

MSS SP-77-1995
Reaffirmed 2000

Guidelines for Pipe Support Contractual Relationships

**Relationships and Responsibilities of the
Pipe Hanger Contractor with the Purchaser's Engineer
or the Pipe Fabricator and/or Erector**

Standard Practice
Developed and Approved by the
Manufacturers Standardization Society of the
Valve and Fittings Industry, Inc.
127 Park Street, NE
Vienna, Virginia 22180
(703) 281-6613



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FOREWORD

This standard was developed by a cooperative effort of representatives of the pipe hanger manufacturers in response to a need to clarify the relationships which exist between the purchaser's engineer, pipe fabricator, pipe erector, pipe hanger, designer, pipe hanger manufacturer and the client.

By clarifying these relationships, it is hoped that pipe hangers and supports can be properly considered at the time of plant design; that the pipe hanger and support contract can be let early enough to allow for design, approval, fabrication and delivery of pipe hangers and supports to satisfy customer requirements; that the purchaser's engineers can be aware of the pipe hanger contractor's requirements with regard to drawings and supplemental data; that the pipe fabricator can be aware of the pipe hanger contractor's requirements with regard to dimensional and weight data; and that the pipe erector can be aware of how pipe hangers and supports must be received, stored and installed in order to perform as intended. A client's hanger requirements can be best served by having all parties knowledgeable of each others needs and responsibilities.

There are three companion standards, SP-58, SP-69 and SP-89 relating to hanger design, selection, application, fabrication and installation. In addition, the MSS Hanger Committee has developed a standard on hanger terminology, as covered in SP-90.

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GUIDELINES FOR PIPE SUPPORT CONTRACTUAL RELATIONSHIPS

1. SCOPE

1.1 This standard establishes practical and recognizable guidelines relative to defining areas of responsibility for pipe hanger contractors, purchaser's engineers, and pipe fabricators and/or erectors.

1.2 This standard includes references to other MSS standards for the purpose of precisely defining these areas of responsibility.

2. OBJECTIVE

2.1 To be used, as a basis for contractual requirements if agreeable to both parties, where there is a lack of definition in the job specification.

2.2 To furnish guidance and practical observations in order to minimize common misunderstandings which may occur between participating groups. When used in this context, the word 'shall' is to be interpreted as 'should'.

3. FUNCTIONS OF PIPE HANGER CONTRACTOR

3.1 To design, detail and furnish pipe hangers, anchors and guides as specified in the hanger contract, and to comply with all provisions of the pipe hanger specification and applicable codes.

3.2 To work in close cooperation with the purchaser's engineer, the pipe fabricator and the pipe erector.

3.3 Pipe Hanger Design is the development of a supporting system to properly support and control each piping system for all conditions of operation delineated by the purchaser's engineers. As it is not possible to anticipate location and types of vibration which may occur during operation of a piping system, vibration control devices are excluded from the basic hanger contract unless specifically defined and located.

3.3.1 The pipe hanger design shall be based on the following:

a) When a formal stress and thermal analysis of the piping system is provided by the purchaser's engineers, the hanger contractor shall design a supporting system in accordance with that analysis.

b) In the absence of, or requirements for, a formal stress and thermal analysis by the purchaser's engineers, the hanger contractor may locate and provide hangers to satisfy movement and load conditions as determined by approximate methods.

3.3.2 The pipe hanger design shall include the following:

a) Selection and sizing of hanger and support components to accommodate pipe movement and loading conditions, and which are appropriate for the piping system being supported.

b) In the absence of other requirements, supplementary steel shall be designed in accordance with AISC specifications.

c) Selection of materials which are appropriate for the intended service and specified environment.

d) Providing a design which precludes any interference with the structure, equipment and appurtenances for which drawings and/or details were furnished by the purchaser's engineers at the time that the hanger design was initiated.

3.3.3 Specific requirements and recommendations, relative to pipe hanger design, are covered in MSS SP-58 and MSS SP-69.

3.4 Pipe Hanger Assembly Drawings, when required, shall include the following:

a) An illustration of the pipe hanger assembly in its installed position, correctly oriented with respect to piping and building structure. Elevations of supporting structure and pipe shall be shown.