



Technical Bulletin

Safely Moving a P4 32-100
boiler***and all other sizes.
July 27,2012

Within the last three weeks we have unfortunately lost two P4 48/60 boilers to accidental drops. One boiler was lost in the hands of Federal Express and the other tipped while being moved in our warehouse. We cannot know what happened to the Federal Express boiler. The boiler that tipped in our warehouse was on a forklift being moved at relatively low speeds. We believe that our mistake was twofold. The first mistake was to not set the forks as wide as the pallet would allow. We had the forks placed 2-3 inches narrower than full width on each side. The second mistake was to not stop and get a new purchase on the pallet when we realized it was tippy (and we did know it was tippy). Anyway, I don't know why I'm using the word "we". It was yours truly, Scott Nichols.

Both boilers are total losses. The boiler I lost fell flat back and appeared to be almost OK until we discovered that it landed on the return tapping. There is indication that the weld flexed. What was not a total loss is one of my staff or a truck driver or one of you, here to pick up a boiler. Thankfully, there was nobody standing within the drop zone. This is really why I am writing.

It is easy to forget how quickly a regular day can go bad. These boilers are very heavy and have a high center of gravity. Take this bulletin as a reminder to keep your forks as wide as possible. When you are lifting from the long end of the pallet, there is no wooden cross member under the forks to help stabilize the boiler. Mind uneven surfaces with the utmost of care. **DO NOT** use a human being to steady a tippy boiler. We aren't strong or tall enough. Stay clear of a boiler in motion. If the boiler seems unstable, stop and figure out how to remedy the problem. Please take it from me, I felt as though I was being cautious, but didn't take the opportunity to do anything that I recommend in this paragraph.

Somehow I need to find the good in this loss. If I can save one of you from the same agony or worse, this experience will have been worthwhile.