FLY SYSTEM LOADING & UNLOADING

WHAT THIS SHEET APPLIES TO
Anyone changing weights to balance the Strider Theater counterweight fly system. 
(See also the Safety Information Sheet entitled “Fly System Operation”.)

RISKS INCLUDE
Falling objects, muscle & ligament injuries, and overexertion.

GUIDELINES, RULES, & PROCEDURES
- At least three trained, certified people are required; two on the loading gallery and a supervisor on the stage to test the line set, call commands, and spot. **Hard hats must be worn by all people on stage.**
- Remove any unnecessary items from pockets or which could fall off (this includes hard hats) before climbing up to the loading gallery.
- During the loading/unloading process, an unbalanced load condition exists. This is potentially VERY DANGEROUS. Use the Department of Theater & Dance’s official procedure each time a line loaded or unloaded. This procedure is taught as part of the certification process.
- Whenever possible, battens should be loaded at Low Trim. Counterweights should be the **LAST THING LOADED,** and the **FIRST THING UNLOADED.**
- Never load or unload weights when anyone is standing below the loading gallery.
- Lift weights with your legs while keeping your back as vertical as possible.
- A spreader plate should be used for each 24” of counterweights stacked on the arbor. Arbor collars should remain fastened in place after loading and unloading.
- There should be quiet on stage whenever counterweights are being loaded/unloaded.
- Counterweights should never be stacked higher than the top of the kick rail and should be evenly distributed along the length of the loading gallery.
- Line sets should always be kept in balance. Never rely on the rope lock to hold an unbalanced load.
- If the line can’t be perfectly balanced because the imbalance is smaller than the smallest weight available, it is usually better to leave the line arbor heavy.
- See also the Safety Information Sheet “Fly System Operation”.

FOR FURTHER UNDERSTANDING