

FLATRACK SECURING GUIDELINES

PLEASE BE ADVISED THAT CUSTOMERS WILL BE CHARGED ACCORDINGLY IF THEIR LOADS ARE NOT SECURED PROPERLY.

As part of Tropical Shipping's continuous commitment to safety, we would like to remind applicable parties the proper techniques of flatrack cargo. A closed container should be considered first for palletized loads because forces from all directions work against securement in all modes of transportation from road, rail to vessel operations. Please keep the following in mind while loading or transporting a flatrack:

1: ALL RATCHETS MUST BE INSTALLED AND ACCESSIBLE FROM THE PASSENGER SIDE OF THE FLATRACK.

2: ALL CARGO MUST BE SECURED & IMMOBILIZED SO THAT IT CANNOT SHIFT, TIP OR FALL OFF RACK.



3: GROUPED CARGO LIKE PIPES, REBAR OR LUMBER SHOULD BE SECURED TOGETHER AS BUNDLES & NOT HAVE PALLETS STACKED ON THEM UNLESS ON A FIRM FOUNDATION. BAGGED LUMBER, PVC & SLICK OR LOOSE CARGO SHOULD BE BANDED TOGETHER. MULTI-LEVEL GROUPED LOADS SHOULD BE STRAPPED & SECURED AT EVERY LEVEL.



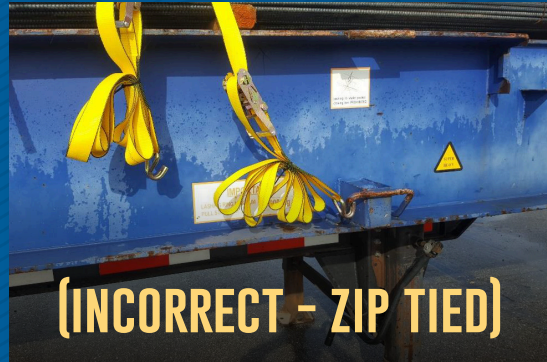
4: SCRAP METAL / JUNK CARS, HEAVY PIPES AND STEEL BEAMS SHOULD BE SECURED WITH CHAINS & BINDERS.

5: ENSURE WEIGHT IS EVENLY DISTRIBUTED ON FLATRACKS ALONG THE LENGTH AND WIDTH : LOADED FROM THE FRONT BULKHEAD TO THE REAR.

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6: ENSURE WORKING LOAD LIMIT OF SECUREMENT CHAINS & STRAPS (LISTED BELOW) ARE ADEQUATE FOR THE WEIGHT

- They're securing and in proper, working condition.
- Deadweight breaking strength of Tropical's straps: 10,000 lb
- Working Load Limit of Tropical's straps: 3,300 lb
- Deadweight breaking strength of Tropical's chains: 15,000 lb
- Working Load Limit of Tropical's chains: 5,000 lb



7: CHAFING GEAR / EDGE PROTECTORS MUST BE USED ON EVERY SHARP EDGE TO PROTECT STRAPS FROM CUTTING IN TRANSIT.

(Protectors as well as straps and chains are available at the Interchange. Strapping underneath flatracks is the last resort.)

8: TURNBUCKLES AND SHACKLES SHOULD BE SECURED SO THEY DO NOT SPIN OPEN YET BE ACCESSIBLE FOR TIGHTENING WHEN NEEDED.

(after 50 miles is recommended per FMC requirements)

9: LOADS SHOULD NOT BE TARPED OR COVERED UNTIL AFTER THE TRUCK DRIVER CHECKS LOAD FOR PROPER SECUREMENT.

10: PLACE PALLETS OR LUMBER ON TOP OF BREAK LOADS IF NEEDED SO STRAPS ARE HOLDING ENTIRE PALLET. 5 GALLON PAILS SHOULD NOT BE STACKED ANY MORE THAN 5 HIGH OR WITH HEAVY OBJECTS AND BUILDING MATERIAL STACKED ON TOP.

