



Daily Trench Box Inspection

Must be done by a Competent Person

- No damage around outsides of outer shields
- No cracks or major dents in side shields (waffling effect—when skin of shield is pressed into structural steel)
- Spreaders are undamaged (bent, cracked, warped, bowed or structurally unstable)
- Pins or keeper pins all in place and to manufacturer's specifications (e.g., no nails, welding rods, scrap metal)
- All welds are stable and undamaged
- All rivets are undamaged
- Reference the manufacturer's tabulated data for guidance

Trench Box Requirements

- All trench boxes must be lifted by the manufactured lift point
- Tabulated data must be followed
- Must always be a means of access and egress (typically a ladder)
- The means of access and egress must be 25 lateral feet from workers
- If a ladder is used for access or egress, it must extend beyond the top of the box by 3 feet
- Area between trench wall and trench box side shield should be as small as possible (backfill if needed)
- The bottom of the excavation can not be any more than 2 feet from the bottom of the trench box
- The top of the trench box must extend 18 inches above grade (top of excavation)
- All workers must be out of the trench box during moving
- Before stacking, assure trench boxes are certified by manufacturer for stacking

