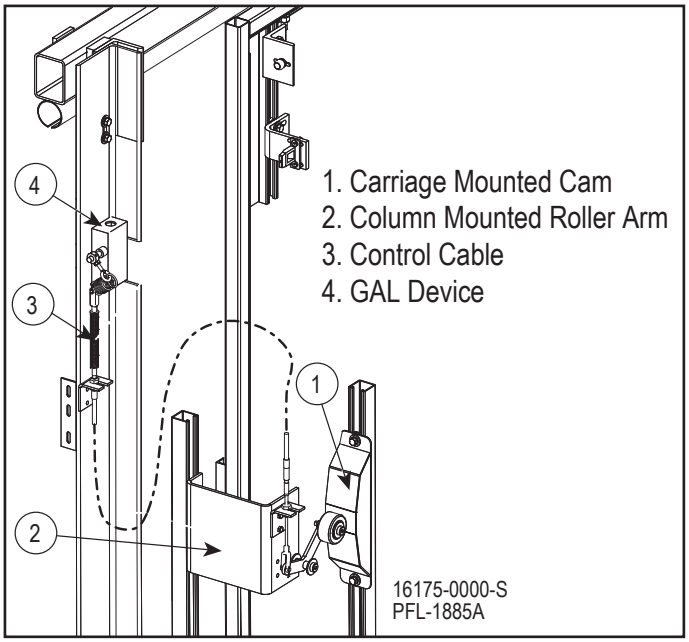


GAL Interlock on Single Panel Swing Gate
Figure 17-2



GAL Interlock on Sliding Gate
Figure 17-3

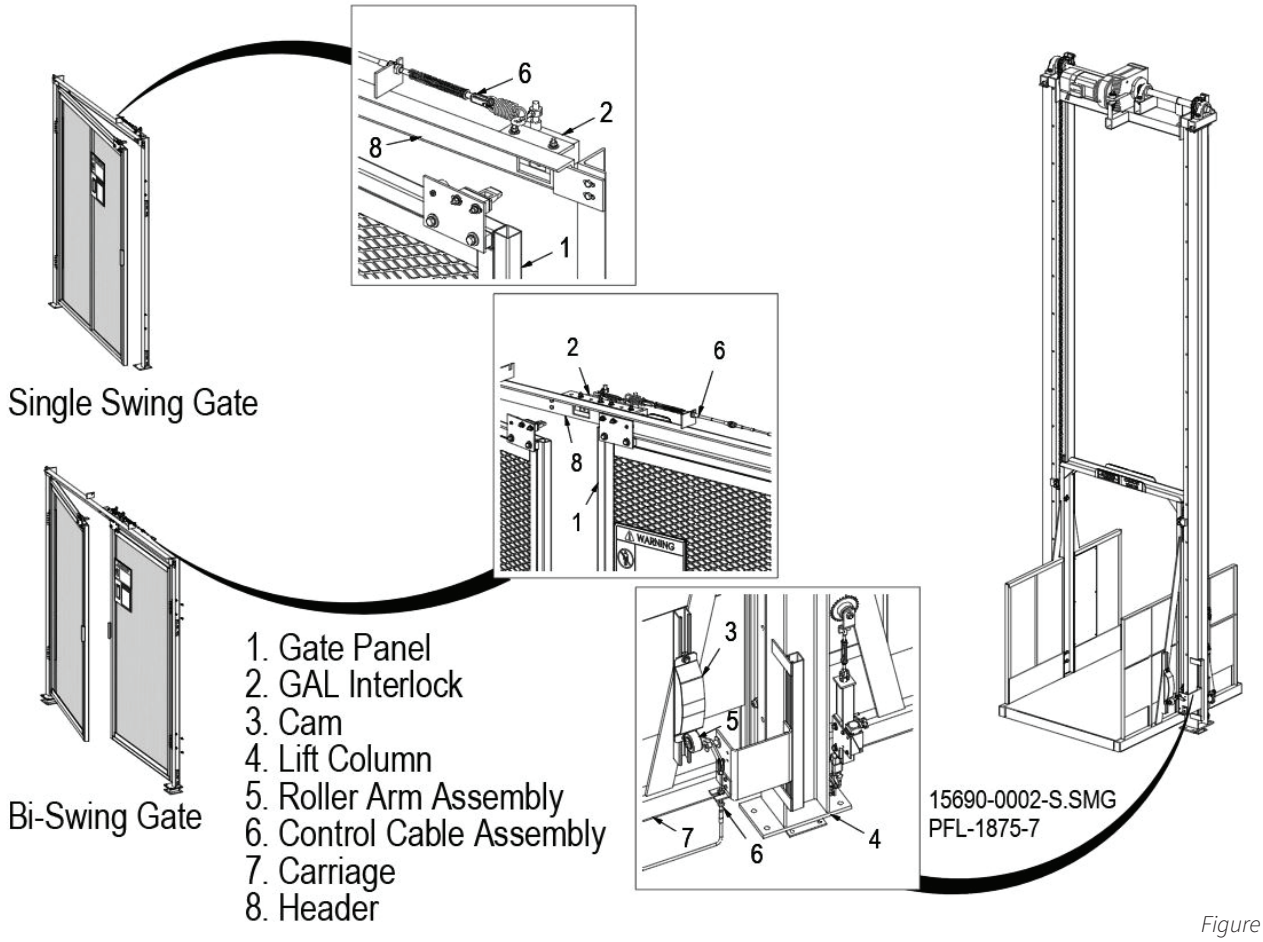


Figure 17-4

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General Descriptions

The cable interlock consists of four (4) main items:

- Carriage Cam
- Column Mounted Roller Assembly
- Control Cable
- Gate Cable Interlock Assembly

Carriage Cam

The carriage cam is mounted on the carriage and positioned to activate the roller assembly. The roller must move freely on the inclined face of the carriage cam and allow the control cable to activate the interlock. See Figure 17-5.

Column Mounted Roller Assembly

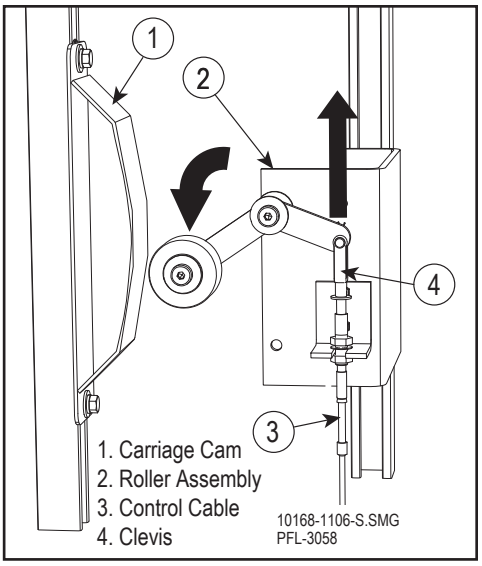
The roller assembly is mounted on the VRC column. The roller assembly must be positioned to allow the roller to make contact with the carriage cam. See Figure 17-5.

Control Cable

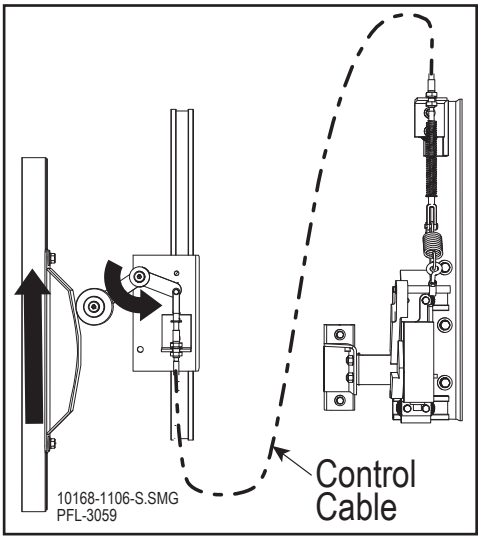
The control cable is a utility cable with threaded stainless steel end rods. The cable has a maximum 2" (51mm) travel. When the control cable is pulled by the roller assembly as it moves along the carriage cam, the interlock locking arm opens. When the control cable is pushed by the roller assembly as it moves along the carriage cam, the interlock locking arm locks into position. See Figure 17-6.

Gate Cable Interlock Assembly

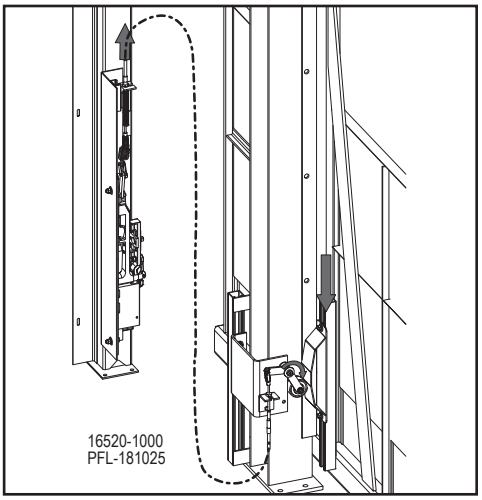
The gate cable interlock assembly is attached to the gate post. The travel of the cable is adjusted to permit the interlock to release the gate latch.



Roller Assembly Position Figure 17-5



Control Cable Position Figure 17-6



Peelle Interlock Figure 17-7

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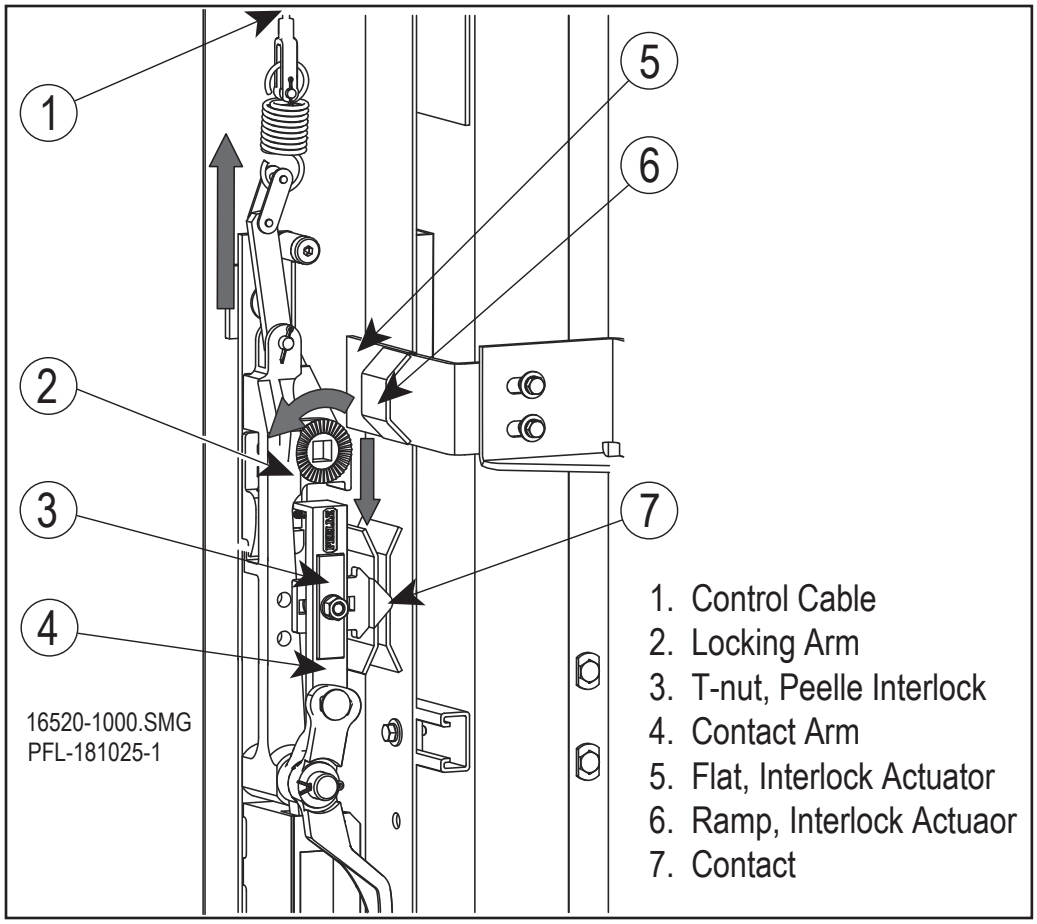
Peelle Terms

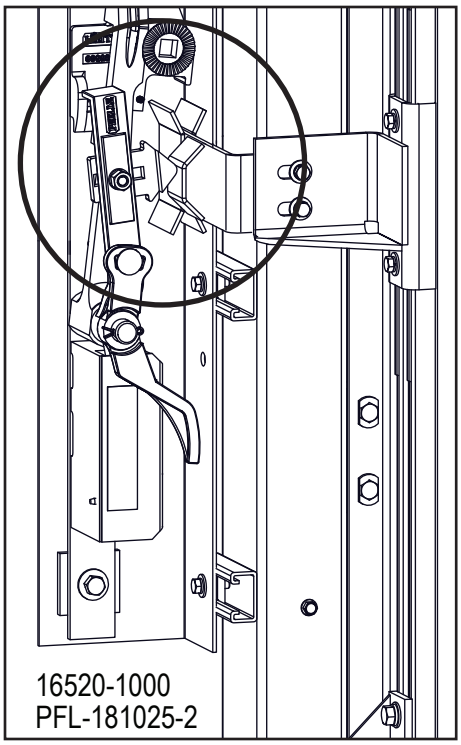


Peelle Interlock Open Position Figure 17-8

The Peelle interlock contact arm assembly and locking arm assembly operate and move independently from each other. See Figure 17-8.

The locking arm assembly captures the gate panel interlock actuator flat to mechanically lock the gate panel closed. See Figure 17-9.

The contact arm assembly is moved by the gate panel interlock actuator to open or close the interlock electrical contacts.



Peelle Interlock Closed Position Figure 17-9

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DANGER

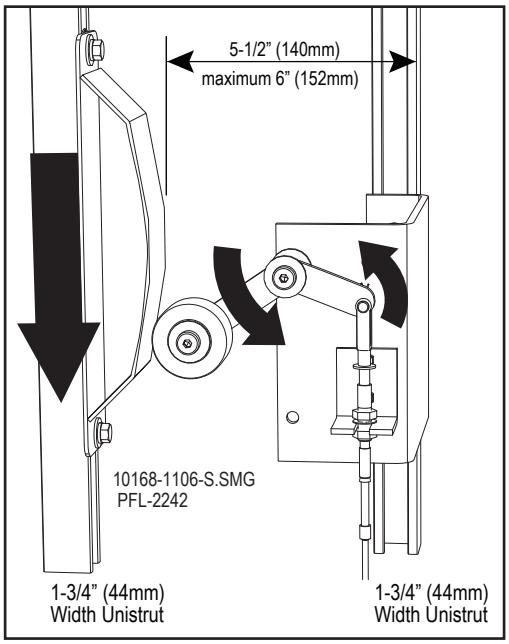
- Control cables are designed to be non-repairable. If the control cable is damaged or worn out, the interlock may not operate properly. These issues could prevent the interlock from engaging and allow the gate panel to stay open while the VRC is moving from one level to another.
- Protect the control cables from physical damage (kinking, vibration, sharp bends. Maintain a minimum bend radius of 12" (305mm). The control cable may not operate properly if the control cable is bent sharper than the 12" (305mm) radius. This could prevent the interlock from engaging and allow the gate panel to stay open while the VRC is moving from one level to another.

WARNING

- If the control cable is damaged or worn out, the interlock may not operate properly.
  - — Protect the control cables from physical damage (kinking, vibration, sharp bends. Do not extend cable travel beyond 2" (51mm).
  - — Route excess gate interlock cables as straight as possible and do not spool in coils tighter than 28" (711mm).
  - — Protect the control cables from chemical damage (paint, solvents, oils, water or ice, dirt, other contaminants.)
  - — Replace worn or damaged control cables. Do not attempt to lubricate or repair. Signs of wear include frayed ends, sudden decrease in usable travel, and moisture in the control cable.

Interlock Placement

When using 1-3/4" (44mm) width unistruts, the distance between the outside curve of the cam and the outside edge of the unistrut should be 5-1/2" (140mm) or a maximum of 6" (152mm). See Figure 17-1.



Interlock Position Figure 17-10

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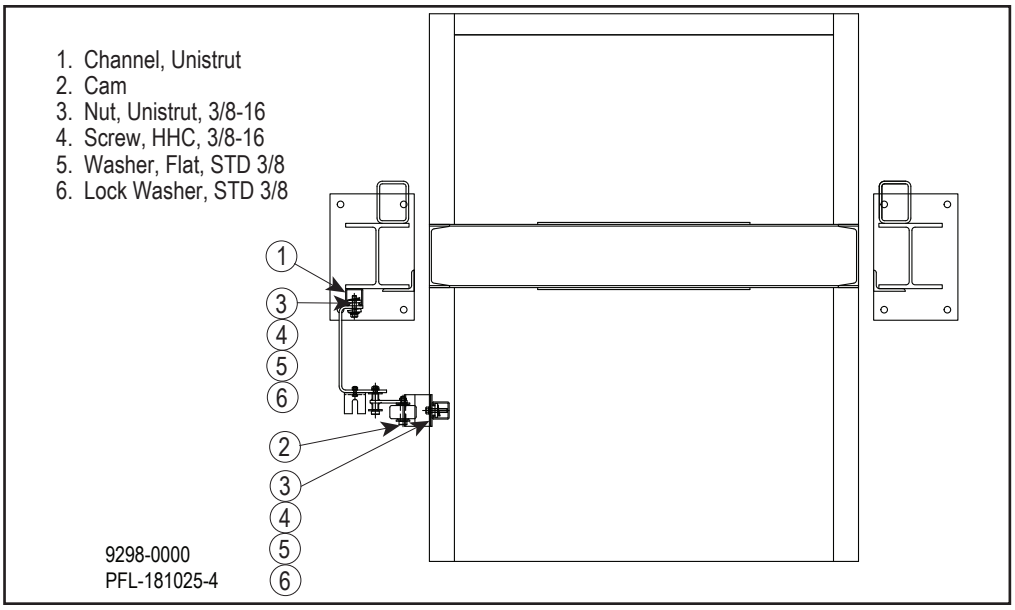
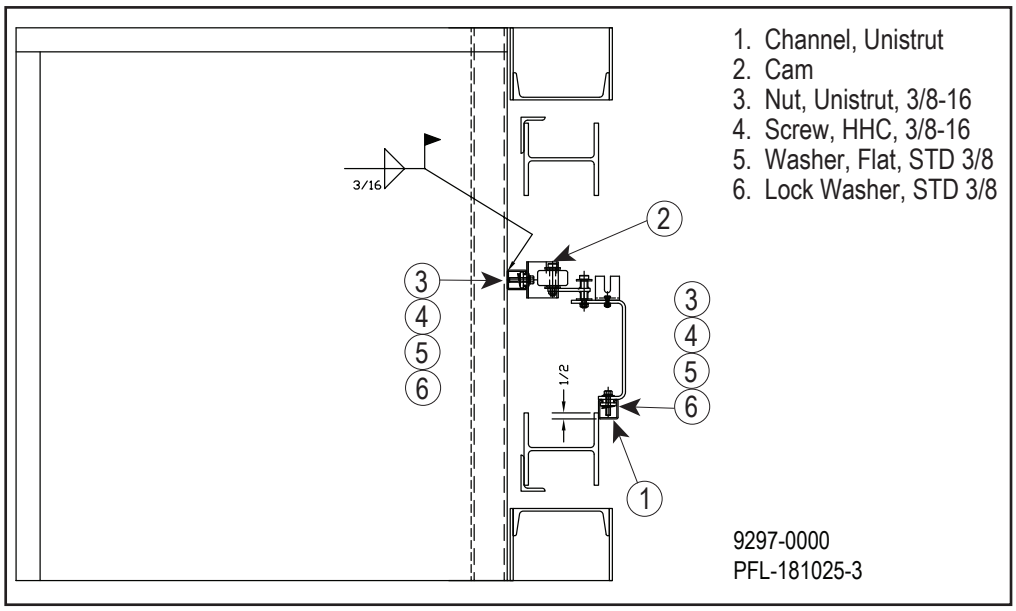
Straddle Placement



Straddle Placement Figure 17-11

Cantilever Placement



Cantilever Placement Figure 17-12

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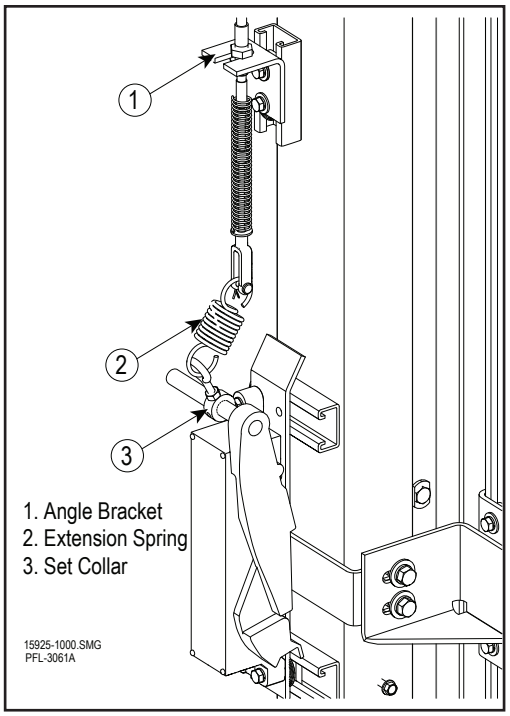
Adjust the Interlock Assembly

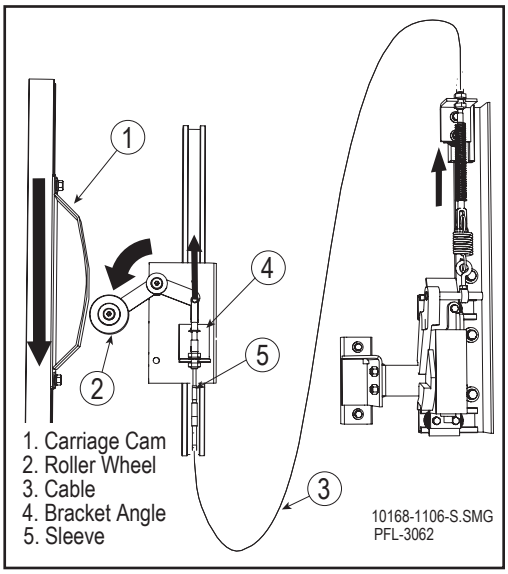
The tension on the extension spring should be adjusted by positioning the cable on the angle bracket. The activation of the interlock is also adjusted by the position on the set collar. See Figure 17-13.

Adjust the Cam and Cable

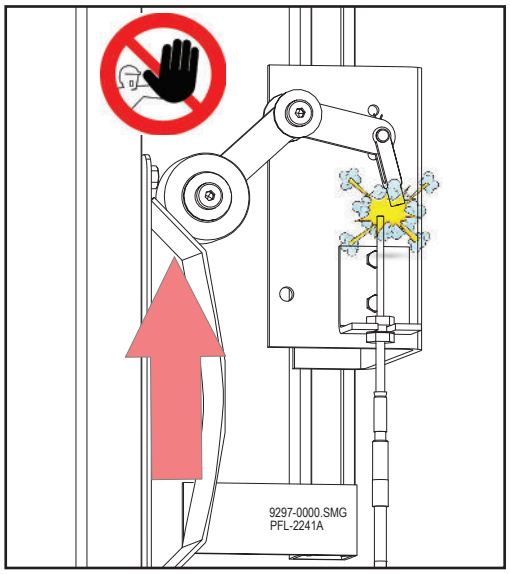
1. Adjust the carriage cam to allow +/- ¾" cable travel [2" (51mm) maximum cable travel].
2. Make sure the roller wheel clears the edge of the cam.
3. Center the cable travel by positioning the cable in the bracket angle. See Figure 17-14.
4. The edge of the cam must not be past the center of the wheel toward the bracket. This could catch the wheel at the cam edge and break the cable clevis. See Figure 17-15.



Control Cable Position Figure 17-13



Adjust Roller Wheel (Anderson Shown) Figure 17-14



Watch Position of Roller Wheel (Anderson Shown) Figure 17-15

⚠WARNING

Falling hazard! Proper engagement of the roller and cam is critical. Properly align the safety components to avoid causing the roller arm to push the cable into the sleeve, bend, break, and becoming inoperable.

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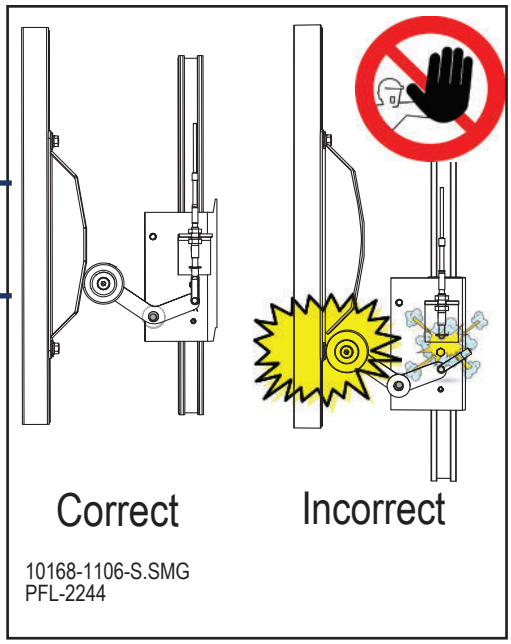
Position the Roller Arm on the VRC Column

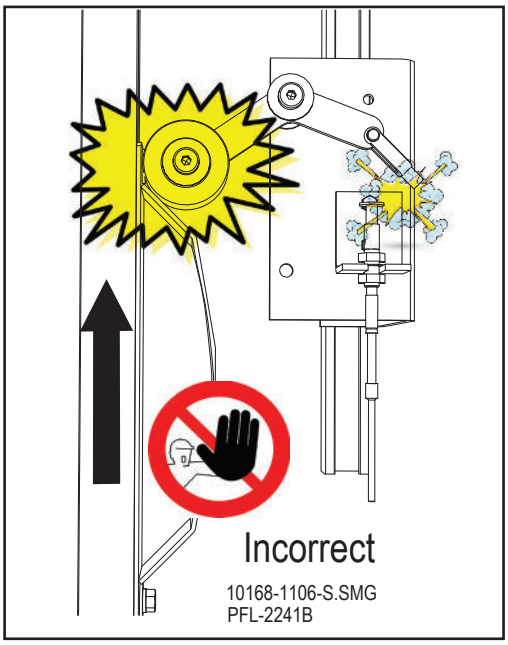
1. The position of the roller on the cam is very important. The roller must roll freely on the cam incline. See Figure 17-16 and Figure 17-17.

NOTICE Do not allow the roller to hang up on the top or bottom horizontal surface of the cam.

2. At the top and bottom levels, the roller arm assembly should be orientated to allow the cam to hit the roller wheel arm in the pivot direction. See Figure 17-16.
3. If the roller assembly position needs to change to an opposite hand, unbolt the angle and pivot arm and reassemble in the new location. See Figure 17-17.



Roller Position Figure 17-16



Roller Position Figure 17-17

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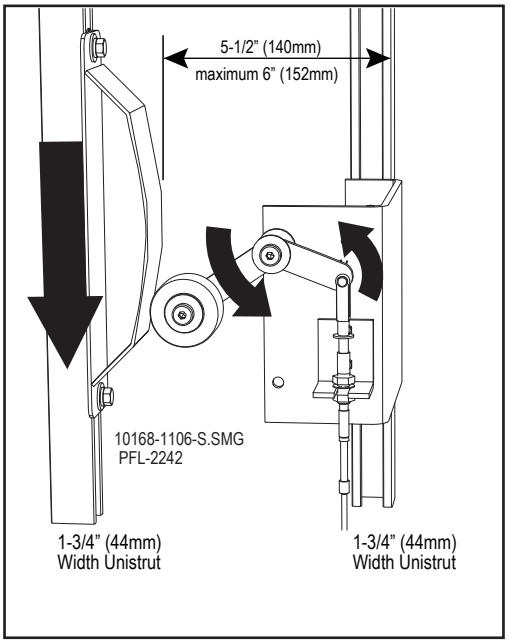
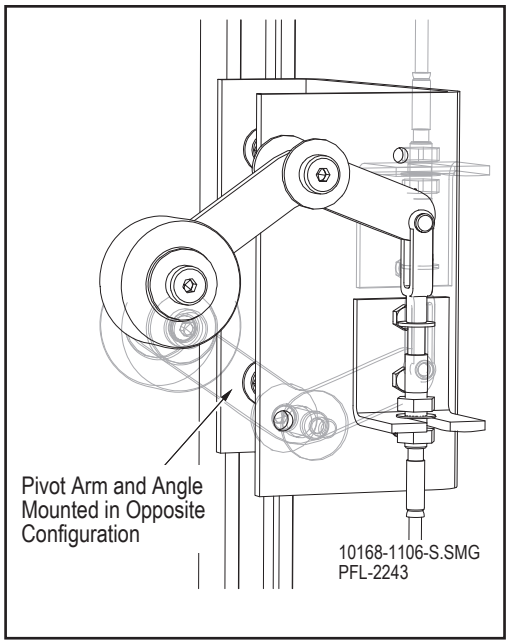
Position the Roller Arm on the VRC Column (continued)



Roller Position Figure 17-18

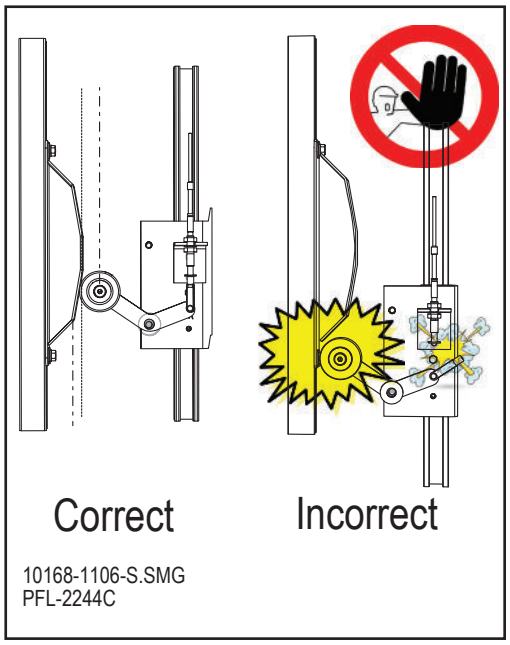


Roller Position Figure 17-19

NOTICE

Alignment is important. The cam will contact the roller arm in both directions on intermediate levels.

4. The edge of the cam must pass the center of the wheel (away from bracket) to allow pivot arm to rotate. See Figure 17-18.
5. If the cam hits under the wheel and does not allow the arm to pivot, the cable will break. See Figure 17-20.



Roller Position Figure 17-20

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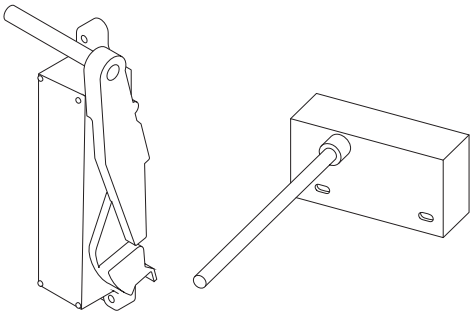
Wire the Electrical Switches

See the job specific wiring schematic for proper wiring instructions.

A gate status switch is supplied when the contacts are not being used. If required, the switch will be mounted to the gate post or header. Normally, the GAL and Anderson interlocks do not use this switch. Specific order requirements may dictate otherwise.



Anderson
11949-0000.SMG
PFL-170711-1

GAL
13658-0000.SMG
PFL-170711-2

Figure 17-21

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Before You Begin

Read this entire manual. Before starting the installation, verify the job site dimensions and the dimensions of the delivered materials against the PFlow Industries, Inc. General Arrangement (GA) drawing. If the site conditions or the delivered materials do not match the GA drawing, please consult the PFlow Industries, Inc. Product Support Department.

⚠WARNING

Falling panel hazard! The installation of this equipment requires a qualified installer with extensive knowledge and experience on how to rig, erect, and support structural steel. Be sure to properly support, tie off, or temporarily brace the enclosure panels during installation. Do not depend on the enclosure panel feet to support the enclosure panel while the enclosure panel is being positioned or assembled. Final bracing of the enclosure panels must be to the Vertical Reciprocating Conveyor (VRC) or building structure and able to withstand a minimum of 200 pounds of force applied laterally. The use of structural angle is recommended.

⚠CAUTION

Lifting hazard! Components and accessories are heavy. To prevent serious personal injury, use the appropriate lifting apparatus, tie offs, or help when moving, lifting or assembling the components or accessories.

Enclosure Panels

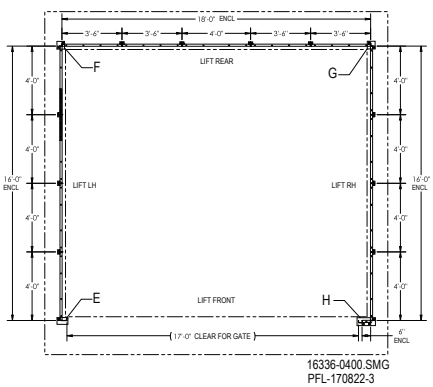
In accordance with ASME B20.1, Section I-3.9, PFlow Industries, Inc. supplies standard 8' (2438mm) tall enclosure panels to be installed around the Vertical Reciprocating Conveyor (VRC) as required by site conditions. The enclosure panels are steel with 1-1/2" (38mm) angle frame and 16 gauge flattened expanded metal designed to reject a ball 2" (51mm) in diameter.

The PFlow Industries, Inc. GA drawing provides a “Plan View” for each level. Proper placement and appropriate size for layout and installation purposes is shown. See Figure 18-1.

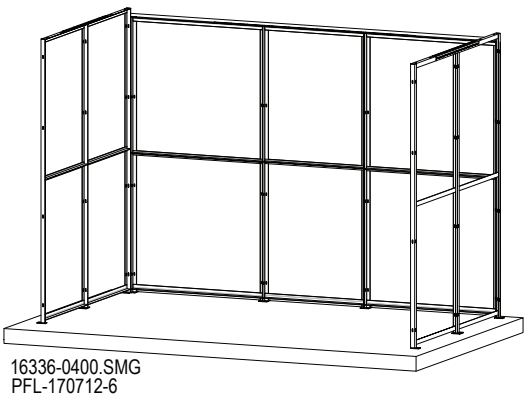
Full Height Enclosures

Applications that require full height enclosures (FHE) will have an additional drawing in the shipping packet.

NOTE *When stacking panels, as in full height applications or a transom above a gate, panels without legs are placed above the regular panels.*



GA “Plan View” Sample Figure 18-1



Enclosure Sample Figure 18-2

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Identify Components

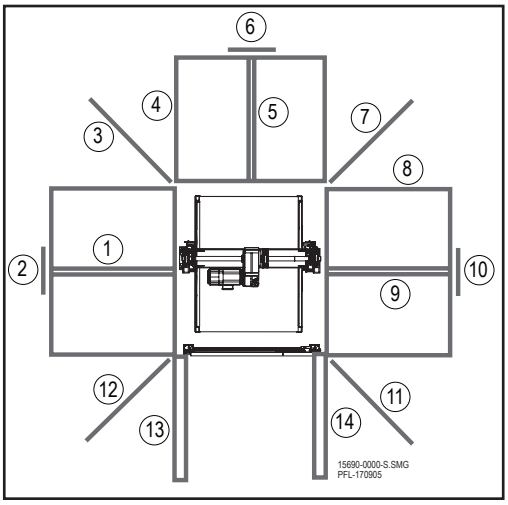
Enclosure panels have color coded tags. Each tag is a different color.

Level	Tag Color
1st (bottom)	Green
2nd	Yellow
3rd	Red
4th	Blue
Other	Cream

Inventory Enclosure Panels

Before beginning the installation of the enclosure panels, take an inventory of the enclosure panels to make sure the correct number and sizes have been received.

The method of assembly of the enclosure panels will vary due to site conditions. See Figure 18-3 for the general sequence of events.



Enclosure Panel Sequence Figure 18-3

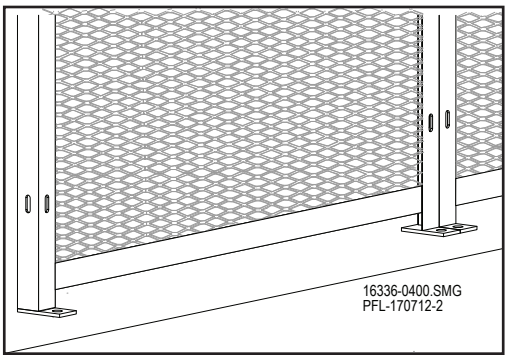
Assemble and Install Enclosure Panels

1. Bolt together two (2) enclosure panels. See Figure 18-4.
2. Bolt stiffener on top of the two (2) enclosure panels. See Figure 18-5.
3. Bolt corner angle to the enclosure panel for 90° corners. See Figure 18-6.

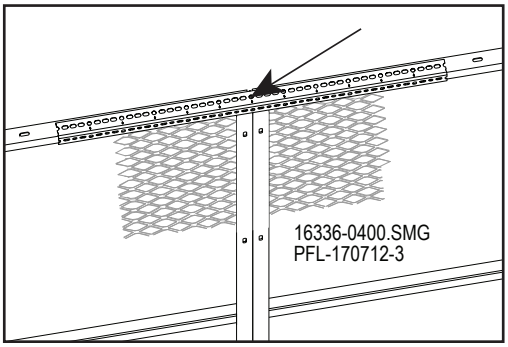
NOTICE Wall attachment kits are provided when a gate or panel meets an existing wall. See Figure 18-9.

4. Bolt filler panels (if applicable) to the enclosure panel to fill a gap of less than 6" (152mm). See Figure 18-7 on the next page.
5. Bolt attachment tabs to join the full height enclosure panels or stacked enclosure panels.
6. Drill and anchor the enclosure panel feet to the floor with 3/8" anchors, 3-1/2" (89mm) long. See Figure 18-4.

NOTICE The anchor hole depth should always be deeper than the length of the anchor bolt. The recommended wedge anchor size is 3/8" diameter by 3-1/2" (89mm) long.



Enclosure Panels Figure 18-4



Enclosure Panel Stiffener Figure 18-5

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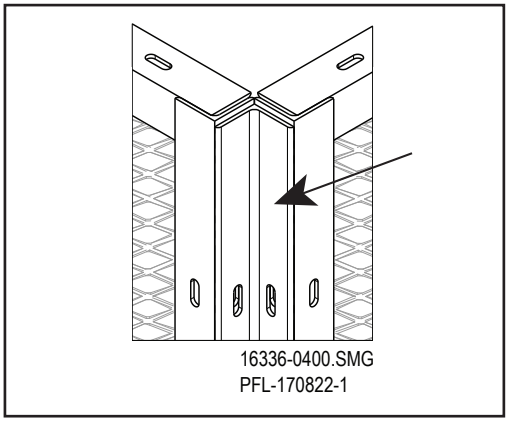
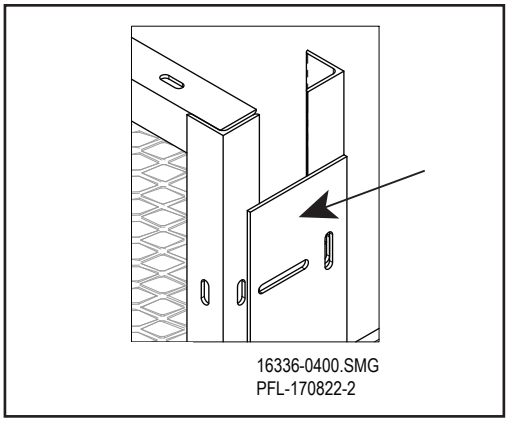
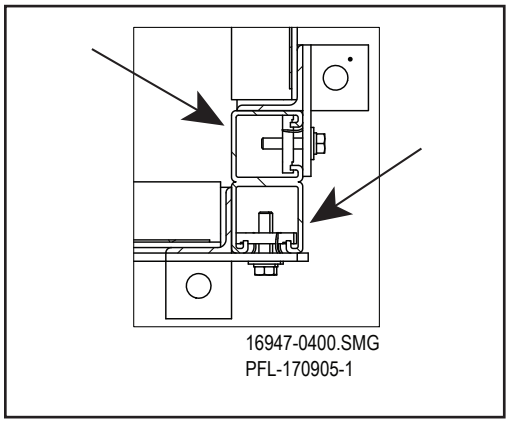


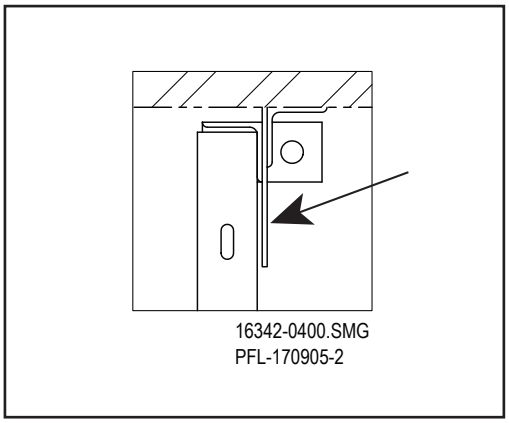
Corner Angle Figure 18-6



Filler Panel Figure 18-7



Unistrut Attachment Figure 18-8



Wall Attachment Figure 18-9

NOTICE Enclosures must be braced to the Vertical Reciprocating Conveyor (VRC) or building structure and able to withstand a minimum of 200 lbf applied laterally in accordance with AMSE B20.1-2015-Section I-3.9. The use of structural angle is recommended. Enclosure panels may need to be notched to permit bracing the VRC.

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Before You Begin

Read this entire manual.

Purpose

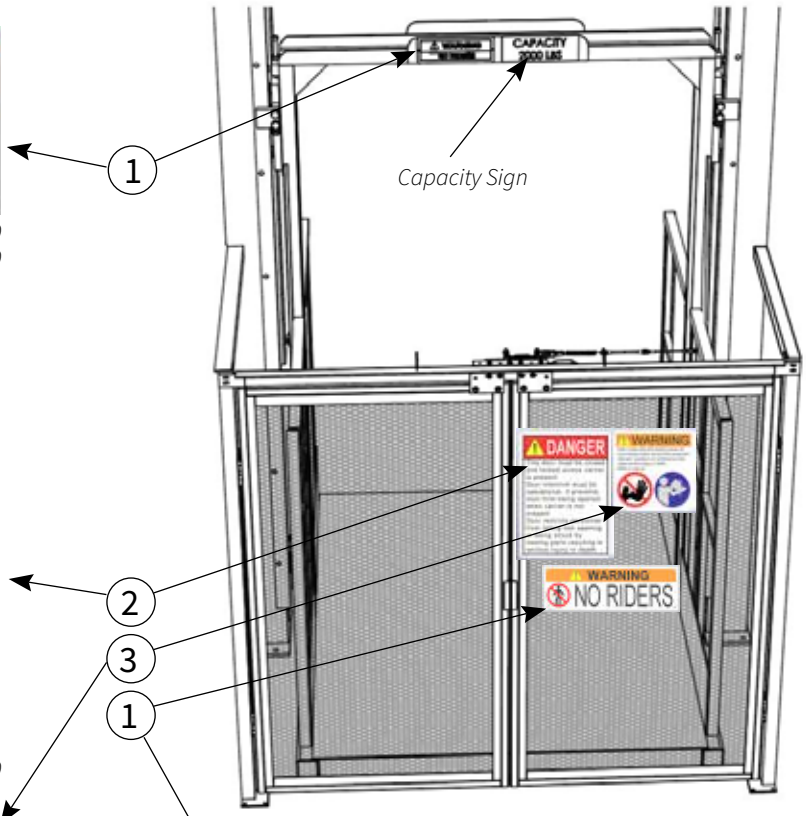
The PFlow Industries, Inc. Vertical Reciprocating Conveyor (VRC) is designed for the movement of materials only, up to the VRC's rated capacity, from one level to the next. Passengers are not allowed. The placement of capacity labels, and safety warnings are the installer's responsibility. Make sure the warning labels are placed on each gate and each push button station.

PFlow Industries, Inc. supplies the appropriate signage in a manilla envelope in the parts crate with the original shipment. Contact PFlow Industries, Inc. Product Support Department for signage if another language is needed.

Large P/N 10651-0000
Small P/N 10655-0000

P/N 16794-0000

P/N 10653-0000



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Before You Begin

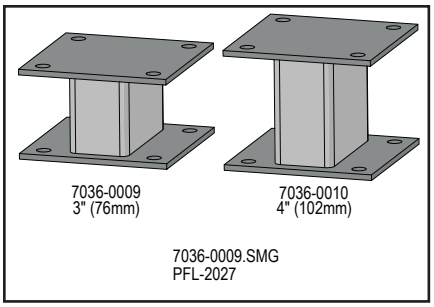
Read this entire manual.

Install the Gate Post Extensions

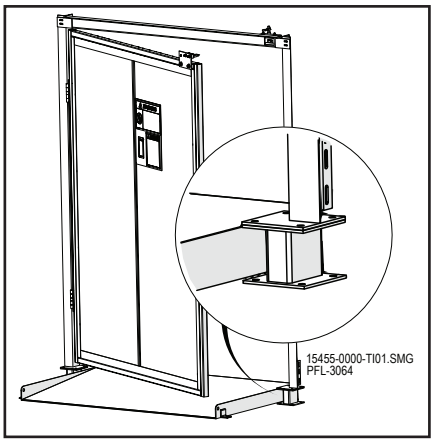
Gate post extensions may be required to gain additional gate post height and provide clearance between the bottom of the gate panel and the optional landing platform or ramp. If a landing platform or ramp is provided, the gate panel is positioned above the landing platform or ramp.

The gate post extension allows the gate panel to swing over the top of the landing platform or ramp. See Figure 20-1 and Figure 20-2.

1. Bolt the post extension pad to the bottom of the gate post base plates.
2. Follow the appropriate gate installation instructions.



Post Extension Pads Figure 20-1



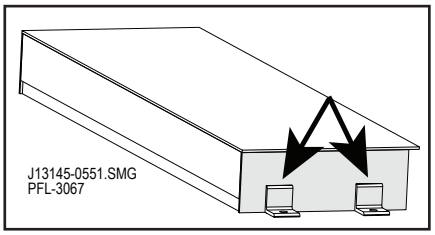
Post Extension Pads and Ramp Figure 20-2

Install the Landing Platform

1. Position the landing platform 1" (25mm) from the carriage and align with the carriage deck.
2. Make sure the anchoring tabs do not interfere with the gate posts.
3. Weld two (2) anchoring tabs onto both the right side and the left side of the landing platform. See Figure 20-3.
4. Anchor the landing platform to the floor.

NOTICE

The anchor hole depth should always be deeper than the length of the anchor bolt. The recommended wedge anchor size is 3/8" diameter by 3-1/2" (89mm) long.



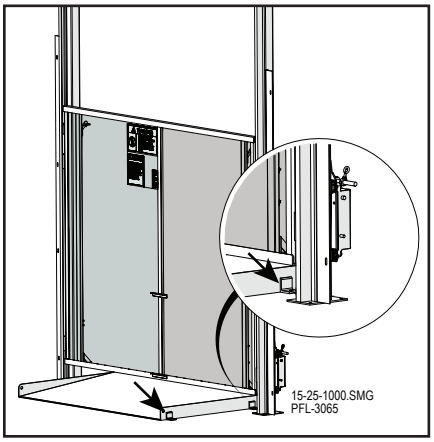
Landing Platform Anchor Tabs Figure 20-3

Install the Ramp

Ramps are typically provided for first floor levels where the floor is not at the same level as the carriage deck.

Allow additional clearance from the carriage to the ramp. Position the high end of the ramp 1" (25mm) from the edge of the carriage.

1. Weld two (2) anchoring tabs onto both the right side and the left side of the ramp. See Figure 20-4.
2. Anchor the ramp to the floor.



Ramp without Post Extension Pads Figure 20-4

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Before You Begin

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⚠CAUTION

Connect all push-button stations, gate interlocks, limit switches, and accessories before applying power to the drive motor. Never override any electrical component or manually operate the motor starter to operate the Vertical Reciprocating Conveyor (VRC).

The use of temporary power is not recommended for inexperienced installers. When running the VRC before all limit switches are installed, be prepared to disconnect the power. Allowing the carriage to overtravel in either direction may result in serious personal injury and property damage. Contact the PFlow Industries, Inc. Product Support Department immediately concerning any questions.

Start-up Procedures

1. Confirm that all bolts on the VRC are tight.
2. Confirm that all finish welds are complete.

Confirm E-stop Safety Operation

1. While you and the carriage are at the first level, push in the Emergency Stop (E-stop) button on the push-button station.
2. Push the Send to 2 button on the push-button station. The VRC should not move.
3. Pull out the E-stop button on the push-button station.

Confirm Motor Rotation

NOTICE A second person should be next to the disconnect station to immediately disconnect power to the VRC. There's not much reaction time available before the S-hook releases and the chains run off the sprockets.

1. Push the Send to 2 button on the push-button station just long enough to confirm that the carriage begins to rise. Push in the E-stop button on the push-button station.

NOTE

If pushing in the E-stop button on the push-button station does not stop the VRC from moving, immediately disconnect power to the VRC.

If nothing happens when the Send to 2 button is pushed, contact PFlow Industries, Inc. Product Support Department for troubleshooting assistance.

*If the motor is **not** operating in the correct direction, stop the motor immediately. Using established Lockout/Tagout procedures, have a qualified electrician inspect and switch the T1 and T2 wires of the incoming 3-phase power for the motor. Confirm that the motor rotation is correct after any wiring change has been made.*

2. Pull out the E-stop button on the push-button station.

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Inspect for Binding

1. Push the Send to 2 button on the push-button station.
2. Raise the carriage in 3' (914mm) increments along the full height of the VRC. Inspect for binding or interference and verify the guide angle to guide angle dimension at each increment.
3. If the wheelblock shoes rub against the column:
   - Verify that wheelblock shoe shims have been installed.
   - Verify that the columns are plumb.
   - Contact PFlow Industries, Inc. Product Support Department for troubleshooting assistance.

Confirm Carriage Stops are Level with the Floor

Make sure the carriage deck stops level with the floor of each level. Adjust the limit switch position if necessary.

Confirm Gate Safety Operation

1. While you are at the first level and the VRC is traveling up, attempt to open the gate door. The door should not open while traveling, and the VRC should continue to travel up.

NOTE *If the VRC stops but the gate door will not open, call PFlow Industries, Inc. Product Support Department for troubleshooting assistance.*

2. While the VRC is at the second level, attempt to open the first level gate door. The gate door should not open.
3. Push the Send to 1 button on the push-button station.
4. Attempt to open the first level gate door. The gate door should not open.
5. Attempt to open the first level gate door when the carriage has reached the first level. The gate door should open.

NOTE *If the gate door does not open, refer to the interlock section of the installation manual for needed adjustments.*

Confirm Push-button Operation

1. Close the gate door. Push in the E-stop button on the push-button station. Push the Send to 1 button on the push-button station. The VRC should not move.
2. Pull out the E-stop button on the push-button station. Push the Send to 2 button on the push-button station. The VRC should begin to travel up.

Repeat the E-stop Safety Operation steps, Gate Safety Operation steps, and the Push-button Operation steps at each level and at each push-button station.

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Conduct a Load Test

⚠WARNING

Avoid Shifting Loads! Place the load in the center of the lift platform. Make sure that any portion of the load does not overhang the perimeter of the carriage. This could create an unstable load condition.

1. With the carriage deck at the first level, add weight up to, but not to exceed, the VRCs rated capacity.
2. Close the gate and push the Send to 2 button on the push-button station.
3. Monitor the position of the carriage deck as it reaches the second level.
4. Continue to monitor the position of the carriage deck. Allow the VRC to hold the lift at the upper level for a half hour.

NOTE *The motor brake is not holding if the carriage deck drops below the second level. Make a note of the weight used, and the amount of time that the carriage deck held the position before dropping down. Push the send to 1 button and contact PFlow Industries, Inc. Product Support Department for troubleshooting assistance.*

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Before You Begin

Read this entire manual.

Overcurrent Sensor (OCS) Purpose

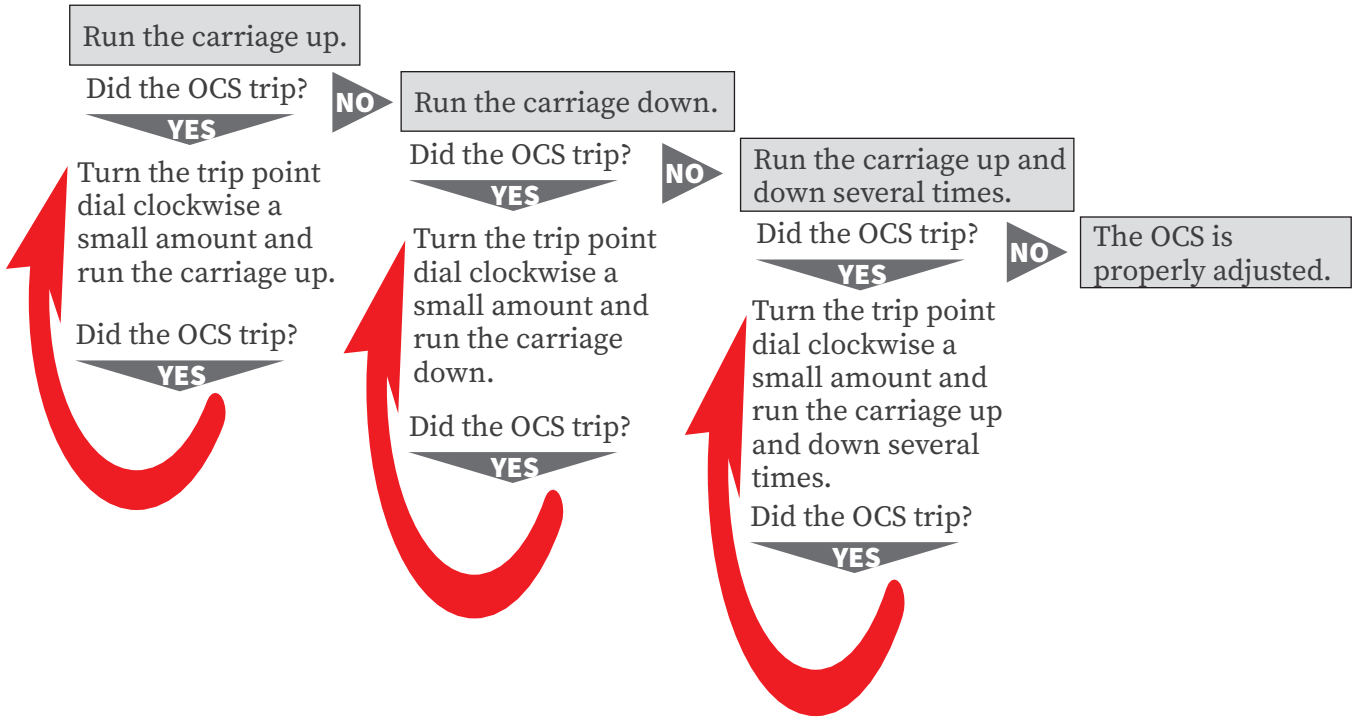
The PFlow Industries, Inc. Vertical Reciprocating Conveyor (VRC) is equipped with an Overcurrent Sensor (OCS). The OCS is pre wired and located inside the electrical control panel. See Figure 21-1.

The OCS monitors the motor amp draw and provides enhanced over current protection of the lift motor. The OCS must be adjusted to the maximum "expected" current draw. If the motor current rises above the OCS set point, the OCS will trip. Tripping can be caused by a circuit malfunction, overloading the capacity of the lift, or an overhanging load trapped between floors.

Overcurrent Sensor Figure 21-1

Test and Calibrate the OCS

1. Turn the trip point dial to its lowest position.
2. Place the maximum product load on the carriage.



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Post Installation Checklist

Make sure all steps are completed. Sign and return to PFlow Industries, Inc. Product Support Department via e-mail to psd@pflow.com

✓	Verify Mechanical Completion
	All bolts are tight.
	Final bracing for the VRC is completed from front-to-back and from side-to-side. Inspect each level.
	Final bracing for the gates and enclosures are completed. Inspect each level.
	The gate door opens when the carriage is present. Inspect each level.
	The gate door does not open when the carriage is not present. Inspect each level.
	Excess gate interlock cables are routed as straight as possible and not spooled in coils tighter than 28" (711mm).
	All operational signs are posted.
	All weld marks, scrapes, etc. are touched up with paint.
	The setscrew holding the safety cam on the wheelblock has been replaced with a bolt and washers.
	The lift chain tensioner is tested and working properly.
	The drive chain tensioners are tested and working properly.
	On F models with a Quantum drive, the slack chain sensor is adjusted and tested.
	The carriage deck is flush with the floor level and every level.
	There is no excessive noise or binding during travel.
	Additional options and accessories (e.g., DeckLocks, maintenance pins) are tested and working properly.
	The installation site is clean and all debris is removed.
	The customer received instructions regarding proper lift operation.
	The customer received instructions regarding preventive maintenance of the VRC.
	The customer received instructions regarding procedures in the event of a problem or safety related issues.
	Identify any unsafe condition. Document and report the condition immediately to the customer and then PFlow Industries, Inc. Product Support Department. Do not allow the lift to operate when unsafe conditions arise.

Additional Notes or Follow-up Requirements

PFlow Serial Number	Customer/User	Date
Mechanical Checklist Completed by		E-mail Address
Company		Phone Number

PFLOW INDUSTRIES MATERIAL HANDLING SOLUTIONS
www.pflow.com
P 414 352 9000
F 414 352 9002
6720 N. Teutonia Ave.
Milwaukee, WI 53209

Post Installation Checklist

Make sure all steps are completed. Sign and return to PFlow Industries, Inc. Product Support Department via e-mail to psd@pflow.com

✓	Verify Electrical Completion
	Make sure all electrical connections are tight and properly made.
	The push-button station operates correctly on all floor levels.
	The emergency stop button operates correctly on all floor levels.
	The floor level limit switches are adjusted and the carriage stops level at each floor.
	The overtravel limit switch is adjusted and the carriage stops before reaching the drivebase assembly.
	The OCS has been adjusted and the full load test is completed.
	The lift chain tensioner is tested and working properly.
	The drive chain tensioners are tested and working properly.
	The gate door opens when the carriage is present. Inspect each level.
	The gate door does not open when the carriage is not present. Inspect each level.
	The VRC does not operate with any gate open.
	Additional options and accessories (e.g., DeckLocks, maintenance pins) are tested and working properly.
	The installation site is clean and all debris is removed.
	The customer received instructions regarding electrical control panel location and power shutoffs.
	The customer received instructions regarding procedures in the event of a problem or safety related issues.
	Identify any unsafe condition. Document and report the condition immediately to the customer and then PFlow Industries, Inc. Product Support Department. Do not allow the lift to operate when unsafe conditions arise.

Additional Notes or Follow-up Requirements

PFlow Serial Number	Customer/User	Date
Electrical Checklist Completed by		E-mail Address
Company		Phone Number

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Thank You

PFlow Industries, Inc. would like to thank you for the opportunity to serve you. Your business is appreciated. Please help us to ensure that your expectations are met by taking a few minutes to tell us about the equipment and service that you have received. Complete the Installation Questionnaire and Acceptance Certificate. Return both forms to PFlow Industries, Inc. via e-mail to psd@pflow.com Additional space for comments is available on the next page.

	Yes ✓	No ✓
Product Perception		
Was the equipment shipment complete as expected?		
What items were missing, if any?		
Was the equipment in good condition?		
Describe the equipment damage or concerns with the workmanship, if any.		
Did the equipment match the General Arrangement (GA) drawing?		
Was the equipment dimensionally correct with form, fit, and function?		
Describe any problem areas in detail.		
Electrical Installation		
Was the electrical field wiring completed as required?		
Were there any issues with the electrical components?		
After the electrical installation was completed, was it necessary to return for final adjustments, testing, and training?		
Were you made aware of any electrical problems?		
Describe any “No” answers areas in detail.		
Testing		
Was the equipment tested at full load capacity?		
Were all gates tested to ensure proper operation and interlock operation?		

PFlow Serial Number	Customer/User	Date
Questionnaire Completed by	E-mail Address	
Company	Phone Number	

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Section 25 | Acceptance Certification - VRC

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Acceptance

We, the Customer, accept the equipment listed below as being properly installed, tested, and performing to our satisfaction. This form covers both the mechanical and the electrical installation of the equipment. This acceptance in no way releases either PFlow Industries, Inc. or the installing contractor(s) of any warranty obligations. If there are any exceptions or unresolved items, please include detailed information.

PFlow Serial Number:	Model Number:	☐ B	☐ D	☐ DB	☐ F	☐ M	☐ MQ	☐ 21	☐ CV	Other _____
Job Name:										
Site Street Address:										
Site Mailing Address:										
Site City:					State:			Zip Code:		
Customer Contact Name:					Contact Title:					
Customer Contact Phone: ( ) Ext					E-Mail:					

Tests Performed					
	Load Capacity:				Start-up Date:
	Load Test:	☐ Yes	☐ No	at ____ % of lift capacity	Customer Initials:
	Operation Test:	☐ Yes	☐ No		Comments:
	Gate/Interlock Operation:	☐ Yes	☐ No	☐ Not Applicable	
	Other Test:				
	Other Test:				

Personnel Instructed on the Operation and Preventive Maintenance:	
Name:	Company:
Name:	Company:

Accepted by:	Acceptance Date:
Name/Phone:	PFlow Rep Present:
Title:	Name:
Company:	Company:

Please return a copy of this form to the PFlow Industries, Inc. Customer Support Department at csd@pflow.com.

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