

STRUCTURAL STEEL PIPE RACK FOR THERMAL POWER PROJECTS- ANALYSIS AND DESIGN

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Abstract: This study evaluates the Analysis and Design of Pipe carrying structure in Thermal Power Project such as Pipe Racks. Pipe racks are the most important structure in Oil and Gas, Refineries, Petrochemical Projects, Power Plants and many other industrial structures. For most loads the pipe racks were designed as primary critical loads and pipe loads. In this report, the analysis of the pipe rack with sufficient loads and suitable configuration is performed using software such as STAAD Pro. As per the Indian code, the design and analysis of pipe rack was done. Various loads such as Dead Load, Live Load, Wind Load, Pipe Empty Load, Pipe Full Load and their combinations are considered.

Index Terms-

Piperack, Deadload, Liveload, Windload, Pipeemptyload, Pipefullload, OilandGas, Refineries, PetrochemicalProjectsandPower Plants.

1 Introduction

The pipe carrying structure used in thermal power project which we considered for this research paper is a Pipe Rack. It is a very important structure in thermal power projects of about 2 km length. Pipe rack is a steel structure which carries multiple pipes carrying liquid or gas in different tiers with service platforms and walkways. Pipe racks carry large diameter to small bore lines with liquid or gas from one Equipment to another Equipment or from one unit to another unit. Pipe networks are considered as main components of industrial complexes like refineries and petrochemicals that transfer fluid and gas and any damage in their structures may be dangerous. Pipe rack designing is not a one-man army job. It involves a lot of engineering calculations and so required contribution from the different engineering disciplines.



Fig.1 Pipe Rack Structure

Pipe racks are the main highway in a process facility. The equipment areas. Pipe racks are usually located in the middle of process plants. If the racks are located in the middle of the plant, then they have to be erected first, before becoming surrounded by process equipment. Pipe racks support not only process piping but also utility piping, cable, and instrument trays as well as any equipment that is supported from and over the pipe racks such as air coolers. Pipe racks require considerable planning and coordination with all disciplines to facilitate not only a logical design but also to reduce construction costs.

Pipe racks connect all the equipment with piping that cannot run through the equipment areas. Pipe racks are usually located in the middle of process plants. If the racks are located in the middle of the plant, then they have to be erected first, before becoming surrounded by process equipment. Pipe racks support not only process piping but also utility piping, cable, and instrument trays as well as any equipment that is supported from and over the pipe racks such as air coolers. Pipe racks require considerable planning and coordination with all disciplines to facilitate not only a logical design but also to reduce construction costs.

1.1. Problem Statement

A typical pipe rack is considered for a power project between FO P/H Area to ESP Control Room consisting of 54.06m length. There are three tiers - First tier is at 9.00m height, second at 10.50m height and third at 12.00m height. All heights are considered at Top of Steel (TOS).

The Structural layout shall be prepared on the basis of Mechanical/Piping drawings and requirements. Two roads are crossing the pipe rack at 4.00m and 29.825m distance from origin. To give accessibility to road, a bridge is to be constructed considering the vehicle heights.

1.2. Necessity and Objective:

Pipe racks are necessary for arranging the process and utility pipelines throughout the plant. It connects all the equipment (installed at different location) with lines that cannot run through adjacent areas.

Pipe racks are also used in secondary ways, as it also carries the electrical wire, instrument wire, firefighting systems, lights, etc. Air-cooled or fin-fan type heat exchangers are often supported above pipe racks to reduce the plant space requirements. The objective is to analyze and design a Pipe rack structure which is not as other structures. The specialty is various loads and load combinations are to be considered. The other objective of analysis and design of this kind of structure is to understand the multidisciplinary drawings and data.

2.0. Design Methodology

In the proposed scope of work, the structure is analyzed in STAAD Pro Software and Design is done manually using IS:800-2007, IS:875-1987 Part I, IS:875-1987 Part II and IS:875-2015 Part III. The pipe forces will be considered as point load on the support as data received from the Mechanical/Piping Department.

3.0 Loads and Load Combinations

3.1 Loads

- 1) **Dead Load:** The dead loads are calculated from the member sizes and estimated material densities. Unit weight of building materials can be estimated in accordance with IS 875-1987 Part I.
- 2) **Live Load:** Live loads are considered as per IS:875-1987 Part II .
- 3) **Wind Load:** Live loads are considered as per IS:875-1987 Part III .
- 4) **Pipe Loads:** The following table is obtained from the piping department which gives us the details about the material of the pipes, thickness of the pipes, diameter of the pipes, bare pipe weight, water weight, bare pipe + water weight, design weight, horizontal load, span, PEL and PFL. Table 1 represents the pipe input details.

Table No.1 Pipe Input Details

SR. NO	Service	Material of Pipe	Qty	NB (mm)	Pipe Thk (mm)	Pipe OD (mm)	Bare Pipe weight (Kg/m)	Water weight (Kg/m)	Bare pipe + water weight (Kg/m)	Design weight (Vertical load) (kg/m)	Horizontal load (30% of Vertical)	Remarks	Design weight (kg/m)
SECTION : 03-03													
1	PLANT POTABLE	IS 1239	1	50	4.5	60.80	6.25	2.11	8.36	8.36	2.51	TOP TIER	10.4
2	WAD	IS 1239	1	100	5.4	115.00	14.60	8.53	23.12	23.12	6.94	TOP TIER	28.9
3	SAD	IS 1239	1	50	4.5	60.80	6.25	2.11	8.36	8.36	2.51	TOP TIER	10.4
4	PWD	IS 1239	1	25	4	34.20	2.98	0.54	3.52	3.52	1.06	TOP TIER	4.4
5	SWD	IS 1239	1	40	4	46.80	4.42	1.31	5.73	5.73	1.72	TOP TIER	7.2
1	HFO PUMP HOUSE	IS 1239	1	65	4.5	76.60	8.00	3.59	11.59	11.59	3.48	MIDDLE	14.5
2	COOLING WATER	IS 1239	1	50	4.5	60.80	6.25	2.11	8.36	8.36	2.51	MIDDLE	10.4
3	HOT WATER OUT	IS 1239	1	50	4.5	60.80	6.25	2.11	8.36	8.36	2.51	MIDDLE	10.4
4	CONDENSATE	IS 1239	1	40	4	46.80	4.42	1.31	5.73	5.73	1.72	MIDDLE	7.2
5	SUMP PUMP FROM	IS 1239	1	65	4.5	76.60	8.00	3.59	11.59	11.59	3.48	MIDDLE	14.5
6	FUEL OIL	IS 1239	1	80	4.8	89.50	10.03	5.01	15.04	15.04	4.51	MIDDLE	18.8
7	DM NEUTRALIZED	IS 1239	1	150	5.4	166.50	21.45	19.04	40.49	40.49	12.15	MIDDLE	50.8
8	DM TRANSFER	IS 3589	1	200	6.3	219.10	33.06	33.49	66.55	66.55	19.97	MIDDLE	83.2
9	SERVICE WATER	IS 3589	1	200	6.3	219.10	33.06	33.49	66.55	66.55	19.97	MIDDLE	83.2
1	AUXILIARY STEAM -	A 106	1	150	7.11	168.30	28.26	18.65	46.91	46.91	14.07	BOTTOM	58.6
2	HFO - SUPPLY	A 106	1	150	7.11	168.30	28.26	18.65	46.91	46.91	14.07	BOTTOM	58.6
3	HFO - RETURN	A 106	1	100	6.02	114.30	16.08	8.21	24.29	24.29	7.29	BOTTOM	30.4
4	LDO - SUPPLY	A 106	1	80	5.49	88.90	11.29	4.77	16.06	16.06	4.82	BOTTOM	20.1
5	APH WASH PUMP	IS 3589	1	300	7.1	323.90	55.47	75.33	130.80	130.80	39.24	BOTTOM	163.5
TOTAL										548.31	164.49		
Total Pipe Load for Rack Design Considering 20% Contingency										657.97			

3.2 Load Combinations:

The following are the load combinations of the loads (Live Load (LL), Dead Load (DL), Pipe Empty Load (PEL), Pipe Full Load (PFL), and Wind Load (WL)) applied on the structure. Table 2 represents the load combinations.

Table no.2 – Load Combinations

LOADCOMB01 1.5(DL+LL+WL(+X))	LOAD COMB34 1.2(DL+WL(-Z))+PFL)
LOADCOMB02 1.5(DL+LL+WL(-X))	LOAD COMB35 1.2(DL+LL+PEL)
LOADCOMB03 1.5(DL+LL+WL(+Z))	LOAD COMB36 1.2(DL+LL+PFL)
LOADCOMB04 1.5(DL+LL+WL(-Z))	LOAD COMB37 1.2 (DL+LL+WL(+X))+PEL)
LOADCOMB05 1.5(DL+LL+WL(+X))+PEL)	LOAD COMB 38 1.2 (DL+LL+WL(-X))+PEL)
LOADCOMB06 1.5(DL+LL+WL(-X))+PEL)	LOAD COMB39 1.2 (DL+LL+WL(+Z))+PEL)
LOADCOMB07 1.5(DL+LL+WL(+Z))+PEL)	LOAD COMB 40 1.2(DL+LL+WL(-Z))+PEL)
LOAD COMB 08 1.5 (DL+ LL+ WL(-Z) + PEL)	LOAD COMB 66 DL+ LL + PF
LOAD COMB 09 1.5 (DL+ LL+ WL(+X) + PFL)	LOAD COMB 41 1.2 (DL + LL + WL(+X) + PFL)
LOAD COMB 10 1.5 (DL+ LL+ WL(-X) + PFL)	LOAD COMB 42 1.2 (DL + LL + WL(-X) + PFL)
LOAD COMB 11 1.5 (DL+ LL+ WL(+Z) + PFL)	LOAD COMB 43 1.2 (DL + LL + WL(+Z) + PFL)
LOAD COMB 12 1.5 (DL+ LL+ WL(-Z) + PFL)	LOAD COMB 44 1.2 (DL + LL + WL(-Z) + PFL)
LOAD COMB 13 1.5 (DL+ LL+ WL(-Z) + PFL)	LOAD COMB 45 DL + LL+WL(+X)
LOAD COMB 14 1.5 (DL+ WL(-X) + PEL)	LOAD COMB 46 DL + LL+WL(-X)
LOAD COMB 15 1.5 (DL+ WL(+Z) + PEL)	LOAD COMB 47 DL + LL+WL(+Z)
LOAD COMB 16 1.5 (DL+ WL(-Z) + PEL)	LOAD COMB 48 DL + LL+WL(-Z)
LOAD COMB 17 1.5 (DL+ WL(+X) + PFL)	LOAD COMB 49 DL + LL+WL(+X) + PEL
LOAD COMB 18 1.5 (DL+ WL(-X) + PFL)	LOAD COMB 50 DL + LL+WL(-X) + PEL
LOAD COMB 19 1.5 (DL+ WL(+Z) + PFL)	LOAD COMB 51 DL + LL+WL(+Z) + PEL
LOAD COMB 20 1.5 (DL+ WL(-Z) + PFL)	LOAD COMB 52 DL + LL+WL(-Z) + PEL
LOAD COMB 21 1.5 (DL+ LL + PEL)	LOAD COMB 53 DL + LL+WL(+X) + PFL
LOAD COMB 22 1.5 (DL+ LL + PFL)	LOAD COMB 54 DL + LL+WL(-X) + PFL
LOAD COMB 23 1.2 (DL+ LL + WL(+X))	LOAD COMB 55 DL + LL+WL(+Z) + PFL
LOAD COMB 24 1.2 (DL+ LL + WL(-X))	LOAD COMB 56 DL + LL+WL(-Z) + PFL
LOAD COMB 25 1.2 (DL+ LL + WL(+Z))	LOAD COMB 57 DL+ WL(+X) + PEL
LOAD COMB 26 1.2 (DL+ LL + WL(-Z))	LOAD COMB 58 DL+ WL(-X) + PEL
LOAD COMB 27 1.2 (DL + WL(+X) + PEL)	LOAD COMB 59 DL+ WL(+Z) + PEL
LOAD COMB 28 1.2 (DL + WL(-X) + PEL)	LOAD COMB 60 DL+ WL(-Z) + PEL
LOAD COMB 29 1.2 (DL + WL(+Z) + PEL)	LOAD COMB 61 DL+ WL(+X) + PFL LOAD
LOAD COMB 30 1.2 (DL + WL(-Z) + PEL)	LOAD COMB 62 DL+ WL(-X) + PFL
LOAD COMB 31 1.2 (DL + WL(+X) + PFL)	LOAD COMB 63 DL+ WL(+Z) + PFL
LOAD COMB 32 1.2 (DL + WL(-X) + PFL)	LOAD COMB 64 DL+ WL(-Z) + PFL
LOAD COMB 33 1.2 (DL + WL(+Z) + PFL)	LOAD COMB 65 DL+ LL + PEL

4.0 STAAD MODEL

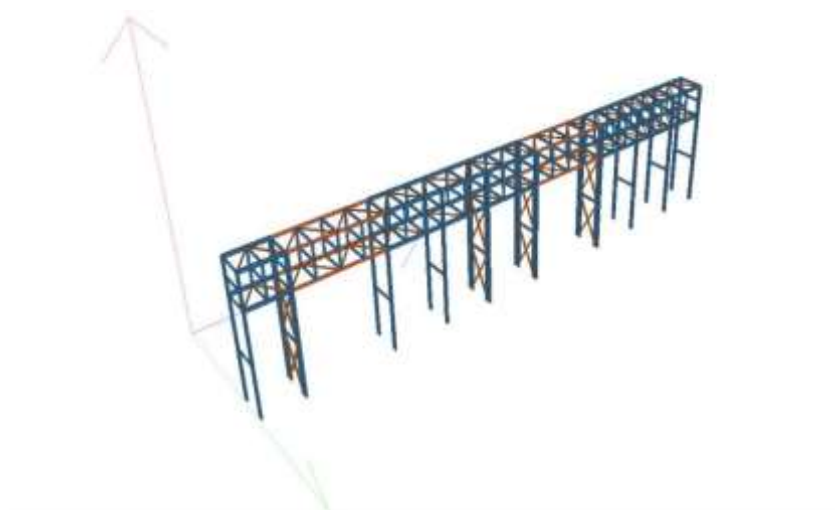


Fig.2.3DRenderedView

5.0 Design

After analysis in Staad Software , following Members are designed:

Table No.3 Design Check for Member No. 662

BEAM	662
LENGTH	2.7
FORCE	64
1.AREA (AG)	281.6
2.AN	216.802168
SECTION SELECTED	ISMB200
AREA PROVIDED	3233
CHECK	OKAY
2.DESIGN STRENGTH DUE TO YIELDING	
TDG	734.7727273
CHECK	OKAY
3)DESIGNSTRENGTH DUE TO RUPTURE AT NET CRITICAL AREA	
TDN	318.1272
CHECK	OKAY

Table No.4 Design Check for Member No. 599

COLUMN	599
LENGTH	4.5
FORCE	62
1.AREA (AG)=	272.8
2.AN	210.0271003
SECTION=	ISMC400 D
AREA PROVIDED	7846
CHECK	OKAY
2.DESIGN STRENGTH DUE TO YIELDING	
TDG=	1783.181818
CHECK	OKAY
3)DESIGNSTRENGTH DUE TO RUPTURE AT NET CRITICAL AREA	
TDN=	772.0464
CHECK	OKAY

6.0 Conclusion

After Analysis and Design of Pipe rack for power project for three tiers, the total weight was found to be 52961.0068 kg. It can be concluded that the pipe rack weight per meter length is 979.6708 kg/m.

The scope of further study can be an alternative with replacing steel column with RCC column. This alternative can be analyzed, designed and compared with structured steel pipe rack.

7.0 References

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