SAMMYS®
SWIVEL HEAD PRODUCTS
Choice can profitably lower installation time, materials, and cost

Sammy Swivel Head™
for Wood, Steel, and Concrete

- SH-GST Models
  Swivels up to 17° off vertical for attachment of 3/8" threaded rod in wood structures. No pre-drilling required.

- SH-DSTR Models
  Swivels up to 17° off vertical for attachment of 3/8" threaded rod in purlin. No pre-drilling required.

- SH-TEK Models
  Swivels 0-89° off vertical for attachment of 3/8" or 1/2" threaded rod in structural and tubular steel using the Original TEKS® fastener. No pre-drilling required.

- SH-GST/CST Models
  Swivels 0-89° off vertical for attachment of 3/8" or 1/2" threaded rod in concrete using the Original Tapcon® fastener. Pre-drilling required.

- SXP Models
  Swivels 0-89° off vertical for attachment of 3/8" threaded rod in metal deck and purlin using the Sammy X-Press fastener technology. No retainer nut required.

Swivel X-Press™
for C or Z-Purlin and Metal Deck

Benefits of the Swivel Head Family of Products...

- Reduced installation cost
- Design flexibility
- Less on site material
- Less material coordination
- Aesthetically pleasing

As seen in FPC Magazine
September 2009

Ask for SAMMYS® in the Yellow Box!
Structural Attachment of Hanger Assemblies

By Andrea Basalay

ITW Buildex, a division of Illinois Tool Works, has provided innovative threaded fastening systems to the commercial construction industry for more than four decades. Adapting its offering to provide safe, time-saving solutions to attachment challenges created by the evolution of construction materials and substrates, substantiated by the introduction of Tapcon® self-tapping anchors for masonry applications and Teks® self-drilling screws for steel.

It came as a surprise, however, with the acquisition of Speedy Products in 2002 for overhead attachment of threaded rod, that the structural attachment of pipe hangers to the building remained a vague area. In a world affected by NFPA 13 standards, the hanger drawings often depicted threaded rod suspended in thin air, leaving the actual attachment to the structure unspecified and selection open to the contractor, citing “approved fastener per NFPA 13.” Extensive field work over the years illustrates that choice can profitably lower installation time, materials, and cost.

As the Architect and Engineering communities strive to provide their LEEDS projects with borrowed natural light through creative use of peaks and angles, traditional methods of attachment detract from the overall aesthetic look sought by the designers. The need to support sprinkler systems from an eight-foot spanner or trapeze distorts the designer’s vision and can often lead to negotiation and/or expensive redesign. Alternative structural attachment designed to meet the performance and installation needs of the fire protection contractor can provide an acceptable solution for both parties and, ultimately, the building owner.

The need for a hanger to support 2” Schedule 40 branch lines from a 37° pitched metal roof at the Fort Bragg, North Carolina, barracks project created a time-consuming installation application for the contractor. Working in the cold, apprentices formed an assembly line to create hangers that employed nine separate components sourced from two separate vendors. The Journeyman was then able to take the completed assembly to the structural I-beam and wedge the device between the deck and structural member; a clear conflict of new design vs. old technology.

This was not the first time ITW Buildex witnessed a slow and painful installation brought on by an extremely-pitched roof line. The need to suspend threaded rod through use of a swiveling device was obvious; not just to increase the speed of installation, but to improve the overhead clutter. Having worked closely with the Steel Deck Institute on previous inventions, we were able to work with the Army Corps of Engineers at Fort Bragg to provide a safe, aesthetically pleasing hanging solution that reduced installation time from 30 minutes per hanger to 30 seconds with our SXP model.

The conflict between the designer and the fire protection installer or the structure and the hanger was easily remedied by a hanger that provides the design flexibility mandated by the structure itself. Today’s specialty anchors are compatible with modern design techniques as they are designed for the application; it is not a case of Cinderella’s shoes wedged on to the stepsister’s size nine.

Recently, increasing use of tubular steel, or HSS (hollow structural steel), in open space design projects has presented its share of installation woes. Pipe hanging at a recent school project in western Colorado on a 400-foot, 31-foot high corridor with a roofline pitched at 45°, was reduced from five days to two and a half days using a specialty anchor designed to work in the tubular substrate. Combining our swivel technology and the time-tested Teks® technology, we were able to produce a Listed fastener that eliminated the need for outsourced welding and pre-drilling, thereby increasing productivity and profitability.

Quick turnover of a building to its owner is critical to any project. Choosing the correct method of structural attachment of a hanger can reduce the installation time and contribute to the turnover rate. It is always important to follow the manufacturer’s installation instructions to achieve published performance values.

This common goal established and shared by the designers, installers, manufacturers, and the testing and inspection groups serves to unify the various branches of the industry and provides the installer with the proper attachment for the substrate chosen for the building.

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Reprinted from FPC/Fire Protection Contractor magazine, September 2009

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