

Loading Tubulars on Catwalks with Pad Walker

Issue

When loading tubulars from the pipe racks to the indexers, the box end of tubulars may become stuck on the pad walker mounting frame or mounting frame brackets if they are not carefully positioned on the pipe racks. This interference prevents the indexer from lifting the tubular onto the carrier because the tubular is not able to rest on top of the indexer. (See Figure 1.)

Recommendation

It is recommended that crews follow the procedure below to avoid interference.



Warning!

Follow proper procedure when loading tubulars on pipe racks. Ensure that a buffer zone has been cleared around the loading area and that all personnel stand outside of the loading area.



Figure 1: Pad Walker mounting bracket frame interfering with tubular loading

Procedure

The catwalk can be loaded from either the driller's side (DS) or off-driller's side (ODS).

Loading Tubulars on the Catwalk

1. When loading from the DS or ODS, load tubulars using the two pipe racks closest to the flare end (Hydraulic Tank End).
2. The flare end has a notch (large chamfer) built into each side of the catwalk base between the indexer and the tank that helps prevent contact with tubulars. This chamfer helps ensure that the tubular is able to roll onto the indexer without interference from the thread protector.
3. Set tubulars on the pipe racks where interference from pad walker frame and mounting bracket frames will be avoided.
4. The operator must ensure that the tubular will not contact the tank assembly, skate arms, or hydraulic pivot when the tubular is rolling towards the carrier.

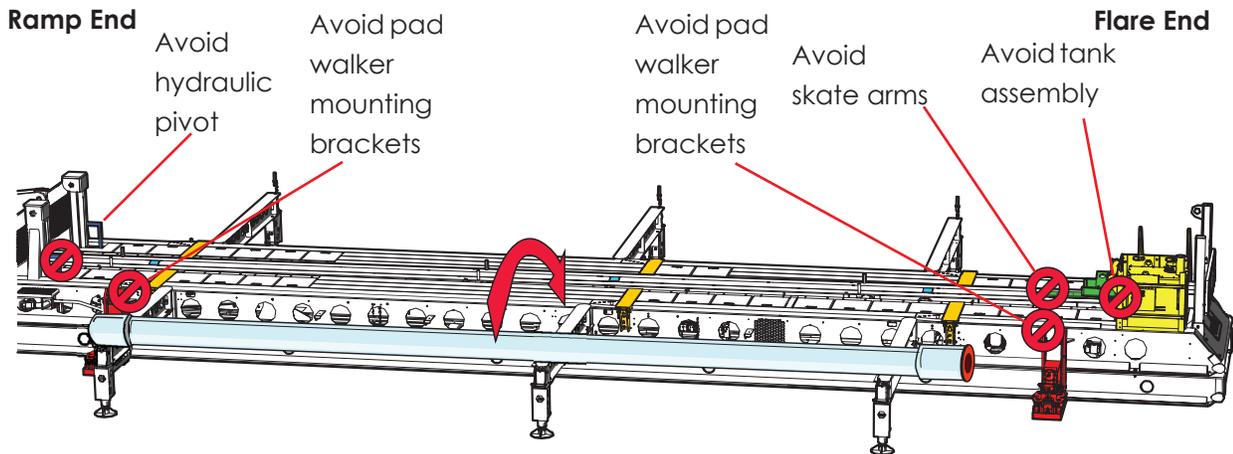


Figure 2: PC3000 with Pad Walker and Hydraulic Ramp, Driller's Side (DS)

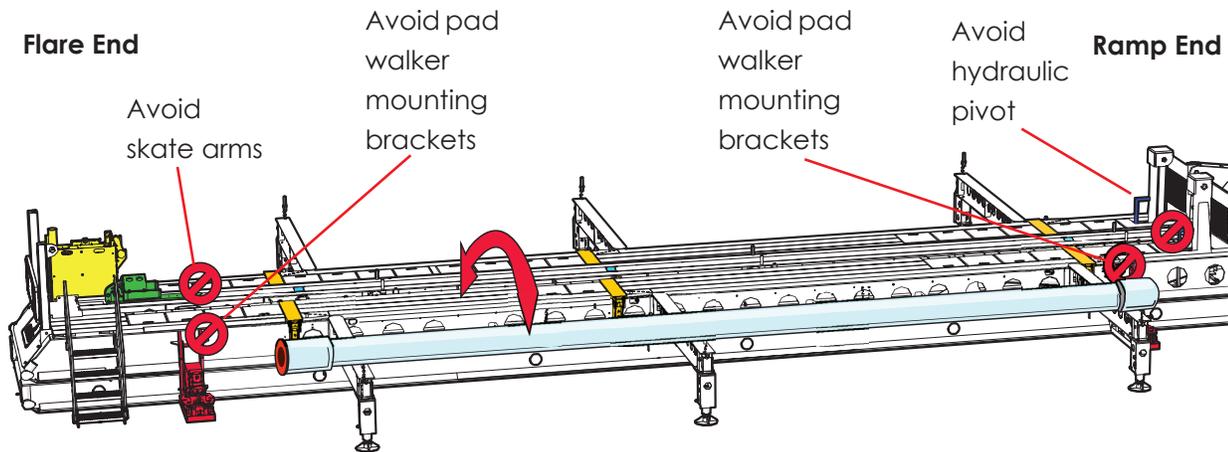


Figure 3: PC3000 with Pad Walker and Hydraulic Ramp, Off-Driller's Side (ODS)

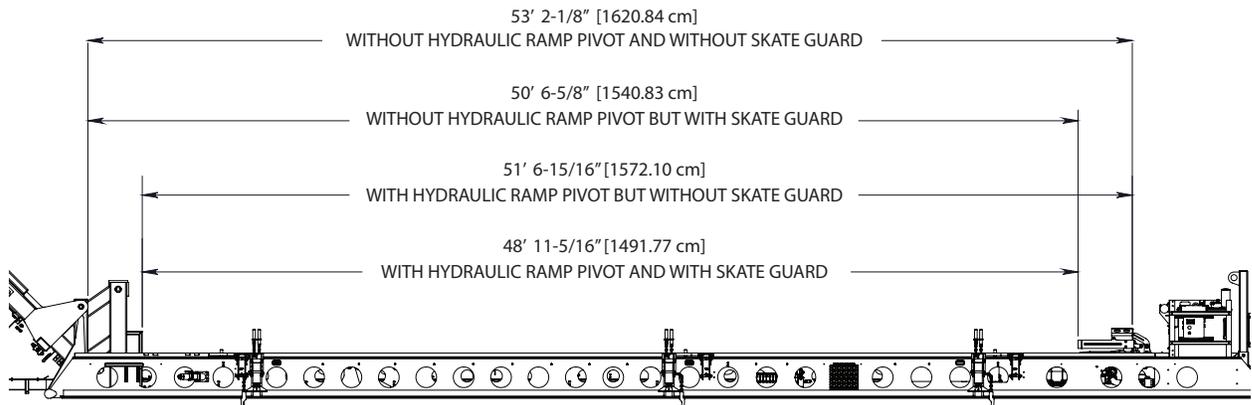


Figure 4: PC3000 Tubular Loading Areas