

1) Use proper safety equipment during connector installations. Always wear gloves when handling connectors.

2) All field welding should be done in accordance with AWS Codes. **Caution: Welding galvanized steel may produce harmful fumes and should only be performed in well-ventilated environments.**

3) The type and quantity of fasteners used to install USP products is critical to connector performance. To achieve the allowable loads shown in this catalog, install with the fasteners specified for that particular product. Some products allow for alternate nail installations. Refer to the "Optional Nails for Face Mount Hangers and Straight Straps" chart on page 22 of this catalog for load adjustments when using alternate nailing. All specified fasteners must be properly installed prior to applying load of any kind to the connection.

4) Drill bolt holes a minimum of 1/32" and a maximum of 1/16" larger than the diameter of the bolt to be installed (per the 2005 NDS®, Section 11.1.2.).

5) Washers should always be used under the head or nut of a bolt when not in contact with the connector unless noted otherwise.

6) It is permissible to use nail guns to install connectors as long as the specified nails are installed through prepunched nail holes and all specified nail holes are filled. USP recommends the use of nail guns featuring hole-locating mechanisms. Please note that many nail guns use fasteners smaller than the common nail size and load reductions will result. Contact USP or visit our Web Site for additional information. **Caution: Always follow nail gun manufacturer's safety guidelines.**

7) Joists installed in hangers should bear fully on the connector seat and shall be cut to fit against the header with a gap no greater than 1/8" between the joist end and header face.

8) Multiple-ply members must be fastened securely together to act as one member.

9) Top mount hangers shall be installed with the face of the hanger tight to the face of the header.

10) Top mount hangers installed in floor systems may produce unevenness. This may vary by the thickness of the hanger top flange steel and the nail heads. **If a problem is anticipated, the effects can be mitigated by dapping the beam or cutting the subfloor at hanger locations. The use of face mount hangers will eliminate this problem.**

