PIPE HANDLING METHODOLOGY

Abstract

A method for positioning a pipe stand in a fingerboard having fingers with a pipe racking apparatus includes gripping the pipe stand with an upper grabber and gripping the pipe stand with a lower grabber. The method also includes moving the pipe stand until it is aligned with a rack slot between two fingers of the fingerboard and extending the upper and lower grabbers to position the pipe stand in the rack slot. The method includes tilting the pipe stand in a first direction by moving one or both of the upper and lower grabbers in the first direction and tilting the pipe stand in a second direction. The method also includes lowering the pipe stand into contact with a setback of a drill floor, moving the pipe stand in the second direction until the pipe stand leans against the fingerboard, and releasing the pipe stand.

Fig. 1

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