

# **PIPEWORK SUPPORT SYSTEMS**

**Pipe supports are an important part of any piping system and are considered to be an integral part of the piping design.**

**It is true to say that the piping system will only be good as what is holding it in place.**















































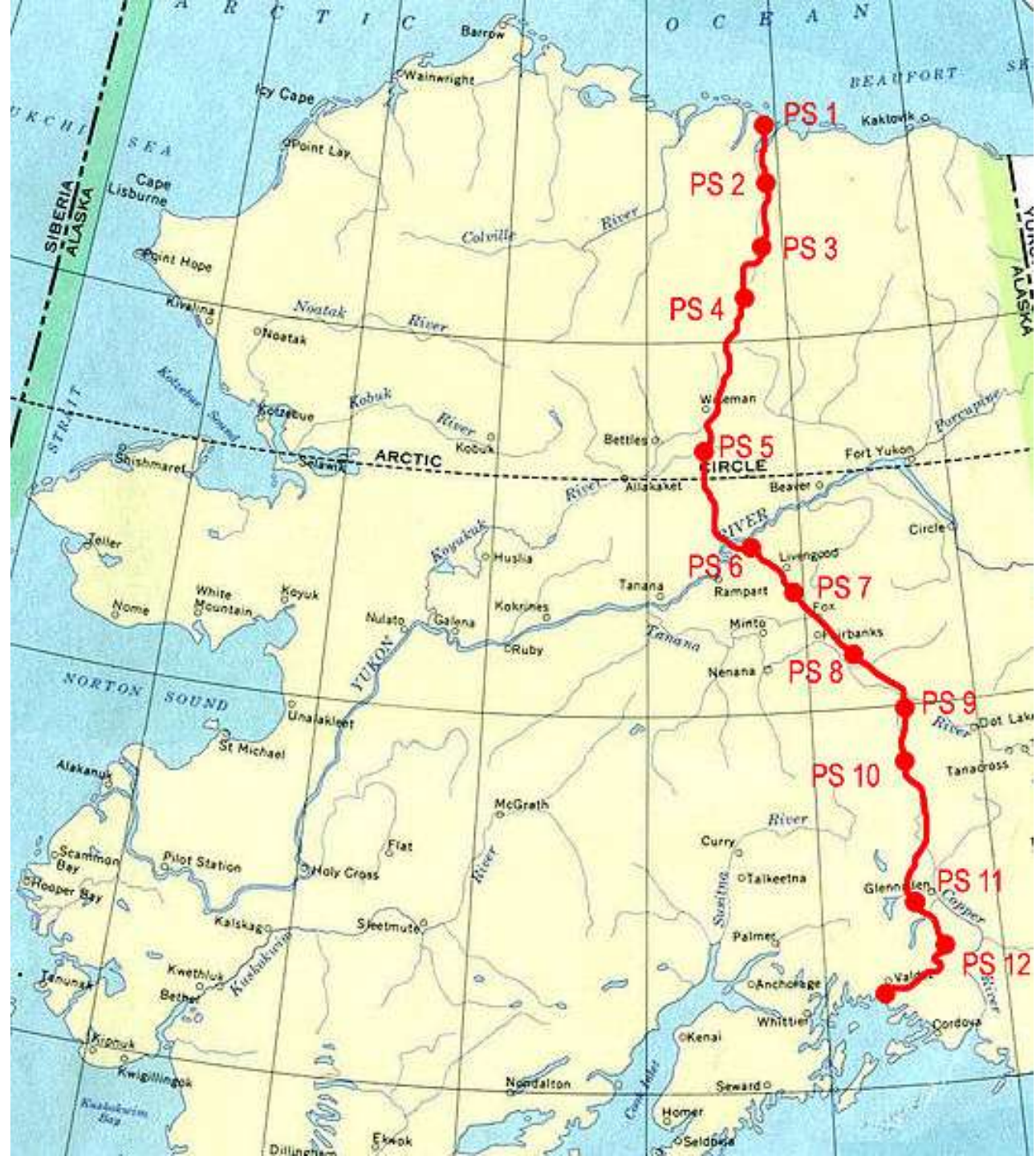


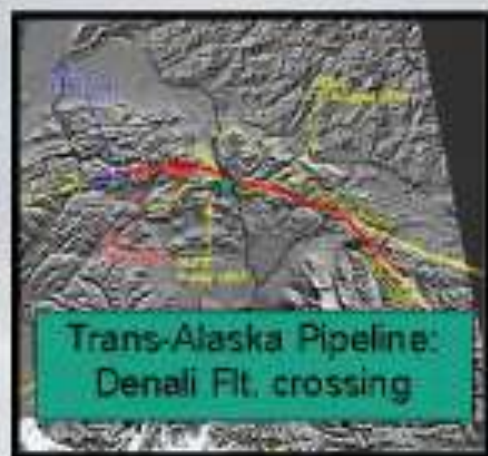






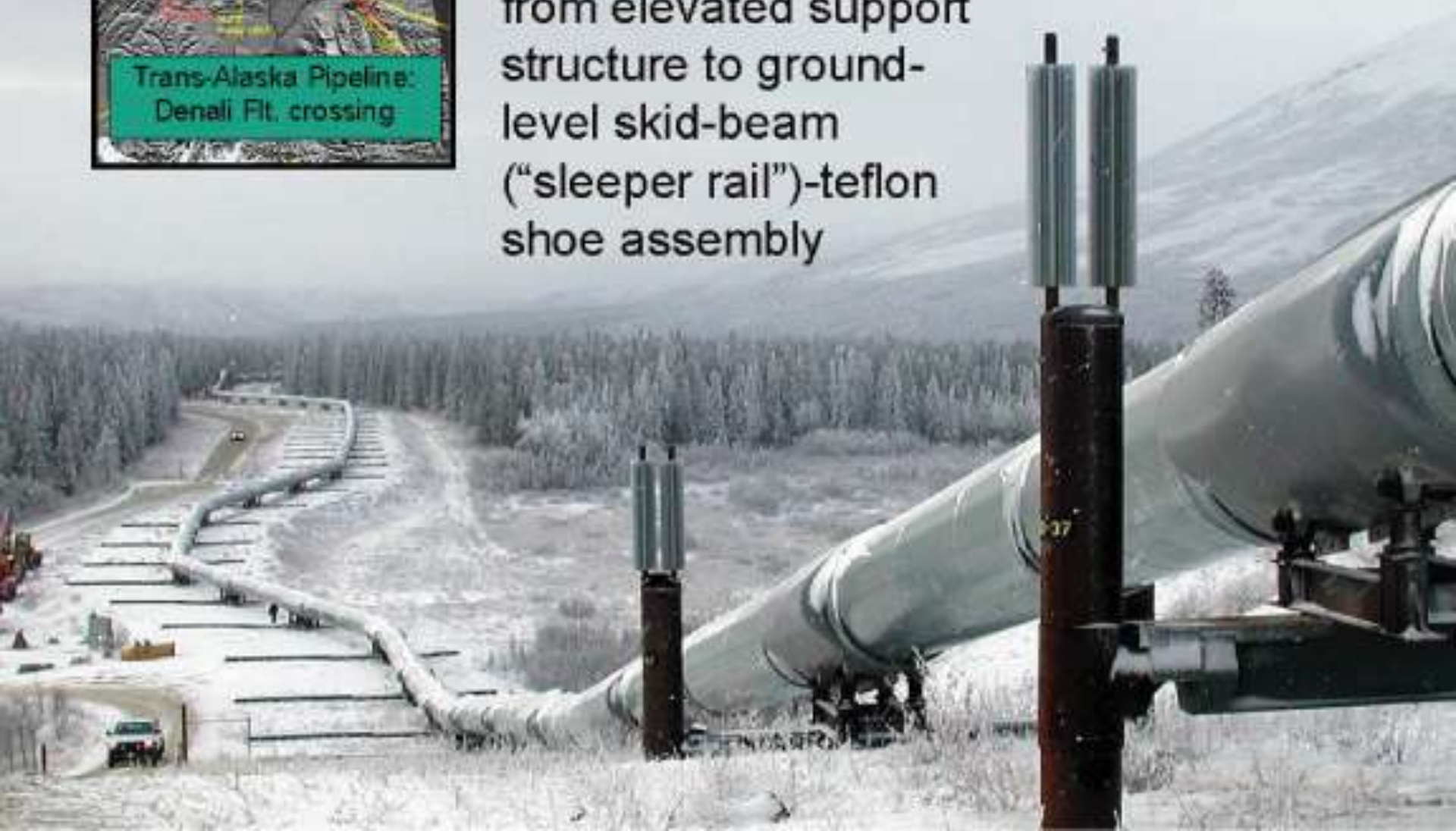






## Denali Fault Zone

- 48" pipe transitions from elevated support structure to ground-level skid-beam ("sleeper rail")-teflon shoe assembly











562











•TAPS pipe striking  
VSM with damaging  
force south of fault

Static  
Offset  
Cushion on  
east side



Trans-Alaska Pipeline  
Denali Flt. crossing

Impact of pipe against vertical side supports caused the failure of 8 cross-members immediately south of the fault.



Impact mark

Failed cross-member

Collapsed Teflon shoe

3 4:14PM





## Trans Alaska Pipeline:

- 48" pipe pushed to limit of VSM
- Teflon shoe off-center

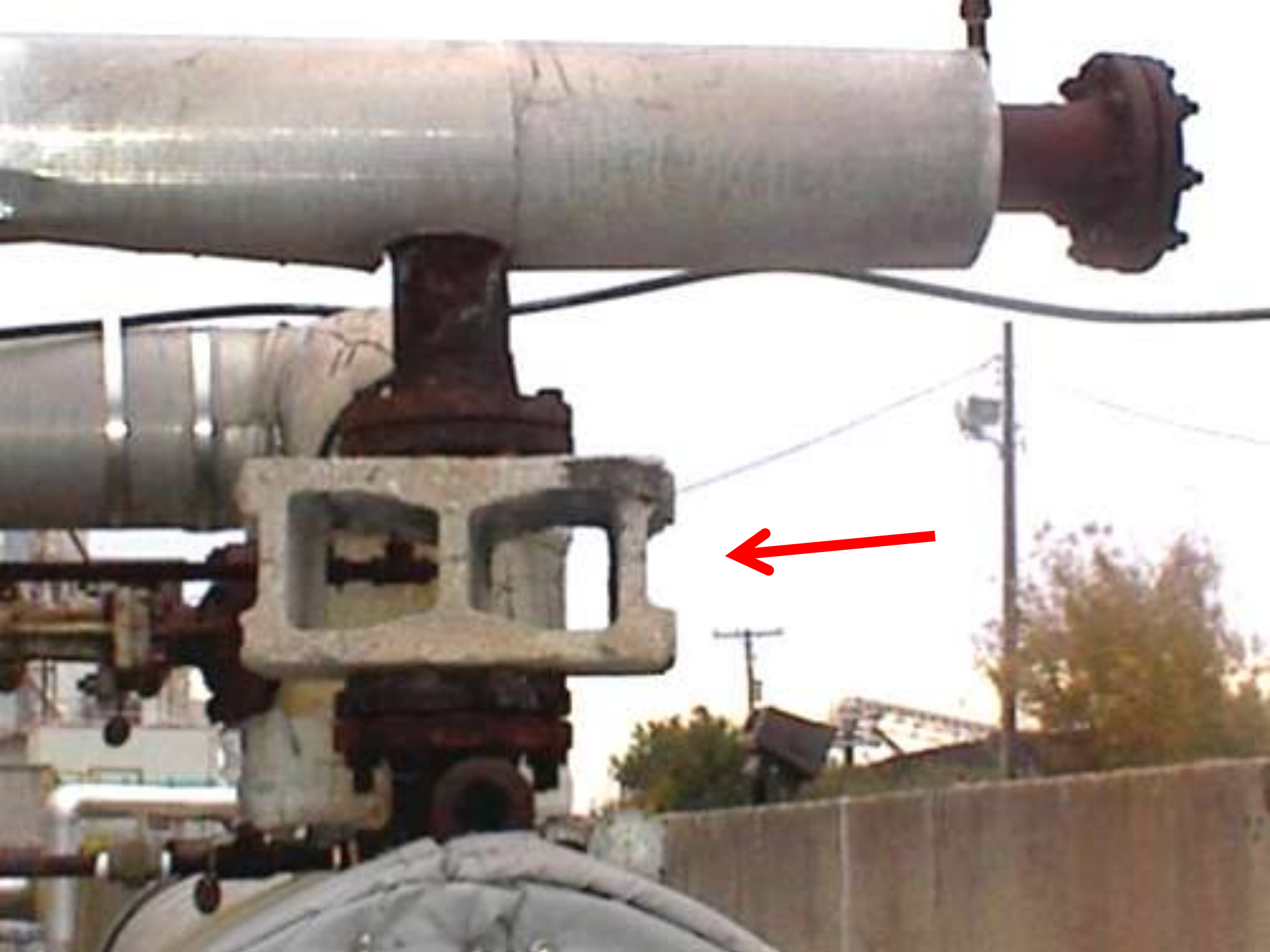


# Piping Supports

By the consideration of pipe routes at an early stage, structural members and plant items can be arranged in the most convenient positions to give a simple and economical and safe arrangement for supporting the pipework.





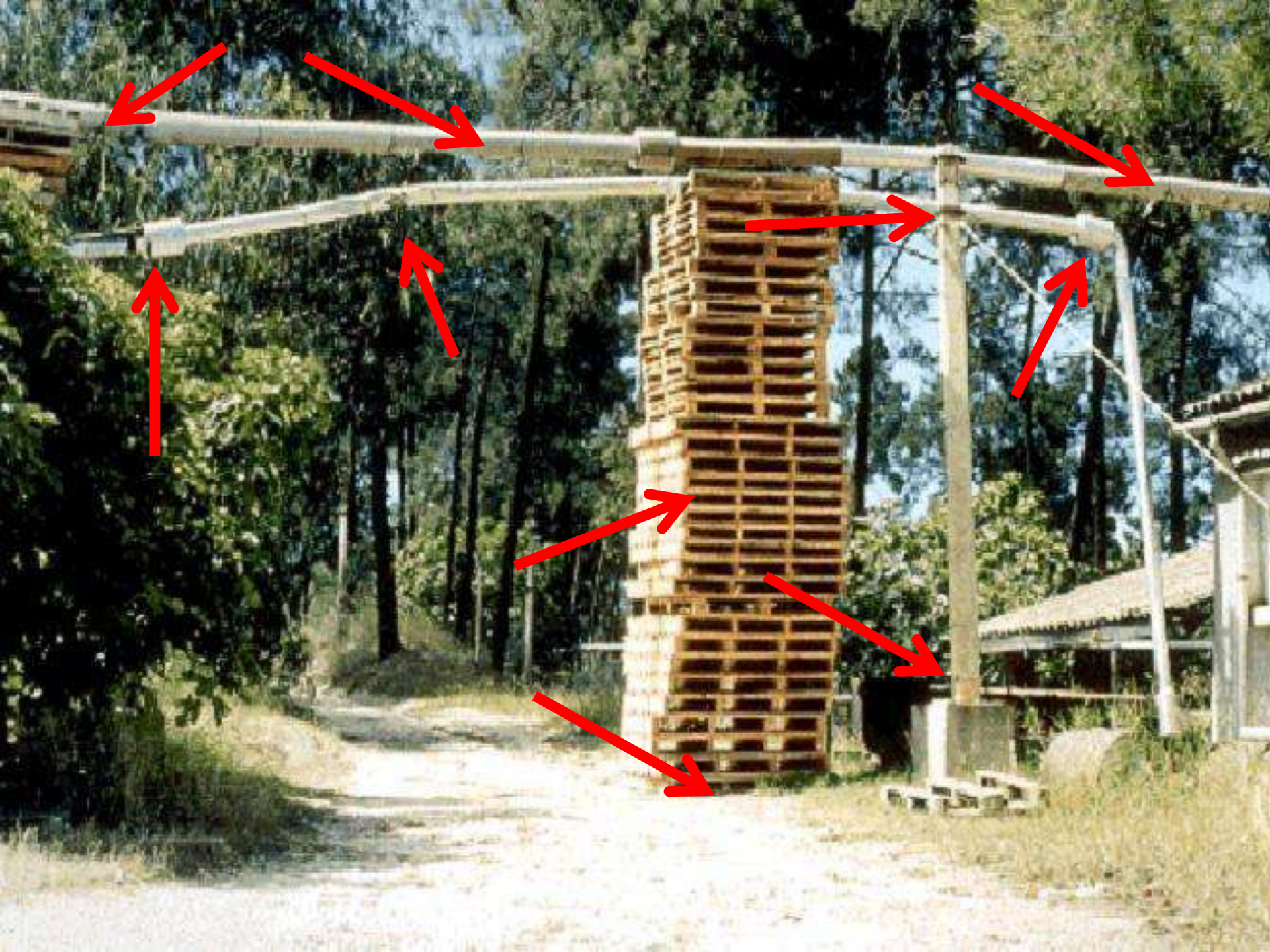












# **Main factors to consider when installing pipe support systems**

To allow or control expansion and contraction of pipes as they heat up and cool down.

To absorb or minimise vibration transmitted to pipes from operating equipment.

To counteract pipe movement or shock caused by rapid changes in flow through pipes.



# Piping Supports

Piping must be supported in such a way as to prevent its weight from being carried by the equipment to which it is attached.

The supports used must prevent excessive sagging of the pipe and at the same time must allow free movement of the pipe due to expansion or contraction.

# Piping Supports

The supporting arrangement must be of minimum design to carry the weight of the pipe, valves, fittings and insulation plus the weight of the fluid contained within the pipe.

Basically the heaviest load that the system may possibly have to carry.



# Piping Supports

Exactly what stresses the pipe suffers determines the type of support needed.

Supports are available in many different designs, but they are usually divided into two categories:

- (1) **pipe supports**, which support pipes from underneath.
- (2) **pipe hangers**, which secure pipes from above.

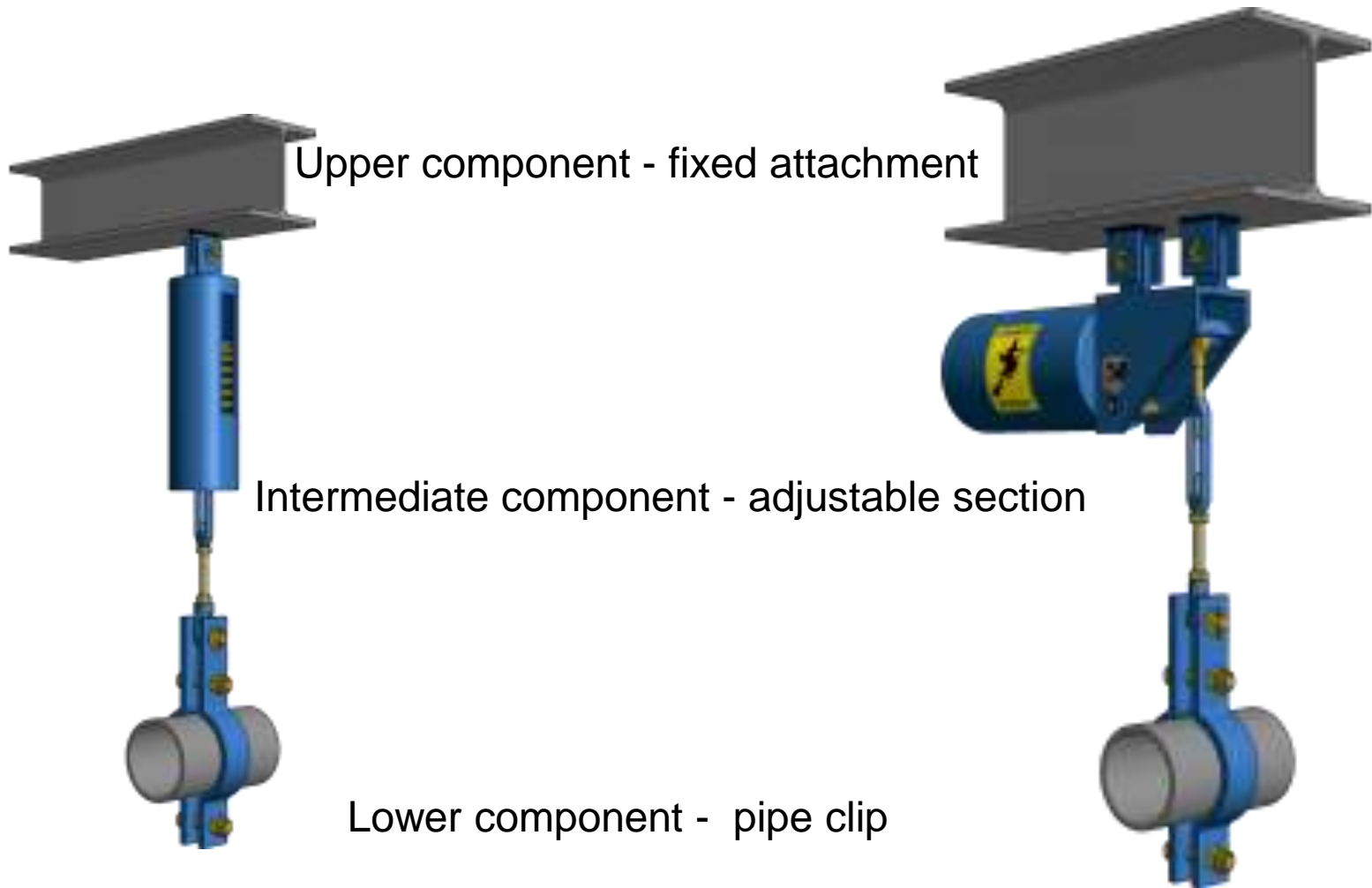
The choice of which is used depends on the requirements of the particular system.

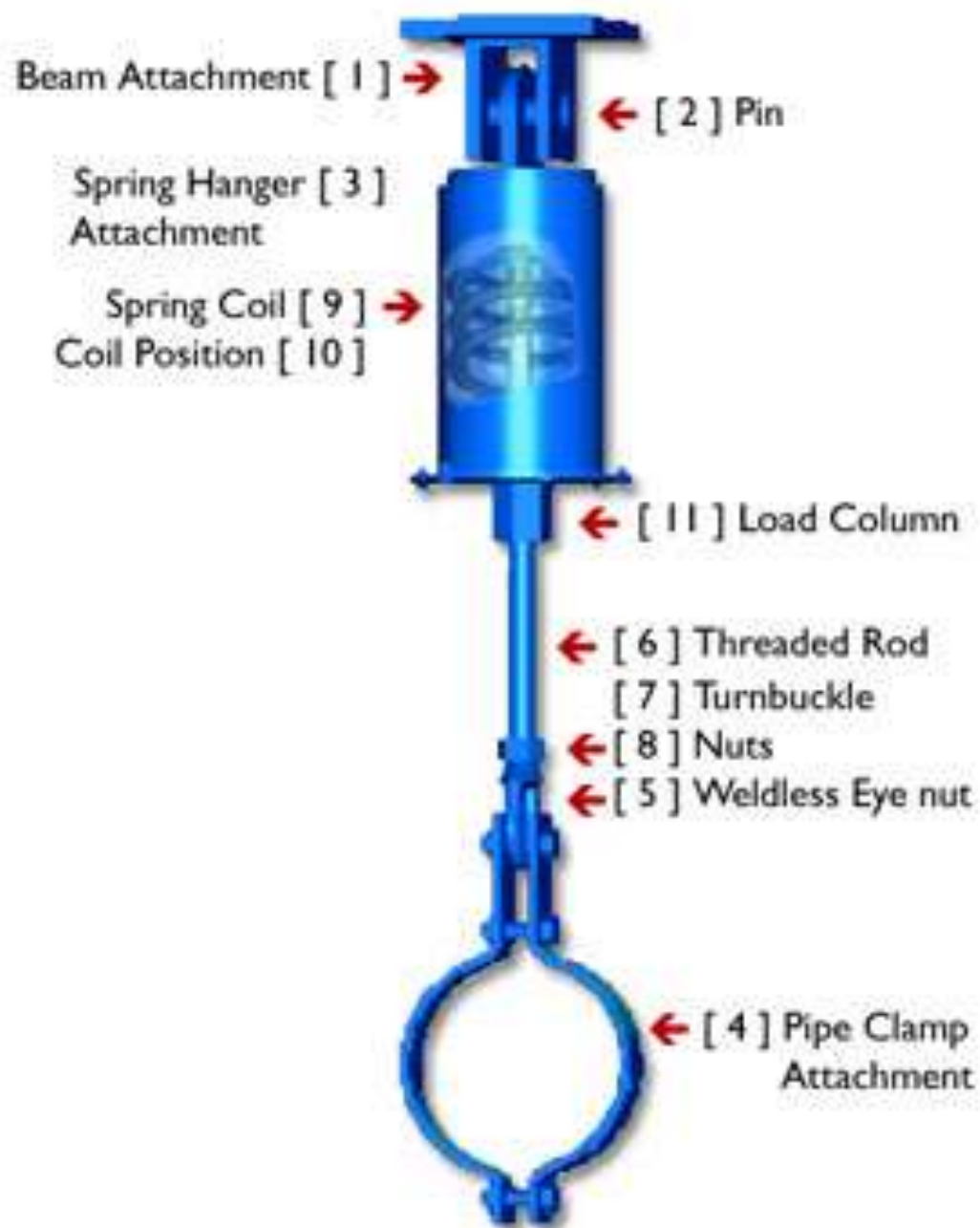
# Hangers

Hangers consist of a pipe clip round the pipe, a sling rod and a top attachment to the supporting steelwork.

- 1 Upper component                      - fixed attachment
- 2 Intermediate component           - adjustable section
- 3 Lower component                    - pipe clip

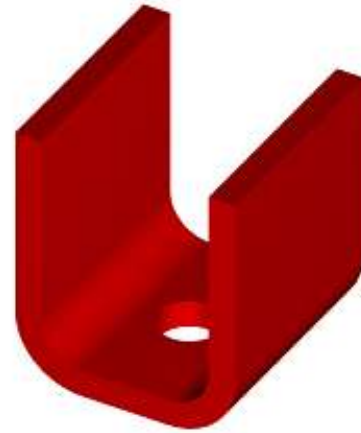
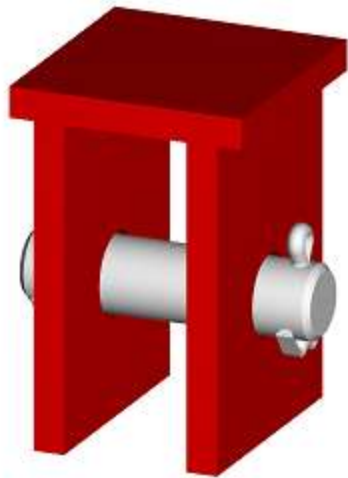


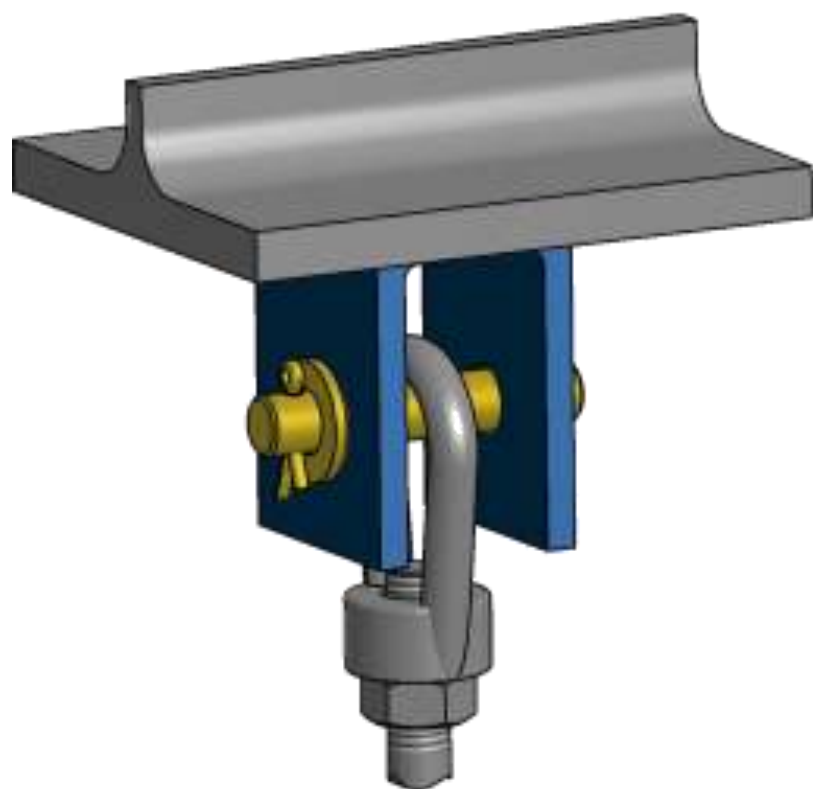






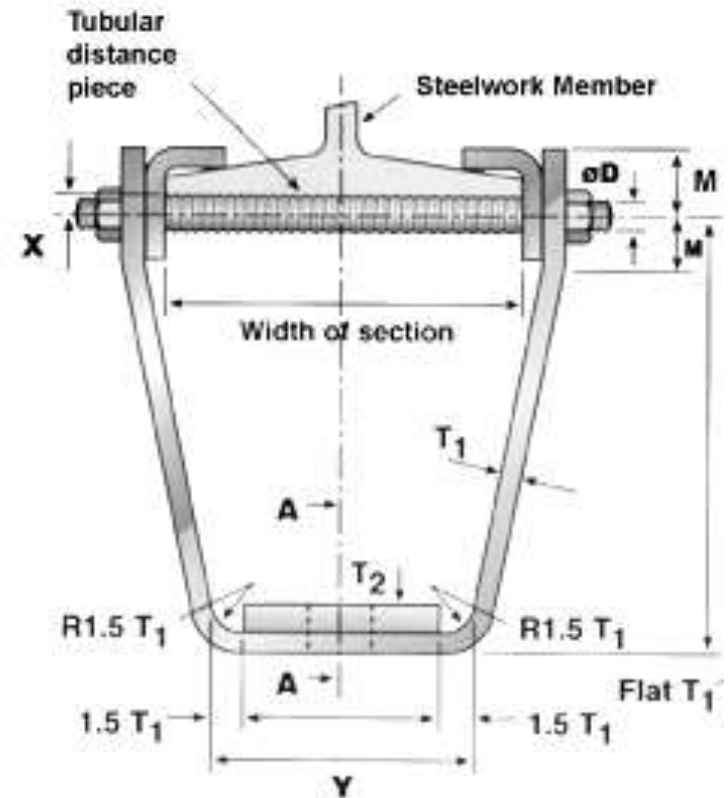
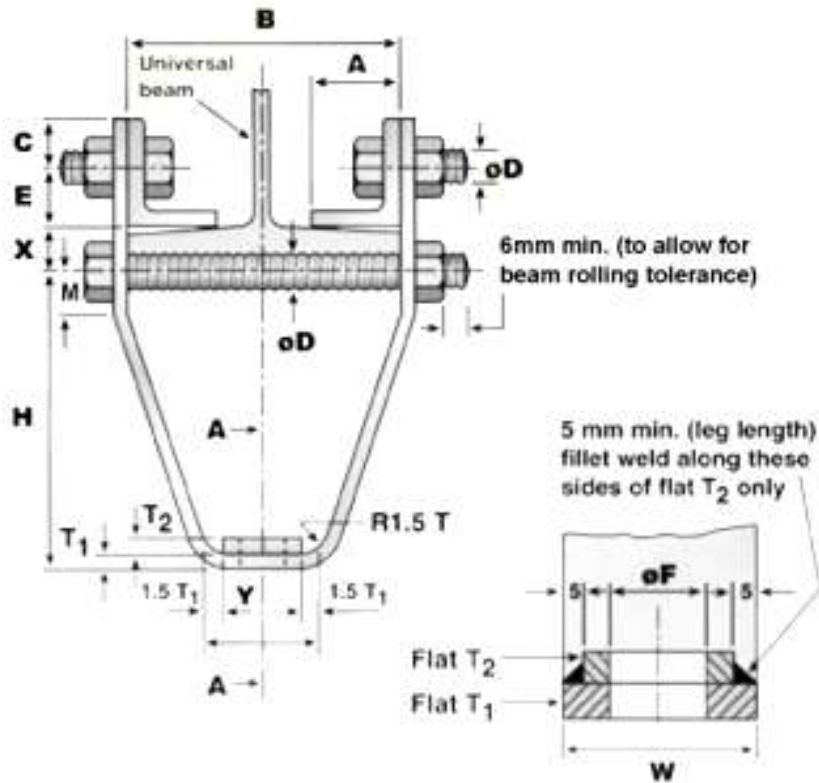
# UPPER COMPONENTS- FIXTURE



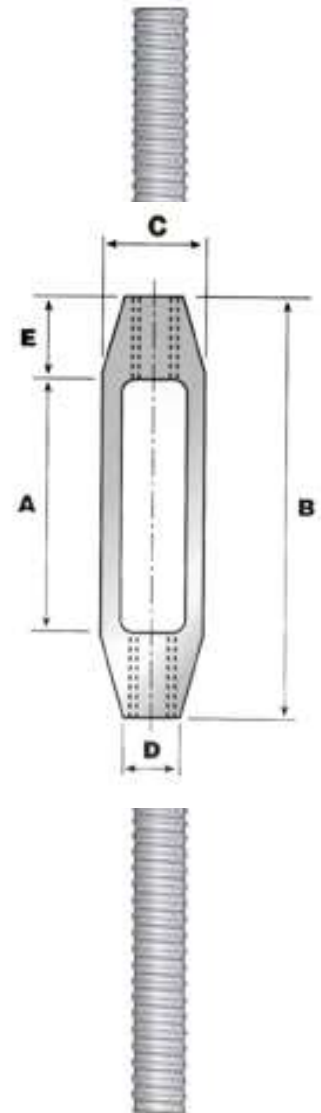
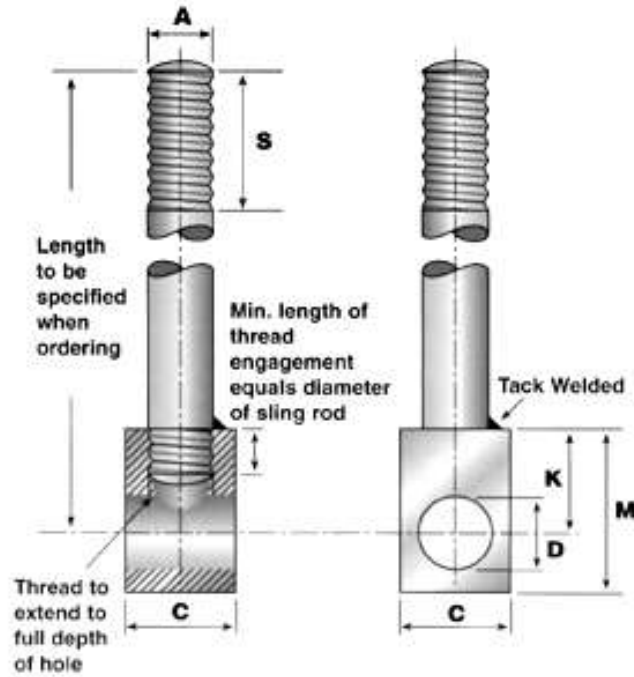
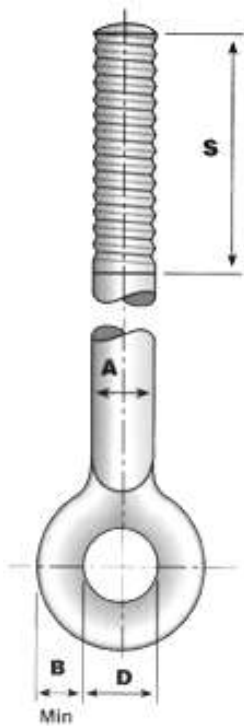




# UPPER COMPONENTS - FIXTURE

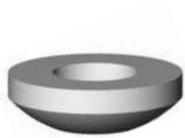


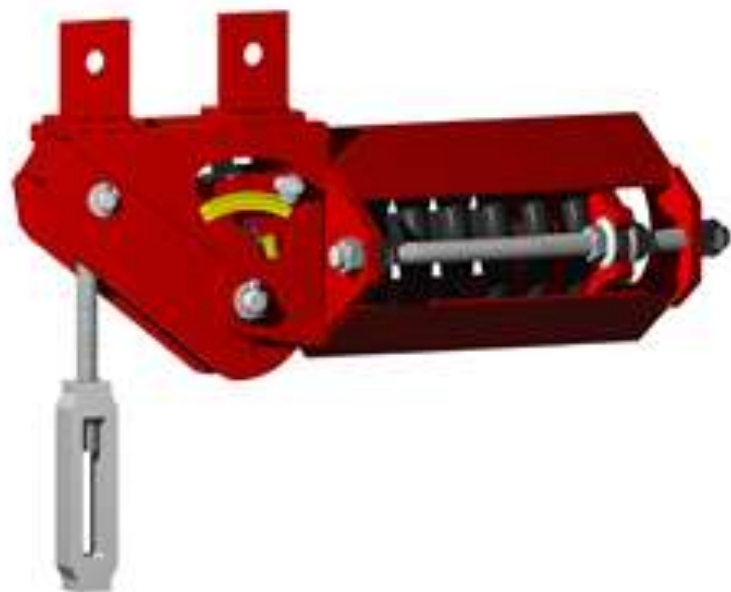
# INTERMEDIATE COMPONENTS - ADJUSTABLE





# INTERMEDIATE COMPONENTS









# LOWER COMPONENTS - HOLDING



Standard Ring  
& Bolt Hanger



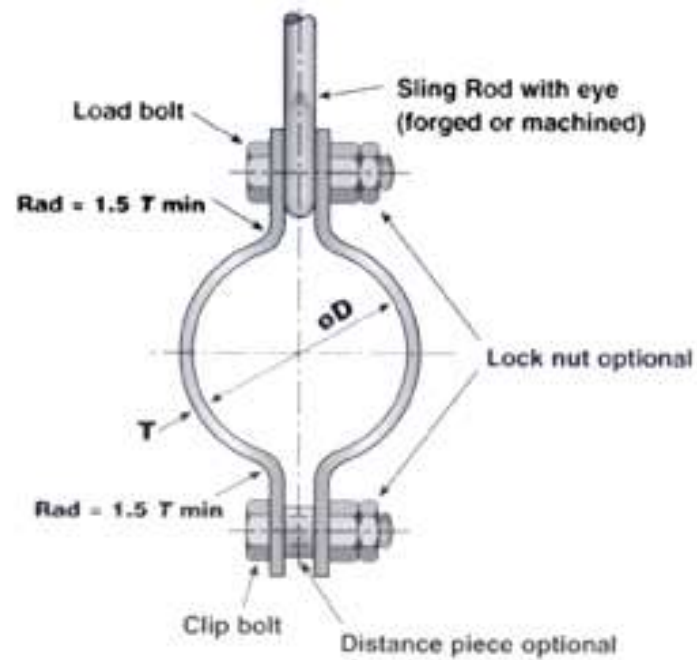
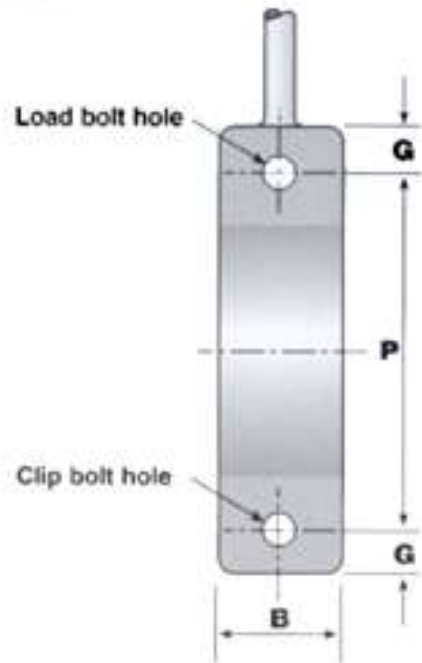
Adjustable  
Clevis & Band

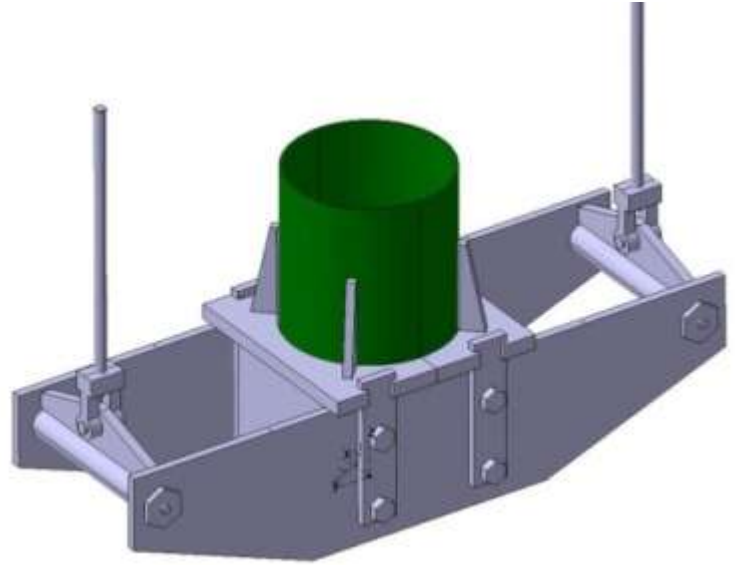
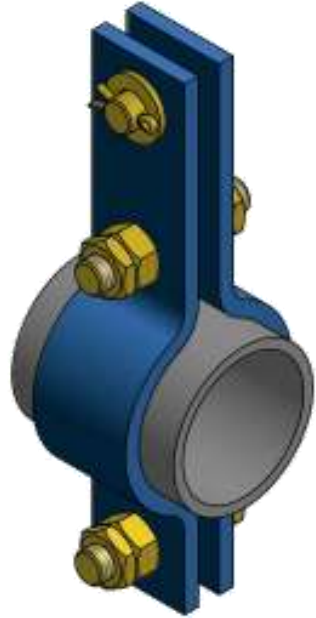


Adjustable  
Swivel Pipe  
Roll



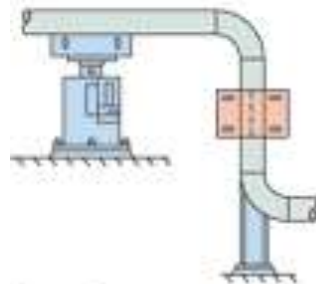
## LOWER COMPONENTS - HOLDING







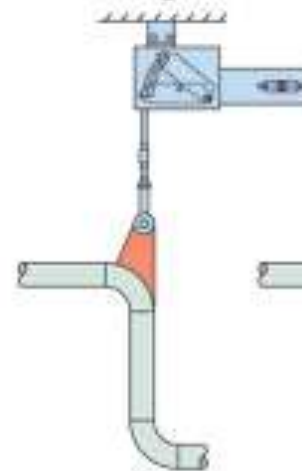
Variable spring support  
A



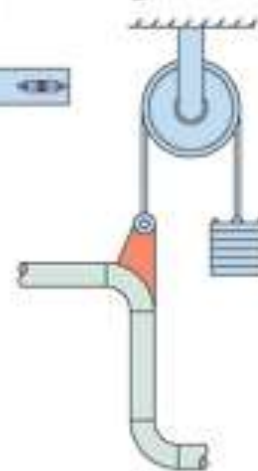
Variable hanger  
B



Constant load hanger  
C



Counterweight  
D



Type A



Type B



Type C



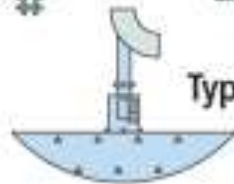
Type D



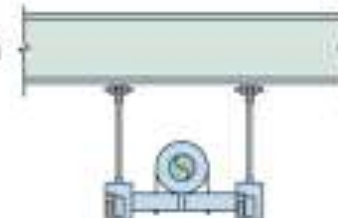
Type E



Type F



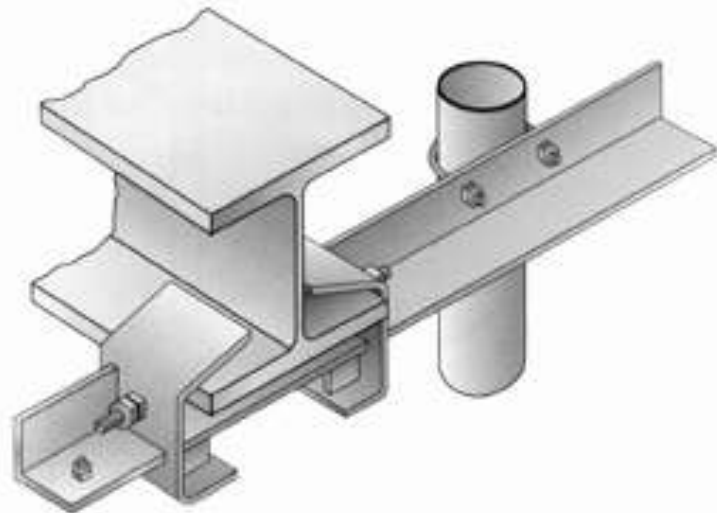
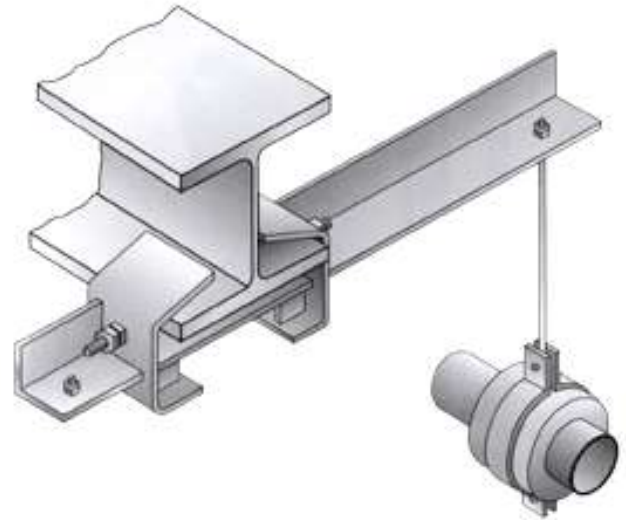
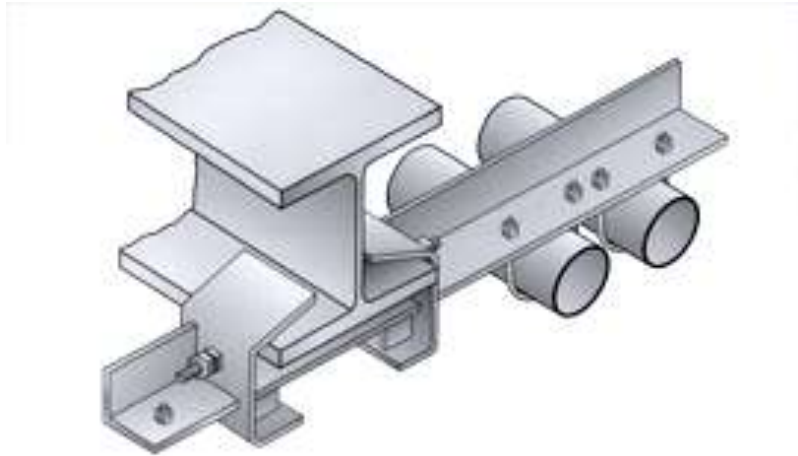
Type G



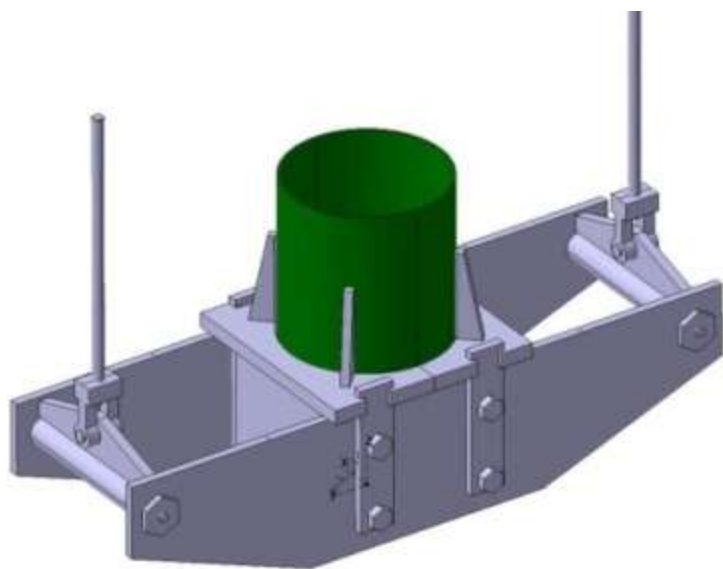
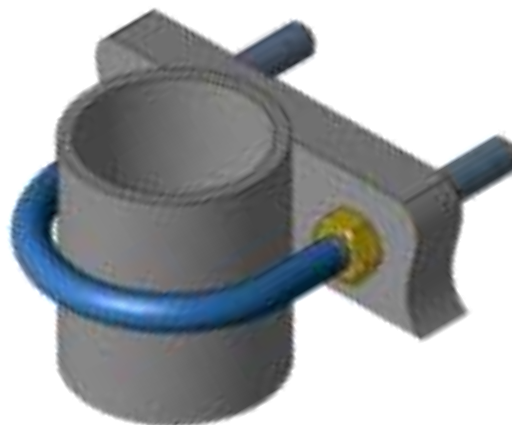










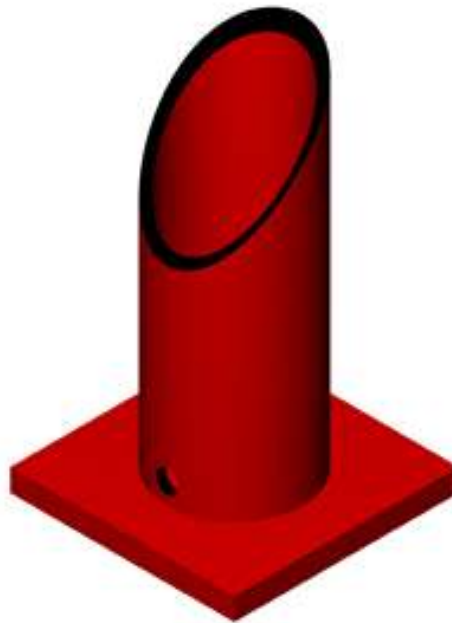








# SUPPORTS – HOLD FROM BENEATH





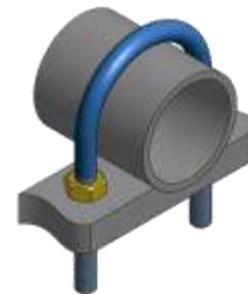
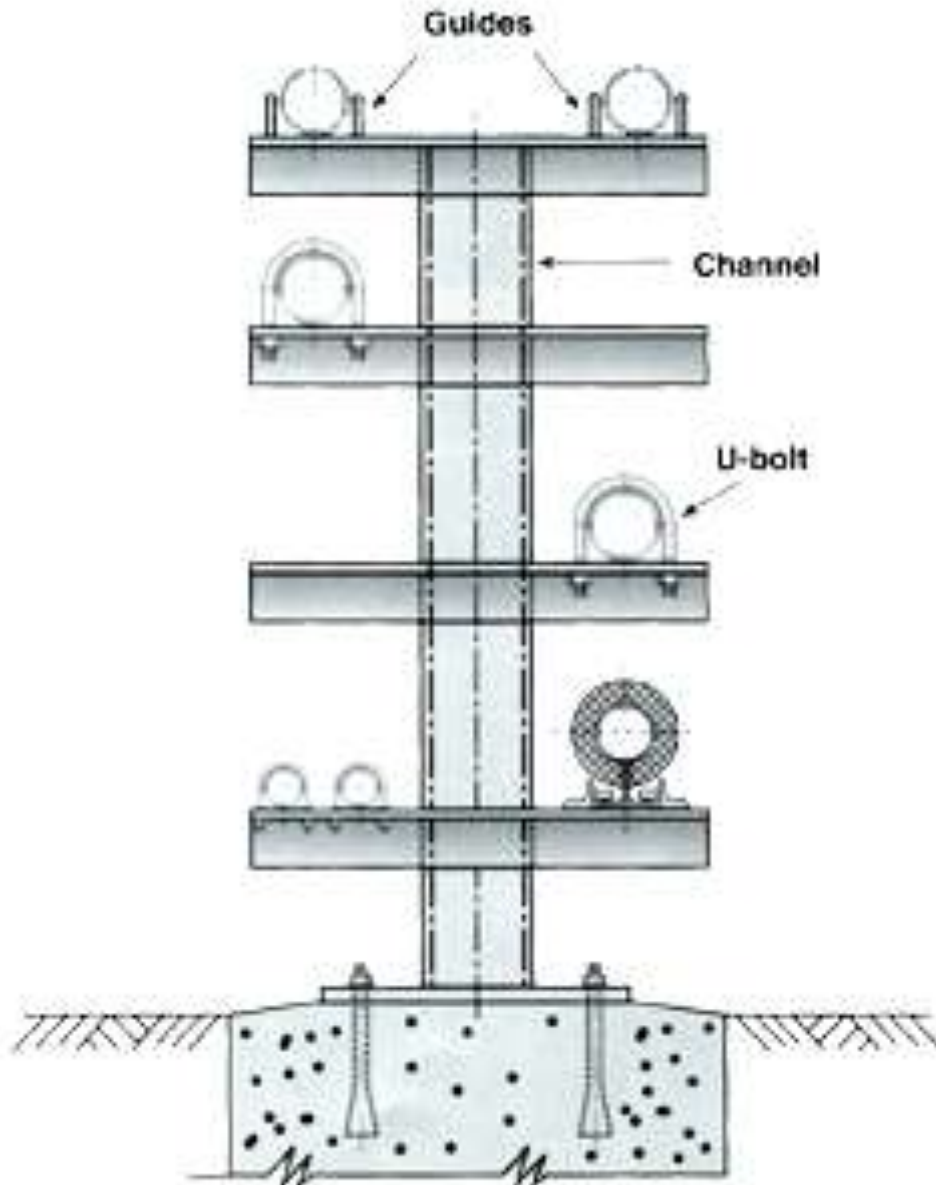
# Support rollers and chairs



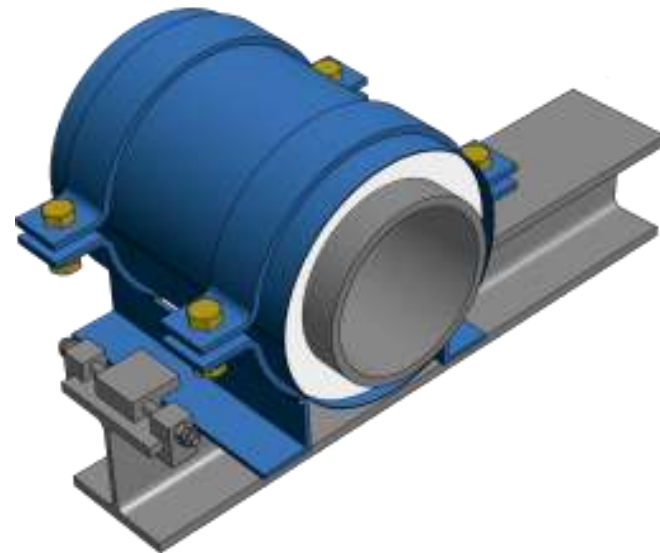
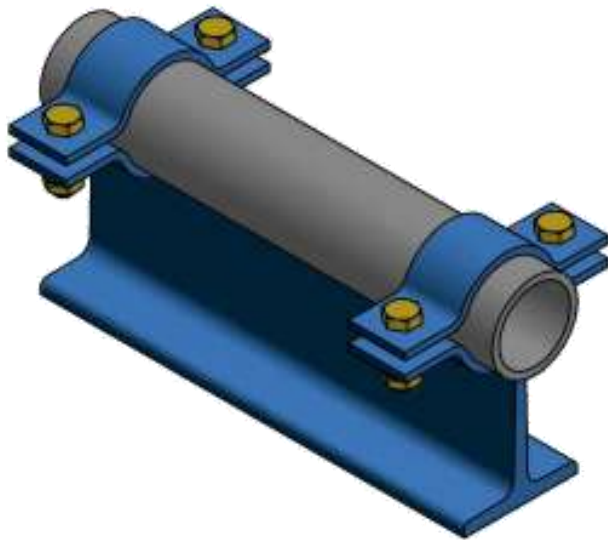




# SUPPORT FRAME

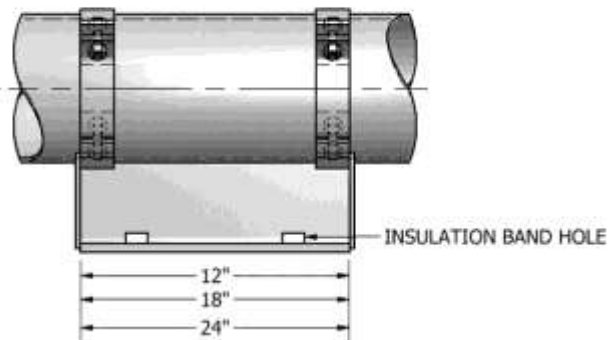
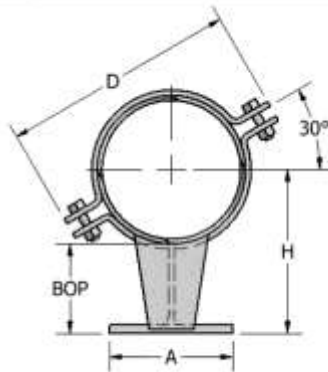
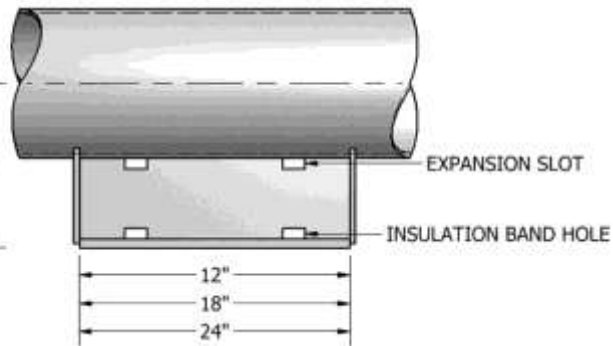
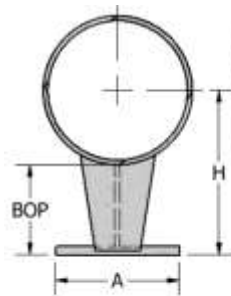
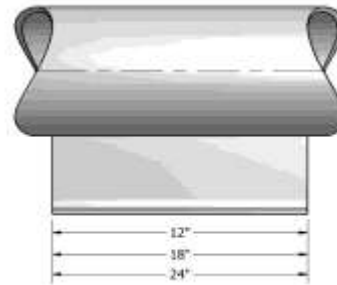
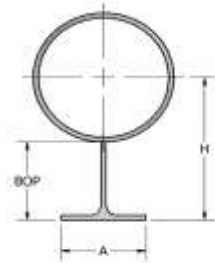


# Pipe Skids



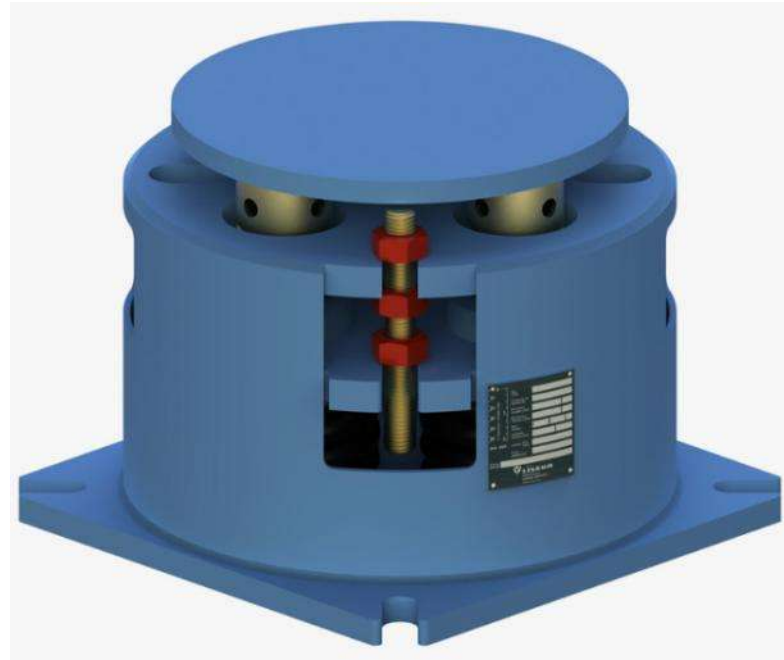


# Pipe Skids



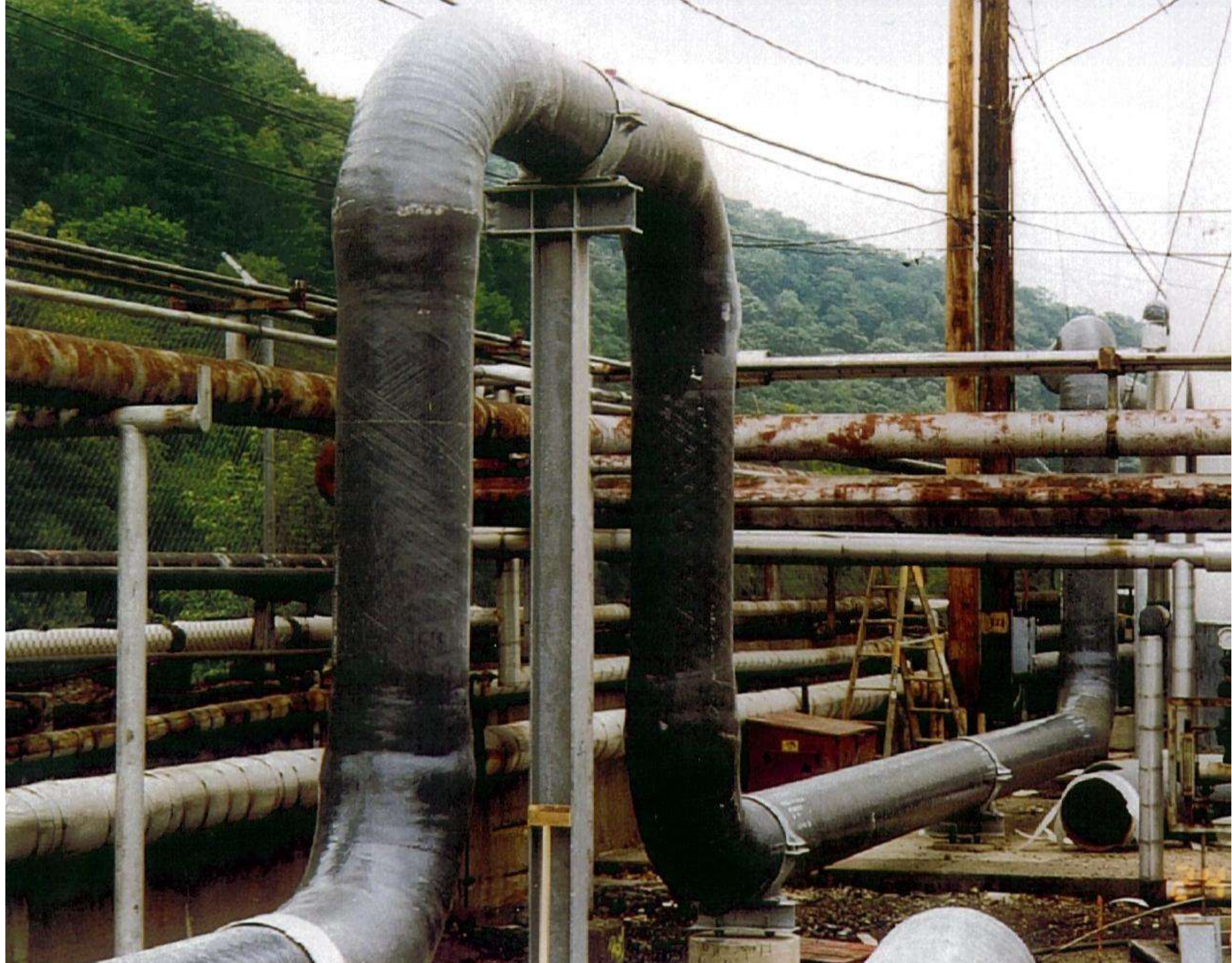








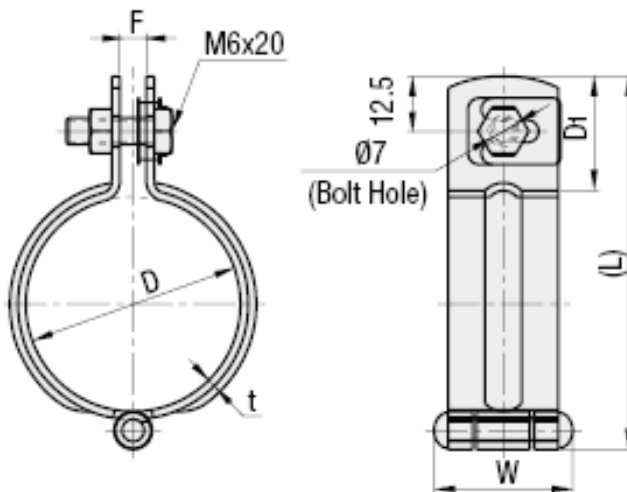




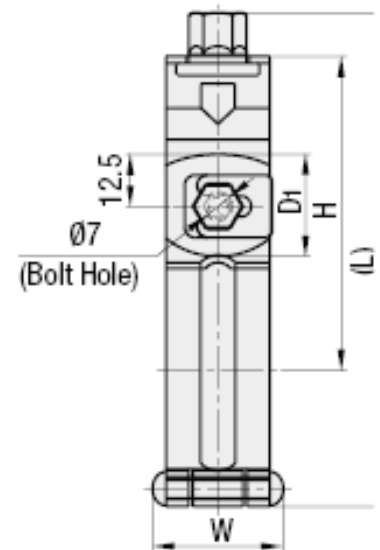
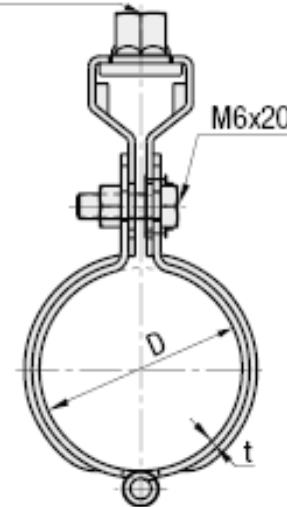
# Design specifications

With eye bolt hole

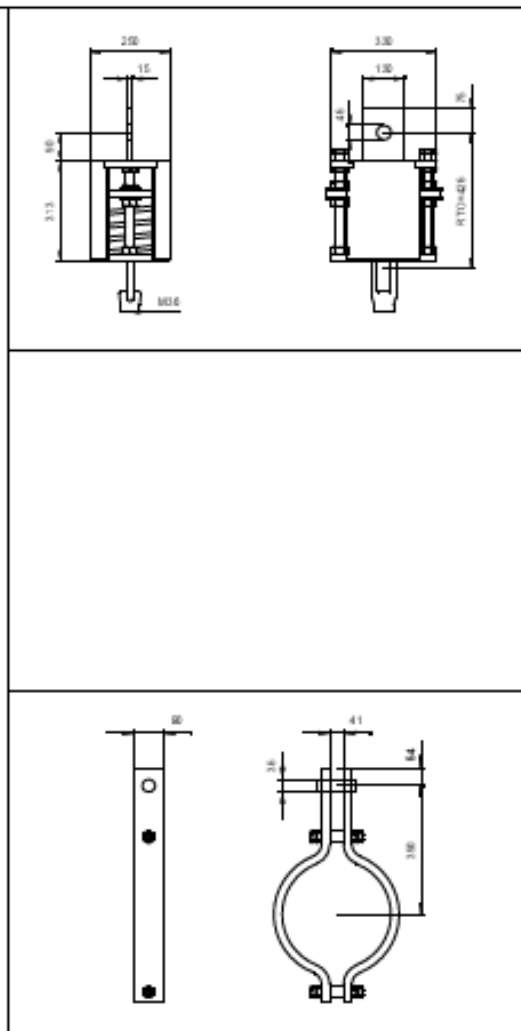
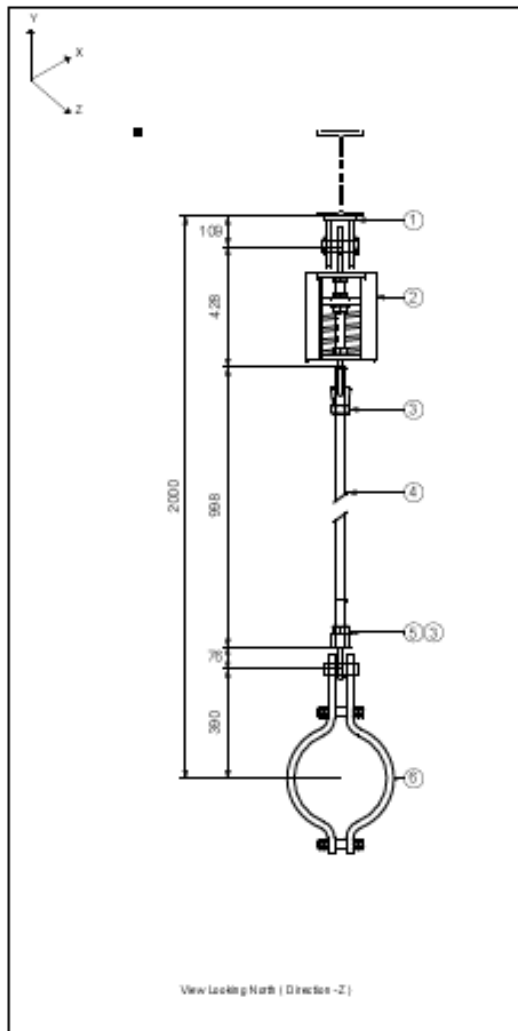
Standard



Eye Bolt Diameter



Mass of Support Assembly: 100.2 Kg




Item No.	Fig. No.	Description	Material
No. Rev'd	No.		
1 1	F125-4M2	Inverted Dean/Welding Attachment	05EN10025: S 275 JR
2 1	V1-23-T52	Variable Effort Support	Per 053074
3 2	F275-4M6	Full Nut	0541600 N 001 GR 4
4 1	F226-4M6 L=660	Hanger Rod R/H RH	05EN10025: S 275 JR
5 1	F239-4M6	Weldless Eye Nut	05479: 050A 27
6 1	P C3-360-6-560	Pipe Clamp 3 Bolt	05EN10028-2: 16C 600-10

Spring Details  
V1-23 T52 Patent Load=2537 Nkg, Operating Load=3600 Nkg  
Spring Rate=53.7 kg/mm, RTD=420mm, Per 05412 Rod = 100, Thermal Movement 10 mm, Up Variability=17.96%  
Serial No  
Rod Regulation = 0.0 Deg

Pipe ID : 360mm	Temperature : 5600	Pipe Insulation : 120mm
Load : -	Movement : -	X mm Y mm Z mm
Pipe Load : 3600.0kg	Patent to operating :	0 10 Up 0
Test Load : 0.0kg		

REV	DESCRIPTION	DATE	BY	CHKD
	LOCATION PLAN			



**BERGEN  
PIPE SUPPORTS**

PIPE SUPPORTS LIMITED  
DROTHCH UNITED KINGDOM  
[www.pipesupports.co.uk](http://www.pipesupports.co.uk)

CUSTOMER PROJECT PIPE SYSTEM CUSTOMER ORDER NO. CONTRACT No. AB C123 FINISH THREAD FORM SCALE		Smith Plan1 Steam SEE FINISH PROCEDURE ISO-METRIC COARSE NTS
TITLE SUPPORT ASSEMBLY	DRAWN Mark	DATE 12-04-10
SUPPORT MARK No. PS-01	CHECKED	DATE
No. ASSEMBLIES : 1	DRAWING No. AB C123-01	REV 0



**Supports should be of ample strength to carry the load caused by the most severe combination of the following:-**

- (a) Weight of pipe, fittings, valves etc.**
- (b) Weight of operating fluid or test fluid whichever is the greater.**
- (c) Weight of insulation.(wet)**
- (d) Weight of pipe support components.**
- (e) Expansion and contraction loads.**
- (f) Reaction from line discharging to atmosphere.**
- (g) Wind loads.**
- (h) Snow and ice loads.**
- (i) The effect of 'Water' hammer.**
- (j) Any other forces. (people climbing)**

## **Consideration should also be given to:**

- (1) Any forces arising from two-phase flow.**
- (2) Need to control the magnitude of forces and moments on equipment.**
- (3) Vibrations.**
- (4) Settlement of large storage tanks.**
- (5) Removal of pipework or equipment for maintenance.**
- (6) Access to equipment.**
- (7) Differential settlement of the building.**
- (8) Expansion joints in the building structure.**
- (9) Avoiding damage to any pipe insulation.**
- (10) Avoiding stress concentration at the point of attachments to the pipe.**
- (11) Process mal-operation or just plainly the unexpected, e.g. Gas lines filling up with water or dust/silt.**

## **POSITIONING OF PIPE**

**The position of the pipe will determine type of support to be used or perhaps more often the converse is true, i.e. pipe routing usually has to be made with the supports required in mind.**



# **POSITIONING OF PIPE**

**Support locations are dependant on pipe size, pipe configurations, the location of heavy valves and fittings and the structure that is available for the support of the piping.**

**Judgement is therefore necessary in each case to determine the appropriate support location.**

# **POSITIONING OF PIPE**

- (a) Pipes should be grouped so as to minimise the number of structural members needed solely for the supporting of pipes.**
- (b) Supports should be located so as to reduce the necessity for temporary supports.**
- (c) Where regular maintenance requires removal of equipment, vessel covers, control valves etc.**
- (d) Where the pipes have to be dismantled for cleaning.**

# POSITIONING OF PIPE

**(c) Where practical, a support should be located immediately adjacent to any change in direction of the pipes.**

**(d) Supports should not be located on sharp radius bends or weld elbows which are already subjected to high localised stresses but should be located at points of low stress in pipes.**



## **POSITIONING OF PIPE**

**(f) Screwed or flanged joints should not be sited at mid span or close to a support (i.e. at high points of high bending moment).**

**(g) Pipes from upper connections on tall free standing vertical vessels (e.g. distillation columns) are advantageously supported from the vessel to minimise relative movement between support and the pipes. Such pipes should be routed next to the vessel and supported close to the connections.**

## **POSITIONING OF PIPE**

**(h) Pipes in structures should be routed beneath platforms near major structural members and supported at points favourable for added loading.**

**(i) Pipes prone to vibration, such as compressor suction or discharge lines should be routed for support independent from other pipes and lightly braced structures and buildings.**

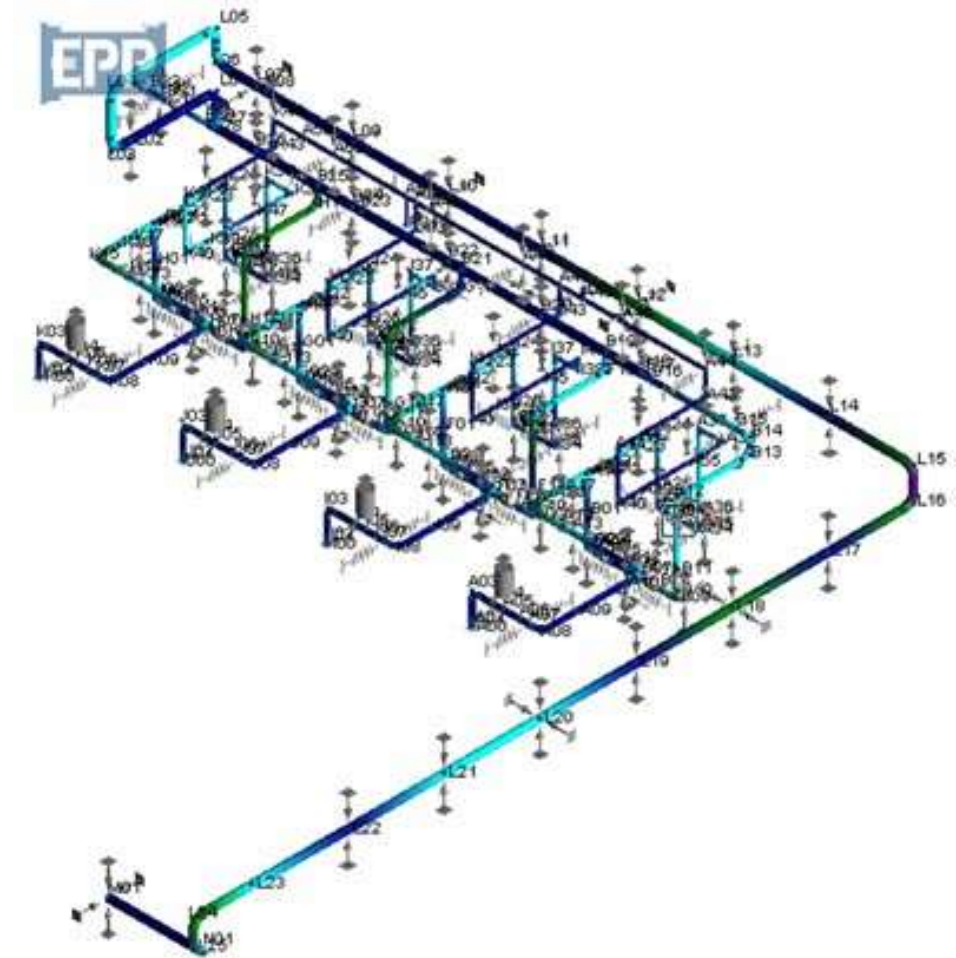
**Supports offering resistance and providing some damping capacity should be used rather than hanger supports.**

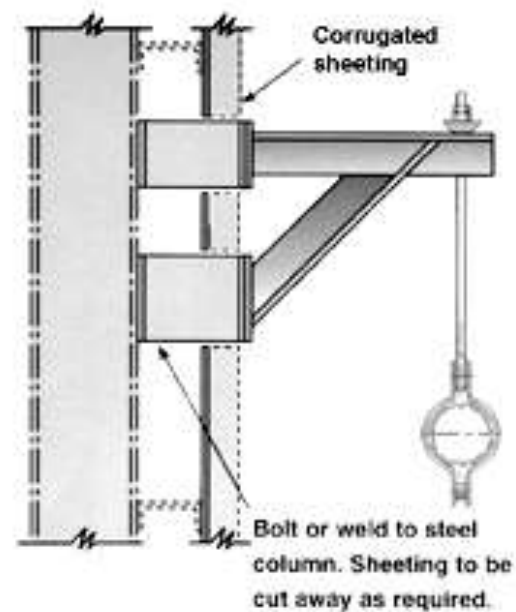
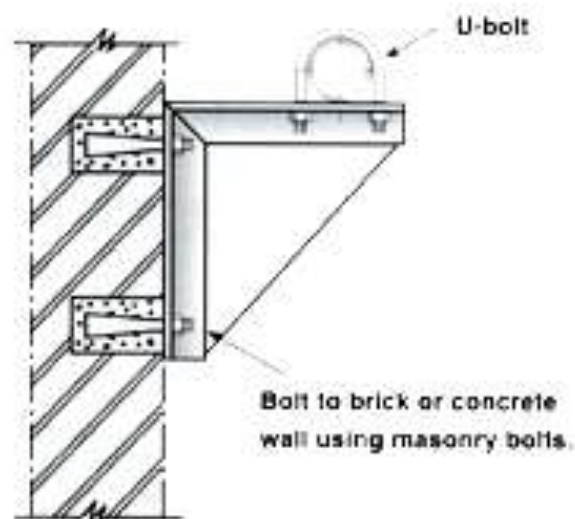
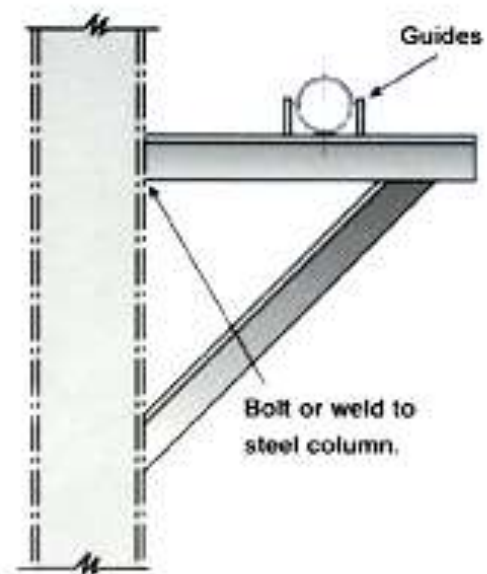
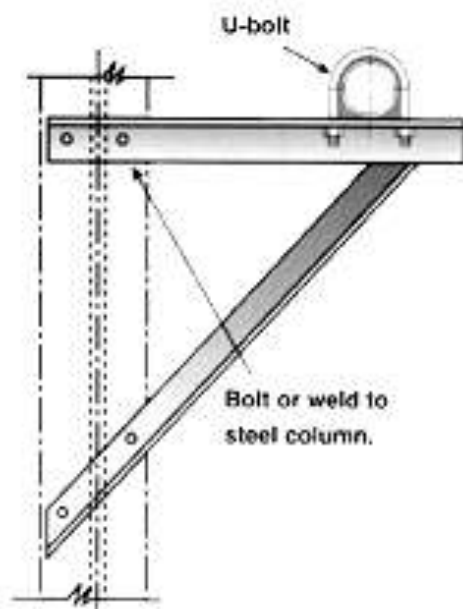
## **POSITIONING OF PIPE**

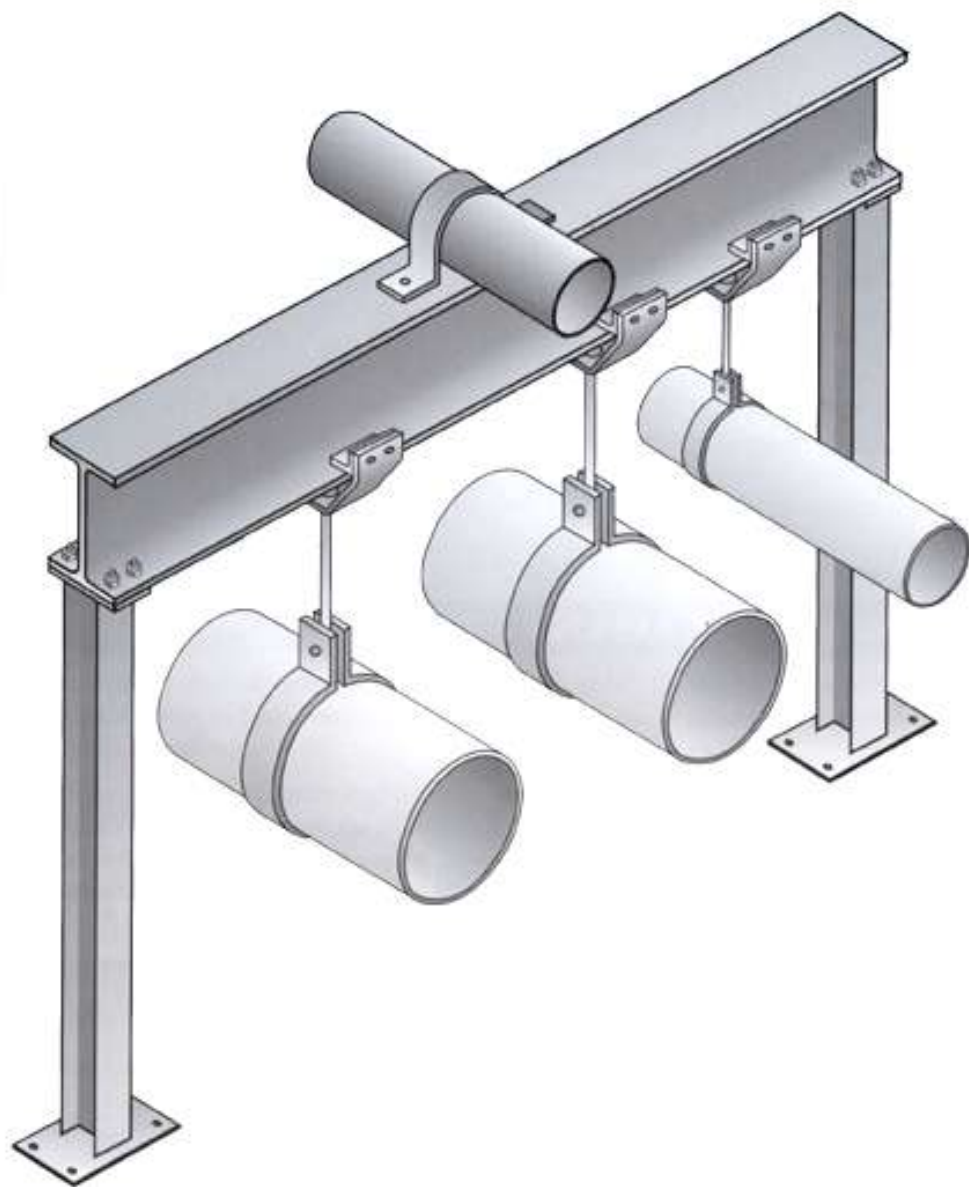
- (j) Pipes should be sufficiently close to point of support or restraint so that the structural connection can have adequate rigidity and details can be simple and economical.**
- (k) To avoid lagging in the bearer and to ensure that the outer cladding makes a satisfactory weather seal insulated pipework should not rest directly on supporting steelwork.  
This is of particular importance where insulated, cold or sub-zero pipes require a perfect vapour seal.**



## Pipe stress analysis









# **Support Inspection**

**Corrosion at pipe supports is one of the leading causes of process piping failures.**

**It is the beam supports and saddle clamps that have historically caused the majority of problems.**







## Checklist for Inspection of Hanger Assembly

Check the *beam attachment (1)*, *pin (2)* and the *spring hanger attachment (3)* for any cracks, fractures, or signs of corrosion.

Check the *pipe clamp attachment (4)*, the *weldless eye (5)* and *threaded rod (6)* for integrity.

Test the *turnbuckle (7)*, *locknuts (8)*, and other threaded items to be sure they will turn.

Check the *spring coil (9)* for any sign of corrosion.

Mark the *position of the coil (10)* and compare it to design position.



These have the following undesirable features in common:

**Crevices** – the formation of a crevice at the pipe surface.

**Water Entrapment** – water is trapped and held in contact with the pipe surface.

**Poor Inspectability** and Maintainability – virtually impossible to paint or otherwise maintain; visual and/or NDT inspection are often difficult.

**Galvanic Couples** – even when both the pipe and support are steel, the metallurgical differences can still provide enough potential difference to drive a corrosion cell.

















# PIPE SUPPORT FAILURE

















**Pipe Hangers**

**and**

**Pipe Supports**