

Bending Moments & Stresses -

When loads are placed on a beam, the effect is to flex the beam across its unsupported span. The measure of this effect is called the bending moment. Formulas for bending moments created by various load and beam support combinations are given in the following tables.

When the bending moment of a loaded beam is divided by the Section Modulus of the beam, the resulting value is called bending stress. It is this bending stress that is most commonly evaluated to determine whether a beam is strong enough for the loads it must support.

The maximum bending stress prescribed by structural codes is 25,000 psi (172.37 mPa), and this is the stress upon which PHD load figures are based.

Again, the method of supporting a beam affects the maximum bending moment of the beam. The following table gives modifying factors based upon types of beam supports. Users of PHD struts should take care to apply the proper load factor for the specific beam support configuration in order to determine the proper maximum load that the strut will safely support.

Twisting & Lateral Bracing -

For long spans and when loads are apt to cause torsion on the beam, it is a good practice to brace the beam to prevent twisting or lateral bending. PHD offers various types of braces for this purpose. Loading of strut on long spans can cause torsional stress, resulting in the tendency of the strut to twist or bend laterally. This phenomenon reduces the allowable beam loads as shown in the beam loading charts. It is recommended that long spans be supported in a manner to prevent twisting (fixed ends), and that the channel have adequate lateral bracing. Many typical strut applications provide this support and bracing inherently. Piping, tubing, cable trays, or conduits mounted to the strut with straps and clamps prevent twisting or lateral movement. If no such lateral support exists, contact the factory for loading recommendations.

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Spot Welding -

Resistance welding of back to back strut channel is accomplished by way of an AC powered press type spot welder. This equipment produces a series of spot welds from 2" (50.8) to 4" (101.6) apart continuously down the length of the channel. Consistency is maintained by the use of a highly sophisticated constant current weld control. This processor is capable of maintaining weld sequence, duration and current control along with other variables. Any deviations in the programmed parameters will issue forth an alarm or shut down fault, which is then investigated. Weld quality is tested every 300-350 welds through the use of a destructive test method. Through the use of modern technology, destructive and non-destructive testing, the quality of strut can be maintained. Spot weld strut is fabricated in accordance with the R.W.M.A. guidelines for resistance welding.

MIG Welding -

MIG welded, more properly called gas metal arc welded (GMAW) combination channels and fittings, are produced when physical dimensions or certain combinations require a weld process other than automatic spot welding. The same quality control requirements are imposed on MIG welded and spot-welded products.



Unless otherwise specified, all dimensions on drawings and in charts are in inches and dimensions shown in parentheses are in millimeters.

PHD Manufacturing, Inc.