Structural Steel Loading Guidelines

Structural Steel

Different shapes and sizes, along with the desire to keep a multiple piece “Building Kit” together on a single trailer or platform can create many challenges. General Rules apply.

• Steel on steel loading is prohibited.
• All dunnage must be wider than it is high.
• Multiple pieces of blocking or dunnage stacked in layers must be firmly nailed to each other.
• Dunnage should be of sufficient size and number to easily support the load. 4 x 4’s preferably of hardwood construction are recommended.
• Cross beams should be located approx. 8 inches inboard each end of the load and spaced equally along its length, no greater than 8’ apart. Cross beams should span the entire width of the load when possible. Multiple layers of cross beams should be arranged in a vertical manner.
• Stickers should be affixed to each end of cross beams to prevent lateral movement.
• Gaps between pieces on a layer should be blocked to prevent lateral movement.
• All products must be secured.
• Bundles should be “package banded” before being stacked. Multiple layer loads must be secured in a “Unitized” manner.

All products must be secured. Loose objects on top of I-Beam or tucked inside of square tubing is unacceptable.
Pallets

- Pallets should never be used as dunnage.
- Pallets may not be used to ship cargo on flatbeds or platforms on the water.
- Cardboard is not acceptable packaging on flatbeds or platforms on the water.
- All loose or small items must be crated.

I-Beam

I-Beam has special requirements in addition to the rules from the previous page:

- Landscape timber’s or “cores” are not acceptable dunnage for I-beam.
- 4x4’s preferably of hardwood construction are recommended.
- When loading I-beam the web beneath the dunnage should be blocked to prevent the beam from biting into the dunnage.