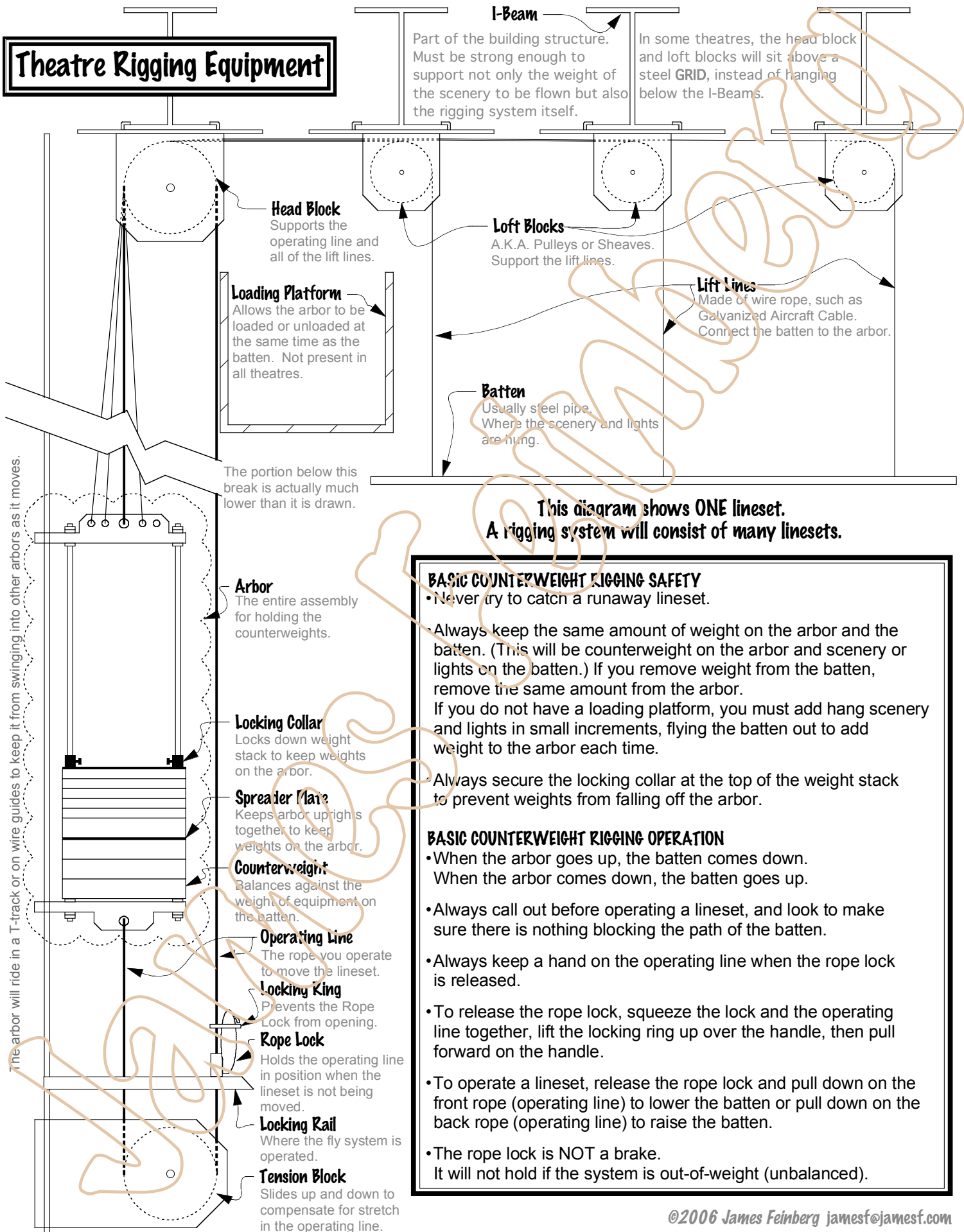


Theatre Rigging Equipment



I-Beam
Part of the building structure. Must be strong enough to support not only the weight of the scenery to be flown but also the rigging system itself.

In some theatres, the head block and loft blocks will sit above a steel GRID, instead of hanging below the I-Beams.

Head Block
Supports the operating line and all of the lift lines.

Loading Platform
Allows the arbor to be loaded or unloaded at the same time as the batten. Not present in all theatres.

Loft Blocks
A.K.A. Pulleys or Sheaves. Support the lift lines.

Lift Lines
Made of wire rope, such as Galvanized Aircraft Cable. Connect the batten to the arbor.

Batten
Usually steel pipe. Where the scenery and lights are hung.

The portion below this break is actually much lower than it is drawn.

The arbor will ride in a T-track or on wire guides to keep it from swinging into other arbors as it moves.

Arbor
The entire assembly for holding the counterweights.

Locking Collar
Locks down weight stack to keep weights on the arbor.

Spreader Plate
Keeps arbor upright together to keep weights on the arbor.

Counterweight
Balances against the weight of equipment on the batten.

Operating Line
The rope you operate to move the lineset.

Locking King
Prevents the Rope Lock from opening.

Rope Lock
Holds the operating line in position when the lineset is not being moved.

Locking Rail
Where the fly system is operated.

Tension Block
Slides up and down to compensate for stretch in the operating line.

This diagram shows ONE lineset. A rigging system will consist of many linesets.

BASIC COUNTERWEIGHT RIGGING SAFETY

- Never try to catch a runaway lineset.
- Always keep the same amount of weight on the arbor and the batten. (This will be counterweight on the arbor and scenery or lights on the batten.) If you remove weight from the batten, remove the same amount from the arbor. If you do not have a loading platform, you must add hang scenery and lights in small increments, flying the batten out to add weight to the arbor each time.
- Always secure the locking collar at the top of the weight stack to prevent weights from falling off the arbor.

BASIC COUNTERWEIGHT RIGGING OPERATION

- When the arbor goes up, the batten comes down. When the arbor comes down, the batten goes up.
- Always call out before operating a lineset, and look to make sure there is nothing blocking the path of the batten.
- Always keep a hand on the operating line when the rope lock is released.
- To release the rope lock, squeeze the lock and the operating line together, lift the locking ring up over the handle, then pull forward on the handle.
- To operate a lineset, release the rope lock and pull down on the front rope (operating line) to lower the batten or pull down on the back rope (operating line) to raise the batten.
- The rope lock is NOT a brake. It will not hold if the system is out-of-weight (unbalanced).