



Portable Track Loading Fixture Instructions

INDUSTRY-RAILWAY

SUPPLIERS, Inc.

WARNING: PTLF MAY BE DAMAGED AND MAY CAUSE PERSONAL INJURY, IF NOT USED PROPERLY. DO NOT ATTEMPT TO MODIFY OR USE A PTLF ON ANY RAIL POINT, EXCEPT THE RAIL WEB.

1. Measure and record initial static (unloaded) track gage using approved measuring device.
2. Ensure the PTLF is not damaged and in good working condition.
3. Place the PTLF over a crosstie, between rails, so that shoes on each end rest on the rail base. Ensure PTLF ends engage the area of the rail web near the base.

Note: Placement in track locations other than rail base is unacceptable.

Note: Ensure the Cylinder Side Head's long side is facing up as shown to the right



4. Apply hydraulic pressure to ram and increase load incrementally to 4,000 pounds (4,000 psi). Observe the movement of the rail, tie plates and fastener components to assess which components contribute to poor track strength or gage restraint conditions.

CAUTION: DO NOT EXCEED 4,000 psi. EXCESSIVE PRESSURE WILL DAMAGE THE PTLF AND MAY CAUSE PERSONAL INJURY.

5. Measure and record PTLF loaded gage. This loaded gage can be compared to the limits specified in 49 CFR § 213.53 for gage compliance.

6. Release PTLF hydraulic pressure. After the load is released, measure the gage to which the track returns. This gage, referred to as exercised gage, can be slightly different from the unloaded gage.

Note: The difference between the loaded gage and exercised gage is the rail displacement. This displacement can be referenced to determine tie and fastener compliance

(CFR §§ 213.109 and 213.127)



7. After PTLF release, ensure rail is properly seated in affected tie plates and ask railroad official to confirm.

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