



Instructions for the safe use of Flints Ceiling Plates

The information in this leaflet should be passed to
the user of the equipment

This document is issued in accordance with the requirements of Section 6 of the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974, amended March 1988.

These instructions apply to Flints Ceiling Plates with Rings
Code FHS009R

Use for which the article is designed

Flints Ceiling Plates with Rings have been designed to raise roll up ceiling flats to position before they are lowered into place resting on the standing flattage. They combine a method of joining the rails to the stiles with a convenient point for attaching a hauling line. By using the correct construction method the cloth can be rolled around the stiles with no obstructions to cause damage to the rolled cloth. Seamless canvass covered flats can be constructed which can be rolled up for touring. It is assumed the scenery is flown by hand hauling or raised on standard theatre counterweight or hemp systems or power flying systems fitted with soft starts. The use of the fittings for any other purpose would be inappropriate. The fittings should be attached to the scenery by a competent person familiar with the theatre environment.

Working Load Limit 50kg

Always

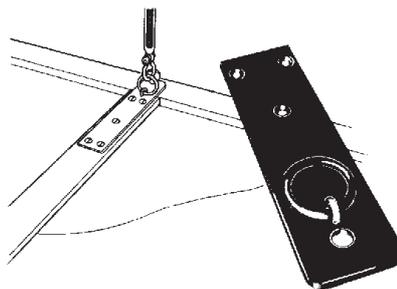
- ✓ Store the fittings in a area which is dry, clean and protected from corrosion.
- ✓ Inspect the fittings before putting into use or before being placed into storage. Any fittings found to be faulty should be marked as such and taken out of service and destroyed.
- ✓ Ensure fittings are selected and fitted by a competent person.
- ✓ Ensure the fittings are used in such a way that the failure of any one fitting would not lead to a dangerous situation.
- ✓ Ensure any fitting subjected to excessive load by way of shock loading or any other means is immediately removed from service and marked for destruction.
- ✓ Follow the fitting instructions with regard to fittings and timber thickness.
- ✓ Ensure the load is applied in the direction as stated in the instructions.
- ✓ Ensure the fittings are thoroughly inspected by a competent person at intervals no greater than six monthly or after any exception circumstance or according to an examination scheme.
- ✓ Individually mark the fittings and record their details together with the EC Declaration of Conformity.

Never

- ✗ Exceed the Working Load Limit.
- ✗ Subject fittings to shock loads.
- ✗ Never use a fitting which is bent, modified in an unapproved manner, stretched, has nicks, gouges or cracks, has signs of heat or burning, or signs of corrosion.
- ✗ Apply a load without ensuring the ring is free to articulate in the direction of the pull.

Selection of Correct Fitting

Select Flints Ceiling Plates with Rings (FHS009R) for flying canvas covered roll up ceiling pieces. Use them at the ends of each stile and intermediate rails so that the flying loads are evenly distributed.



Correct Fitting

Ceiling Plates with Rings should be bolted to the ends of each stile and all the intermediate rails using five M5 countersunk machine screws with tee nuts. The portion that protrudes from the stiles should be fixed to the long roll up batten using

a Boss Plate (parts either FHS014 or FHS014AC) which should be secured with M5 machine screws and tee nuts. The Ceiling Plate with Ring is then fixed to the Boss Plate using an M10 thumbscrew. The distance between Ceiling Plates with Rings should not exceed 1.5m and the size of the flat should not exceed 5m x 10m. The finished thickness of the timber must be at least 20mm. The width of the timber should be at least 70mm in order to achieve the working load limit. The timber should be of best joinery quality and inspected to ensure it is free from defects such as knots or shakes. The structure should be designed so that loads are evenly spread. The working load shown on the fitting does not imply that the structure it is fitted to can withstand the load.

Safe Use Ceiling Plates with Rings are designed to allow either the direct attachment of hemp lines or for the attachment of small wire ropes. The load may be applied at any angle so long as it is in axis with the securing hoop and so long as the Ring and Shackle are free to articulate. Bridles should not be employed as the bridle would not normally be in axis with the securing hoop. Before applying a load ensure any shackles are correctly aligned. Care should be taken during positioning to avoid shock loads which may arise due to wires becoming slack if a piece of scenery becomes caught on, or slips from, a fixed object while being lowered into place.

In Service Inspection and Maintenance The fittings should be kept clean and free of corrosion. They must be inspected every six months or after any exceptional circumstance or according to an examination scheme drawn up by a competent person. Inspect for illegible markings, distortion, wear, stretched or bent backing plates and rings, nicks, gouges, cracks, corrosion, heat marks or any other defect. If in doubt replace the fitting or seek further advice.

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