



Safety SOP

Proper Flange Working

Keep in Mind

- ❖ Adhering to project specifications on pipe alignment tolerances is important to maintain to avoid excess flange alignment work that exposes workers to potential hazards
 - ❖ Never stick hands or fingers in-between two flanges to remove or adjust a gasket. Use a flat head screwdriver or another appropriate tool.
 - ❖ Sleever/pry bars may be utilized to align bolt holes, but are not permitted to be utilized for spreading flanges
 - ❖ When having to use force to spread a flange, only use the jobsite approved flange spreaders. (For example, Pop-It P952-525 or Gearench TITAN Flange Spreader)
 - ❖ If a hydraulic flange spreader is to be utilized, ensure that flange rating is sufficient and can withstand the reaction force to avoid damaging the flange.
 - ❖ When needing to fine tune flange alignment, use jobsite approved flange alignment pins.
 - ❖ If proper alignment can not be achieved by using the proper flange alignment tools, then rework of the flange fit-up may be required.
- ❖ Proactive planning shall be incorporated in every pipe operations by:
 - Ensuring craft have the proper tools for the job – relevant to the size of the flanges
 - Ensuring material being utilized is correct to avoid re-work
 - Utilizing the most proficient tool to maximize productivity while maintaining safe work
 - Ensuring craft are properly trained to utilize flange working tools
 - Utilizing mechanical devices to assist with and minimize exposure to stored energy (i.e., utilizing a crane to assist with flange alignment instead of pins and manual force)

