

Check List

Hopper Car Unloading for Customers

Guidelines for unloading polyethylene



STEP	ACTIONS	OK
INBOUND - SAFETY & SECURITY PROCEDURES		
1	A <input type="checkbox"/> Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) – Always follow your company safety procedures.	<input type="checkbox"/>
	B <input type="checkbox"/> Safety - Ensure derail, blue caution flag/sign, and wheel chocks in place, and handbrake set.	
	C <input type="checkbox"/> Security Inspection – No signs of tampering (e.g., broken/altered security seal), no visible pest contamination, suspicious items, vandalism, or other security concerns.	
	D <input type="checkbox"/> Hopper Car Damage Inspection – No obvious signs of damage, inoperable, or missing parts.	
SETUP – PREPARING HOPPER CAR FOR UNLOADING		
2	A <input type="checkbox"/> If hopper car has vented hatches , ensure vents are clear of snow and ice. - If no vented hatches: Cut off top hatch seal, open hatch cover, and install hatch filter (only if safe access to top of hopper car).	<input type="checkbox"/>
	B <input type="checkbox"/> Cut off seals to bottom draft tube end caps on compartments to be unloaded.	
	C <input type="checkbox"/> Unlock and remove draft tube end caps from both ends.	
	D <input type="checkbox"/> Purge/remove any pellets or granular powder, and contamination from the inside of the draft tube.	
	E <input type="checkbox"/> Install inlet draft tube filter on air intake side.	
	F <input type="checkbox"/> Connect offloading hose to discharge side of draft tube.	
	G <input type="checkbox"/> Connect bonding and grounding cables to hopper car, unloading hose/equipment, and grounding source.	
	H <input type="checkbox"/> Place pellet spill containment tray under offloading hose and draft tube connection.	
STARTING UNLOADING OPERATIONS		
3	A <input type="checkbox"/> Turn on conveying system.	<input type="checkbox"/>
	B <input type="checkbox"/> Open draft tube unloading valve in small increments to prevent large fluctuations of air pressure. Always follow your company operating procedures.	
COMPLETING UNLOADING OPERATIONS		
4	A <input type="checkbox"/> Use a rubber mallet or plastic dead blow hammer to tap the outer side wall of the compartment to dislodge any pellets or granular powder that may be stuck/hung up.	<input type="checkbox"/>
	B <input type="checkbox"/> If safe access to top hatch, visually check the compartment to verify it is empty (< 500 kg/1100 lbs.) - If needed, use a non-metallic tipped rod/probe/pole through the hatch opening to move the resins into the draft tube. Reasonable care must be taken not to hit or damage the lining.	
	C <input type="checkbox"/> Turn off conveying system.	
	D <input type="checkbox"/> If applicable, remove hatch filter , and close hatch.	
	E <input type="checkbox"/> Close unloading valve , disconnect offloading hose, and remove air intake filters. Always follow your company operating procedures.	
	F <input type="checkbox"/> Clean out the draft tube of any pellets or granular powder.	
	G <input type="checkbox"/> Reinstall draft tube end caps, lock arm, install pin, and apply security seal.	
	H <input type="checkbox"/> Clean up any spilled pellets or granular powder released during unloading operations.	
POST-UNLOADING / PRE-TRIP INSPECTION		
5	A <input type="checkbox"/> Safety – Unloading tools, equipment, and accessories removed from hopper car and rail track. Always follow your company operating procedures.	<input type="checkbox"/>
	B <input type="checkbox"/> Security Inspection – All valves and hatches closed, locked, and sealed. No visible pest contamination, suspicious items, or other security concerns.	
	C <input type="checkbox"/> Environment - Spilled pellets or granular powder cleaned up from floor/ground and hopper car.	
	D <input type="checkbox"/> Hopper Car Damage Inspection – No obvious signs of damage, inoperable, or missing parts.	

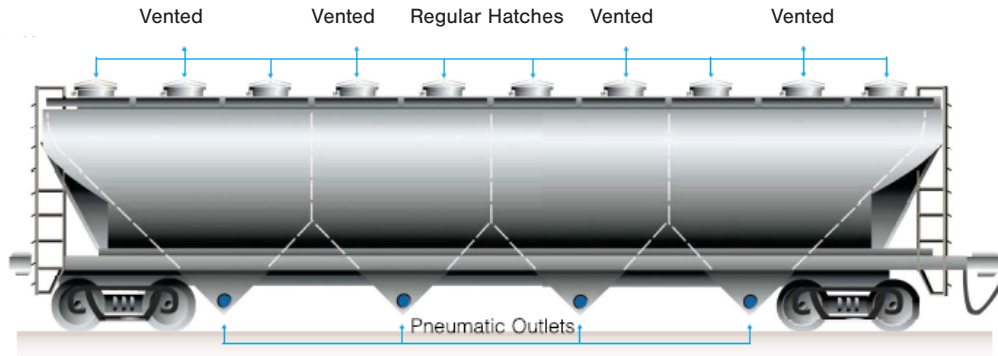
This hopper car unloading checklist is intended to provide general information concerning the handling of plastic resins and is provided without any representations or warranties as to applicability to any customer. Specific procedures and requirements will vary according to jurisdiction.

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Take the OCS Pledge – Do your part to protect the environment.
 Operation Clean Sweep® opcleansweep.org

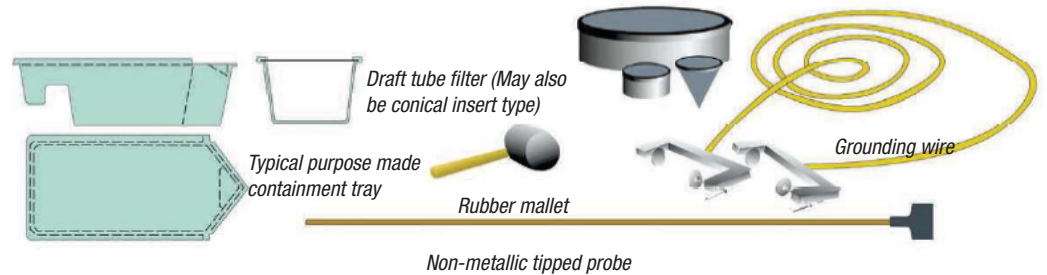


Typical NOVA Chemicals Hopper Car

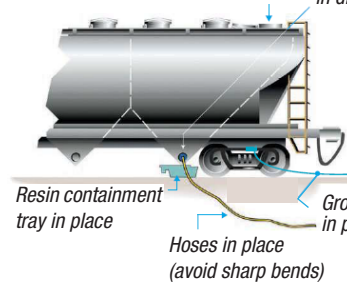
- State-of-the-art design
- Large (6200-6400 ft³) payload capacity
- Each compartment is equipped with a vented hatch cover to prevent implosions

Suggested Accessory Kit for Unloading a Hopper Car

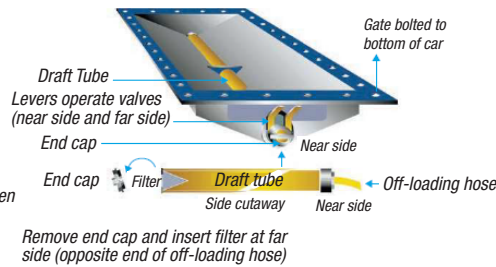
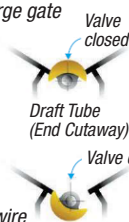
Air filters for top hatch opening are only required if top hatch is opened during unloading.



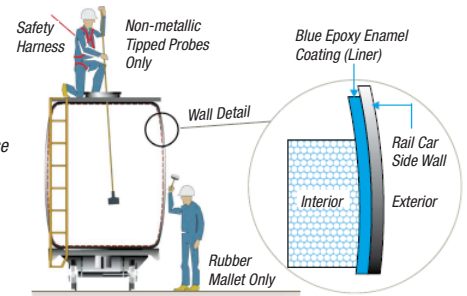
At least one hatch per compartment must be open with air filter in place



Valve closed position in discharge gate



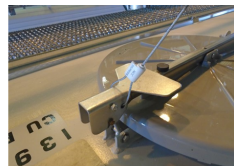
Unloading a Hopper Car



Securing/ Sealing End Caps & Top Hatch Covers



Draft Tube End Caps



Top Hatch Covers

REPORT INCIDENTS

Hopper car damage, spills, partial unload, safety, or security. Call NOVA Chemicals at

1.800.561.6682