

Installation Techniques for Metallic Casing Spacers

INSTALLATION TECHNIQUES FOR METALLIC CASING SPACERS (MODELS C AND S)

In general, the actual physical insertion method is left to the expertise of the installation contractor and beyond the scope of GPT.

The following are suggested installation techniques and guidelines that should be taken into consideration when installing the casing spacers to the carrier pipe and handling prior to insertion.

1. It is absolutely critical that when installing the casing spacer that the spacers are lined up perfectly straight on the carrier pipe. All runners should line up straight like the sight through a gun barrel, making sure all segments of the spacer correspond to the drawing.
2. When handling the pipe it is also critical that the load is uniformly applied to all casing spacers on each joint of pipe and not just one. Furthermore, caution should be taken so they do not set the carrier pipe down with the casing spacers attached unless it is on a cut-a-way section of the casing pipe so the runners are bearing the weight uniformly.
3. The weight should be uniformly distributed to all bottom runners at one time. Better yet, until the pipe is being installed, have the contractor place sand bags or similar material under the pipe to bear the weight.
4. Metallic casing spacers are labeled TOP and BOTTOM; install accordingly.
5. The casing spacers should be uniformly tightened so that approximately 1/2" space (by design) exists at each flange of the casing spacer. The studs at each flange should be tightened uniformly which should result in a torque reading of 60 inch-pounds (5 foot-pounds)*.
6. Spacing between casing spacers is as detailed on the project or in accordance with the latest GPT literature.
7. It is desirable to restrict or minimize rotation or rifling of the carrier pipe within the casing unless the spacers are designed with equal length runners and specifically intended to allow for rotation.
8. Spacers are manufactured with requested clearance design. If weld beads are excessive (more than 1/4"), bore of casing beyond quality tolerances, bend or sags exist in the casing, these tolerances could be diminished. Call GPT @ 800-423-2410 if any of these conditions exist.

*In most installations, torque wrenches are not used. The nuts are tightened on the studs sufficiently, but not so much as to bend the flanges of the casing spacers.

