

Greater Tacoma Convention & Trade Center
Rigging Guidelines
Revised: August 29, 2011

Rigging is defined in this document as the overhead suspension of objects from any portion of the physical building. Clients and contractors are required to submit rigging plans to the Greater Tacoma Convention & Trade Center (GTCTC) through the Event Coordinator for review and approval by the Operations Manager at least 30 days in advance of an event. The GTCTC must be notified immediately if any rigging requests are made which do not comply with stated rules and regulations. All rigging must be done with rated, stamped and approved hardware only. The GTCTC will charge the client for any costs associated with damage done to the building.

Display/Banner Bars & Lighting/Theatrical Bars:

Display or Banner Bars are located throughout the facility in select spaces. These bars have a maximum loading of 15 pounds per lineal foot. Lighting or Theatrical Bars are located in the Ballrooms and in the Meeting Rooms 315 through 318. These bars have a maximum loading of 35 pounds per fixture, and there must be at least 18" between each fixture corresponding to the stage pin connection on the bar.

Ballrooms:

There are no rigging points in the Ballrooms. All structural steel is fire-proofed and inaccessible.

Airwall, or Operable Wall, tracks located between Ballrooms A, B, C and D may be used for rigging with GTCTC approved hangers only. Airwall tracks may have a maximum of 500 pounds per hanger, with a minimum distance between hangers of 4 feet.

Meeting Rooms 315, 316 & 317:

There are no rigging points in the Meeting Rooms. All structural steel is fire-proofed and inaccessible.

Airwall, or Operable Wall, tracks located between Meeting Rooms 315, 316 and 317 may be used for rigging with GTCTC approved hangers only. Airwall tracks may have a maximum of 500 pounds per hanger, with a minimum distance between hangers of 4 feet.

Exhibition Halls:

All rigging must have a protective wrap of carpet or burlap when wrapping around structural steel of the lower truss in the Exhibition Halls. Rigging loads may be applied at the truss bottom chord level, either to the truss chords themselves (oriented east-west) or to the beams spanning between the bottom chords of the trusses (oriented north-south). The rigging loading criteria that shall be observed is as follows:

- No more than 2,000 pounds of total load can be applied to any one north-south beam.
- No more than 10,000 pounds of total load can be applied to any one east-west truss, regardless of whether that load is applied directly to the truss, to the beams that are supported by and tributary to the truss, or some combination of the two.

Four example options for rigging that satisfy the criteria outlined above are as follows:

Option 1: 2,000 pound loads located at 30'-0" on center along the length of the east-west trusses with the first load being applied 30'-0" from the east wall of the Exhibition Hall. For this option, a total of five (5) 2,000 pound loads may be applied to each east-west truss and no loads may be applied to the north-south beams.

Option 2: 1,667 pound loads located at 30'-0" on center along the length of the east-west trusses with the first load being applied less than 30'-0" from the east wall of the Exhibition Hall. For this option, a total of six (6) 2,000 pound loads may be applied to each east-west truss and no loads may be applied to the north-south beams.

Option 3: 2,000 pound loads located at 30'-0" on center applied to the north-south beams. For this option, a total of one (1) 2,000 pound load may be applied to each north-south beam and no loads may be applied to the east-west trusses.

Option 4: One (1) 10,000 pound load may be placed anywhere along the length of each of the east-west trusses. For this option, no additional loads other than the one (1) 10,000 pound load may be applied to any of the trusses and no loads may be applied to the north-south beams.

The options outlined above are the most straightforward configurations of loading that illustrate the allowable loading criteria. Other configurations of rigging loads applied to the truss bottom chords and beams that satisfy the allowable loading criteria would also be acceptable.

Airwall, or Operable Wall, tracks located between Exhibition Halls A and B may be used for rigging with GTCTC approved hangers only. Airwall tracks may have a maximum of 500 pounds per hanger, with a minimum distance between hangers of 4 feet.

Not Allowed:

Rigging is not allowed from any fixtures other than those mentioned above. Insulation or protective coatings may not be removed. Fire suppression, detection and alarm appliances may not be covered, impeded or obscured in any way. "Home made" (shop welded, etc.) rigging and climbing (carabiners, etc.) equipment is not allowed. Scissor lifts, boom lifts and forklifts may only be used as stated within their Operations & Maintenance manuals. There is no fall protection installed within the Exhibition Halls; walking or climbing on the lower truss is not allowed.