



## BELT CONVEYOR GUARDING

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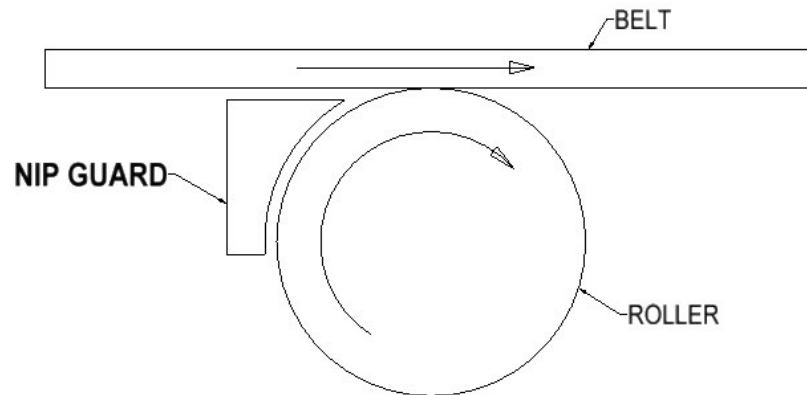
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### Flat Guards VS Nip Style Guards



*The following points should be considered when looking at Nip Guards:*

1. **INSTALLATION CRITERIA** – Is there a specific way Nip Style guards need to be installed in order for them to be safe? Do installation procedures vary with each type of guard?

***FLAT GUARDS are simple to install and the same procedures are used every time.***

2. **MAINTENANCE** – These guards could become a “wear” item if belt, rollers or pulleys get built up with material. Will they need regular inspection and adjustments, and who will make this determination? Would the cost of inspection and adjusting out weigh any potential savings?

***FLAT GUARDS are installed well away from moving parts, therefore are not affected by any build up of materials or wear and tear. Regular inspections or adjustments are not necessary.***

**STAY AWAY - STAY SAFE**

3. **DEFECTIVE BELTS** – What if the belt has been clipped to keep conveyor going? Clips could become a hazard if people are working in the area OR what if a foreign object like a piece of steel gets lodged in the belt? This could be very dangerous in the area of a Nip Style guard.

***FLAT GUARDS are installed far enough away from the belt that clips or tears would not be a concern.***

4. **ENGINEERING** – Is there engineering data on the nip guarding? Would an engineer sign off on a Pre-Start Review for a piece of equipment that has a nip guard?

***FLAT GUARDS have been used on many conveyor applications that required Pre-Start Reviews.***

5. **TESTING** – Has testing been carried out to verify that nip guarding actually works consistently? Is the statement “it works in most cases” what we want to hear in a guarding application? If it doesn’t work in all cases it should **not** be considered a safety devise.

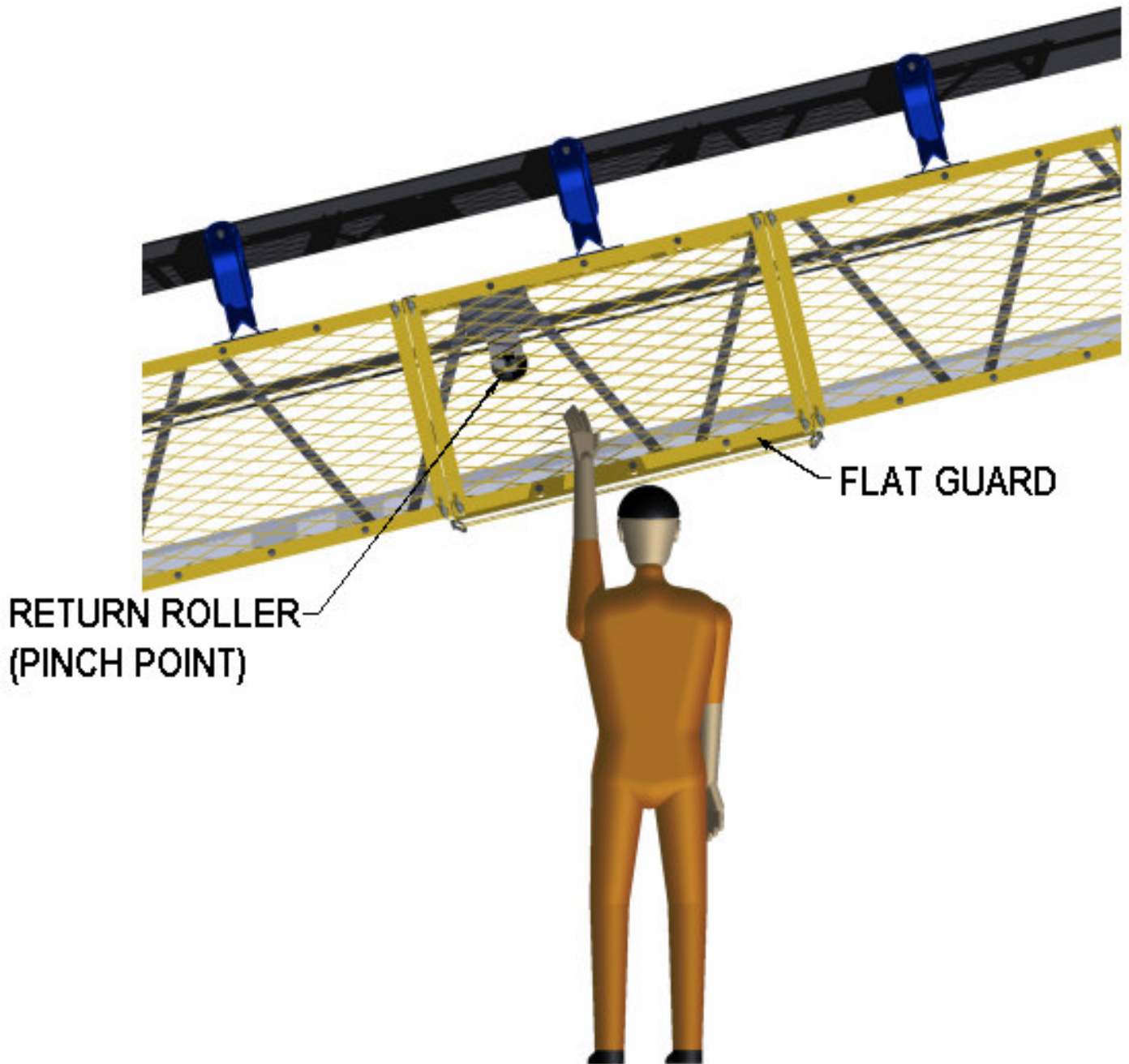
***FLAT GUARDS have been tested using CSA Standards to ensure the human body cannot contact pinch points. If installed properly, Flat Guards will prevent injury every time.***

6. **EDUCATION** –The CSA Standard Z432-04 Safe Guarding of Machinery includes Section 10 for barrier guarding criteria. They have developed criteria for Safe Guarding Distances (Section 10-11) and a chart showing how these distances are applied (figure 5 page 72). This criteria, is the basis for local regulating authorities to carry out their inspections of equipment with “pinch” or “nip” points. Educating workers who work near nip or pinch points should to be consistent.

***FLAT GUARDS comply with the above mentioned CSA Standards.***

**STAY AWAY - STAY SAFE**

## Flat Guard Illustration



**STAY AWAY - STAY SAFE**

## Flat Guards Vs Nip Style Guards

We hope you have enjoyed this tip sheet on “Flat Guards Vs Nip Guards” and now see that proper guarding selection and installation is critical. Whatever your approach is to guarding, follow these tips and you will reduce worker injury, improve productivity, and comply with industry standards.

I would like to personally wish you great success in your guarding endeavors.

Sincerely,

Paul Vandergeest  
President

### **ON GUARD FOR YOU**

#### *Guarding Basics*

If your conveyors need guarding, and you are interested in developing a Safety Guarding Plan, then contact Belt Conveyor Guarding to set up an appointment for your free Conveyor Guarding Assessment.

During your initial contact, we will take some time to get to know you and your specific requirements. Once we have a good understanding of your guarding challenges and objectives we will suggest guarding techniques that will quickly adapt to your needs.

Your assessment comes with no obligation to purchase our products or act on our recommendations, and we will not pressure you in any way. It will be your choice to take the next step, and if you choose not to, that's okay with us.

Book your **free** Conveyor Guarding Assessment today by calling our toll free number 1-866-300-6668 or fill in our contact information sheet at:

[www.conveyorguarding.com/lpassess.htm](http://www.conveyorguarding.com/lpassess.htm)

With each guarding assessment we will also send you a **free** Conveyor Pinch Point Gauge.

**STAY AWAY - STAY SAFE**