

**SAFE WORK PRACTICE** 

Revised: October 2024 PIPE HANDLING

#### **PURPOSE/APPLICATION**

To protect workers from injuries associated with handling pipe on pipeline right-of-ways, plant sites, pipe yards and stockpiles.

**PPE CPES Minimum Requirements** 

**TRAINING New Worker Orientation** 

**HAZARDS & CONCERNS** 

Pinch Points Falling Pipe Traffic

Personal Injury (Crush injuries)

**Equipment Damage** 





## **PRECAUTIONS**

#### **THE DOs**

- **DO** Maintain an orderly job site.
- **DO** Ensure the equipment (cables, slings, hooks, tag lines) is in good operating condition.
- **DO** Ensure that cables and slings are rated to the full capacity of the load.
- DO Use tag lines to control loads. For large, heavy, or complicated pipe configurations multiple taglines may be required.
- **DO** Make sure you are visible to the equipment operator at all times.
- **DO** Set up spotters or ribbons/signs to control traffic and limit congestion.
- DO Use a clear pre-determined communication system (e.g. radios, hand signals, etc.) when handing pipe.
- **DO** When manually handling pipe (small diameter only), pick up and lay down the pipe in unison.
- **DO** Ensure everyone in the areas stays clear of the load when handling pipe by mechanical means.
- **DO** Keep your feet and hands clear of the area when the pipe is being lowered or picked up.
- **DO** Keep the pipe racks in an orderly and safe condition and the space around pipe racks shall be kept clear of obstructions. Verify pipe racks are level.
- **DO** Use supports or strips between the layers of stacked pipe.
- **DO** Use pins or chalks to keep pipe from rolling in the rack.
- **DO** Perform all rigging of pipe in accordance with SWP-54 Rigging.
- **DO** Operate all equipment in accordance with SWP 44 Mechanical Mobile Equipment Operations.
- DO Set up pipe according to SWP-89 Using Jacks and Stands and/or SWP 81 Cribbing and Pipe Cones.
- **DO** Ensure that the pipe is secured before removing strapping or securement.

#### THE DON'Ts

**DON'T** Handle pipe in the dark or in poor lighting conditions.



### SAFE WORK PRACTICE

SWP-48

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**DON'T** Jump off pipe loads, trailers, racks, or stockpiles.

**DON'T** Stand between pipe and equipment and/or the ditch/trench/bank of an excavation.

**DON'T** Walk under suspended loads.

**DON'T** Put fingers or hands into the ends of the pipe when moving it.

**DON'T** Park vehicles near the loading or unloading areas.

**DON'T** Walk on pipe racks that have not been secured.

**DON'T** Lift the pipe by inserting the forks inside of the pipe; this can damage the forks.

**DON'T** Load the last two inches of a stringing/sorting (pelican) hook, they are rated to be fully inserted in the pipe.

### **REFERENCES / ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

CPES SWP 54 - Rigging

CPES SWP 44 – Mechanical Mobile Equipment Operations

CPES SWP 81 - Cribbing and Pipe Cones

CPES SWP 89 – Using Jacks and Stands

# **REGULATIONS**

#### **Alberta OHS Code**

Part 14: Lifting and Handling Loads

# **British Columbia OHS Regulation**

Part 12: Tools, Machinery and Equipment

# Saskatchewan OHS Regulation

PART 14: Rigging

### **Manitoba OHS Regulation**

Part 7: Storage of Materials, Equipment, Machines, and Tools

**PIPE HANDLING** 



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SAFE WORK PRACTICE SWI



Demonstrating: Tag line use, spotter/communication with crane/clear line of sight with operator/rigging.

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