



RS PowerON[™] GIN POLE

WORK INSTRUCTION

Vertical Assembly of an RS Modular Pole





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I. INTRODUCTION

The RS gin pole provides solutions to real problems. With a five to one safety ratio, it can install an RS composite pole up to 78 ft. [23.8 m] in length without any machinery, using basic hand tools.

A crew of 3 to 5 workers can efficiently install a full-size utility pole in the following situations:

- **Urban neighborhoods.** Difficult-to-access back yard pole locations; eliminate permits and planning involved with large cranes blocking streets; minimal footprint and traffic disrupting landscaped yards.
- **Difficult-to-access locations.** Cliffs, ravines, islands, laneways, railway, pipeline, and communication tower right of ways.
- **Machinery and noise sensitive locations.** Parks, schools, sanctuaries, wells, septic systems, and environmentally sensitive areas.

This work instruction contains step by step details beginning with digging the holes and installing the base module by hand.

First time users should carefully follow these instructions, as the proper sequence of a simple task like the placement of the hand line block can be extremely important and will make the procedure safer and more efficient.

A weather resistant paper copy of these instructions is included with the gin pole kit for easy reference.

II. SAFETY AND CERTIFICATION

Key safety notes are highlighted in bold font throughout the work instruction. Specific attention to detail must take place during these steps to ensure a safe and successful installation.

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) includes:

- Hard hat;
- · Safety boots;
- Eye protection;
- Long sleeve shirt and pants; and
- Disposable face mask when drilling and/or cutting.

The following additional information is included in the Appendix at the end of this document:

- Certification Notes and Use Criteria;
- Fabrication;
- Inspection and Acceptance Criteria; and
- Working Load Limits.

In addition to following the work instructions provided in this document, the *RS Pole Assembly and Installation Guide* must also be reviewed for additional information about assembling RS composite poles. **Inspect all components of the gin pole and accessory equipment prior to each use.**



Figure 1: Line crew preparing to lift third section (RSM-02) of a 50 ft. [15.2 m] pole at a training center in Texas, USA.



III. USING AXIS LABELS TO PLAN AND COMMUNICATE

RS modules have pre-printed longitudinal dashed lines on each 90° quadrant referenced as the four-primary axes. The crew should familiarize themselves with the axis lines. Various axes are referenced throughout this work instruction to identify, plan, and communicate locations for the gin pole, pole steps, jacking bars, and line hardware. See *Figure 2*.

All modules have four (4) primary axes: A-0°, B-90°, C-180°, and D-270°.

Characteristics include:

- 90 degrees apart;
- Pre-printed with a long-dashed line and A, B, C, or D-axis label;
- Common for module assembly (i.e. jacking bars) are installed through the pre-drilled holes along the A and C axes;
- Common for hardware and equipment placement (i.e. climbing steps, hardware bolts, insulator brackets) are commonly installed along a primary axis.

All modules have four (4) secondary axes: E-45°, F-135°, G-225°, and H-315°. Characteristics include:

- 90 degrees apart and 45 degrees between the primary axes mentioned above;
- Pre-printed with a short-dashed line at the tip and base of each module;
- Common for peripheral hardware such as down ground, service wires, underground conduit installation;
- Common use for gin pole axis.

The gin pole has two referenced axes: (1) the gin axis, and (2) the lifting axis.

The gin axis is referred to as the location or axis where the gin pole is attached to the module.

The **gin axis** is commonly installed on or close to a secondary axis (30 to 45 degrees between a primary axis) facing the direction of the module to be raised, which is commonly facing an open work area. This will keep the gin away from the pole steps and jacking bars during installation. The open work area does not require a lot of space but is a way to simply describe the best area or lane to access the pole. See *Figure 4*.

The **lift axis** runs through the center of gravity of the gin pole and the lifting eyelet, and is best located over the edge of either side of the module. See *Figure 4.*



Figure 4: Planning for a successful backyard pole installation.



Figure 2: Axis locations (top-down view).



Figure 3: Climbing steps on the B and D axis; clamp assembly on the E axis, which becomes the gin axis for this installation.

IV. MODULE AND RIGGING WEIGHTS AND SPECIFICATIONS

The RS gin pole is CSA and OHSA approved with a 5:1 safety factor.

It is certified to raise RS modules RSM-1L, RSM-01, RSM-02, RSM-03, and RSM-04. This allows for the largest base module installed in the ground to be the RSM-05.

The height and class of pole required will dictate which modules are used. If all five (5) modules are used, the pole length is an impressive 78 ft. [23.8 m]. The gin pole is typically used in applications for 30 to 60 ft. [9.1 to 18.2 m] pole heights where machinery cannot access the installation site.

A typical Class 2 - 45 ft. [13.7 m] RS pole consists of an RSM-04 (installed by hand in the ground) with the gin pole raising the RSM-03 and a pre-cut RSM-02. The RSM-02 is pre-cut approximately 4 ft. [1.22 m] at the factory to derive at a 45 ft. [13.7 m] pole. All pole lengths consider the slip joint overlap.

See *Table 1* below for the weights and lengths of the modules used for gin pole configurations.

Module	Length of Module	Weight of Module	Rigging Weight with Jacking Bar, Clevises and Slings, Steps		Rigging Weight with Jacking Effective Sline Bar, Clevises and Slings, Steps Size to Lift Mod		Effective Sling Size to Lift Module	Force Required on Fall Line
RSM-1L	20.2 ft.	203 lbs.	13 steps installed 266 lbs. [121 kg]		33 in. [840 mm]	71 lbs. [32 kg]		
RSM-01	15.1 ft.	154 lbs.	10 steps installed	209 lbs. [95 kg]	33 in. [840 mm]	56 lbs. [25 kg]		
RSM-02	17.7 ft.	181 lbs.	10 steps installed	236 lbs. [107 kg]	38 in. [970 mm]	63 lbs. [29 kg]		
RSM-03	17.4 ft.	227 lbs.	10 steps installed	282 lbs. [128 kg]	48 in. [1220 mm]	75 lbs. [34 kg]		
RSM-04	18.9 ft.	322 lbs.	2 steps installed	395 lbs. [179 kg]	58 in. [1474 mm]	105 lbs. [48 kg]		
RSM-05 19.0 ft. 366 lbs. RSM-05 is the largest base module inst				e module installed ir	n the ground			

Table 1: Module and Rigging Weights and Specifications.

V. GIN POLE AND ACCESSORY PART NUMBERS

Gin Pole - Prim	ary Kit - Part No	. 30157	(includes items	isted below,
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Item	RS Part Number	Qty.	Description
Gin pole, 20 ft. [6.1 m] pole, 4.02 in. [102 mm] O.D.*	10029	1	Orange 20 ft. [6.1 m] primary pole
Head, w/ eyelet*	10050	1	Gin head with eyelet fastened to top of gin pole
Gin pole, base band, 4 in. [100 mm]*	10050	1	Stainless steel band at bottom of primary pole
Bolt, hex, 3/8 in. x 1 in. [9.525 mm x 25.4 mm], galvanized*	10047	1	Secures gin head to gin pole
Bolt, hex, 1/4 in. x 5/8 in. [6.35 mm x 15.24 mm], galvanized*	10050	4	Secures base band to bottom of gin pole
Storage and transportation bag	10054	1	Orange 18 oz. [20 mL] storage bag
Clamp assembly, stainless steel	10048	3	Attaches gin pole to RS pole
Ratchet strap, 2 in. x 6 ft. [508 mm x 1.83 m], 3,300 lbs. [1497 kg], WLL	x 6 ft. [508 mm x 10030 3 (x1) for each saddle clamp asseml [1497 kg], WLL		(x1) for each saddle clamp assembly
Gin pole, ratchet strap spacer	10051	3	(x1) permanently attached to each clamp assembly
Pole setting shoe	10037	1	Backstop placed in hole to help raise base module
Diver weight, 10 lbs. [4.5 kg], lace- through**	10082	4	10 lbs. [4.5 kg] diver weights
Ratchet strap, 2 in. x 6 ft. [508 mm x 1.83 m], 3,300 lbs. [1497 kg], WLL	10030	1	For ballast/diver weight
Tool chest, Stanley 24 gal [109 L], mobile chest	10051	1	Container for clamp assemblies, diver weight
Tool chest, foam	10051	1	Foam for 24 gal [109 L] Stanley mobile chest
Gin pole maximum capacity label	10056	1	Yellow sticker attached to gin head
Gin pole serial number label	10056	1	White sticker attached to gin head
Gin pole kit label	10087	1	Label attached to Stanley 24 gal [109 L] chest
Gin pole work instructions, C608	10087	1	Printed on weather resistant paper

*Assembled at plant, shipped as one unit.

** Required only if raising RSM-04 module.

NOTE: First time customers must purchase a jacking kit (part number 30071) to assemble the pole. To be ordered separately - refer to following *Additional Hardware Required for Installation* section.

Additional Hardware Required for Installation[†] (items to be ordered separately; not in a kit)

Item	RS Part Number	RS Part Number Qty. Description	
2 ton [2032 kg] lever hoist	30214	1	(x1) set; 2 hoists
Jacking bar kit (supplied only by RS)	30071	1	(x1) set; short jacking bar assembly kit, 2 bars
Dead blow mallet, 3 lbs. [1.4 kg]	100630	1	Rubber mallet for joint assembly
Tag Lines - Length = Height of pole plus 10 ft. [3 m]	N/A	2	Rope for controlling module being raised
Cordless drill w/ battery	N/A	1	For joint assembly and step holes
Hole saw kit, 1-1/8 in. [29 mm], for blind nuts	30189	1	1-1/8 in. [29 mm] for blind nuts and step holes
Pole steps - various manufacturers (i.e. 50 ft. [15 m] pole)	N/A	40	Recommended spacing at 15 in. [381 mm]
RS hole plugs	N/A	40	Required if removing steps after each use
Sharpie marker (black or yellow), and measuring tape	N/A	1	Used for marking and measuring the module
Line maintainer tools	N/A	N/A	Shovel, tamper, plumb bob, etc. (timber or pole stands are required for module preparation)

+Additional tools, hardware, and equipment may be required based on customer pole framing specifications. Contact RS for assistance.

Gin Pole - Accessory Kit - Part No. 30178 (includes items listed below)

Item	RS Part Number	Qty.	Description	
Endless sling, 2 in. x 12 ft. [50.8 mm x 3.66 m], min. WLL	100513	2	Lever hoist extension for slip joint assembly	
Endless sling, 2 in. x 33 in. [50.8 mm x 838.2 mm], min. WLL	100514	1	Ideal size for raising RSM-01 module	
Endless sling, 2 in. x 38 in. [50.8 mm x 965.2 mm], min. WLL	100515	1	Ideal size for raising RSM-02 module	
Endless sling, 2 in. x 48 in. [50.8 mm x 1219 mm], min. WLL	100516	1	Ideal size for raising RSM-03 module	
Endless sling, 2 in. x 58 in. [50.8 mm x 1473 mm], min. WLL	100517	1	Ideal size for raising RSM-04 module	
Endless sling, 2 in. x 48 in. [50.8 mm x 1219 mm], min. WLL	100516	2	Lever hoist extension sling for slip joint assembly	
Endless sling, 2 in. x 72 in. [50.8 mm x 1829 mm], min. WLL	100518	1	For securing snatch block to base module	
Snatch block	100523	1	Attaching pull line to base of pole	
Shackle, 5/8 in. [16 mm], min. WLL 6,500 lbs. [2950 kg]	100519	4	For attaching sling to hoist or jacking bar	
3-sheave upper block, 2.95 in. [75 mm], w/ becket	100520	1	Upper block for 3-sheave blocks	
3-sheave lower block, 2.95 in. [75 mm]	100644	1	Lower block for 3-sheave blocks	
Rope, 1/2 in. x 500 ft. [12.7 mm x 152.4 m]	100558	1	Rope for 3-sheave blocks	
Snap hooks	100820	2	Snap hooks for 3-sheave blocks	
Gin pole kit label	100877	2	Sticker attached to container	
Tool chest, Stanley 50-Gallon [227.3 L], mobile chest	100559	1	Container for gin pole accessories	

1. INSTALL THE BASE MODULE

A. Prepare the Hole

If required, obtain a locate prior to digging. Consider digging the hole and installing the base module a day or two ahead of the planned pole installation. This will eliminate any surprises such as hitting rock, quicksand, or water during the date of the pole installation.

- Dig a hole approximately 8 in. [200 mm] in diameter larger than the diameter of the base module. The base plate may be used as a reference to outline the hole circumference. The extra 8 in. [200 mm] diameter will ensure adequate space for tamping the backfill aggregate after installation. Continue digging the hole until the required depth has been reached. See *Figure 5*.
- 2. Shape the top entrance edge of the hole with a slight "V" groove.
- 3. Place a pallet or timber in front of the "V" groove, to act as a fulcrum for the module.
- 4. Install a pole setting shoe at the back of the hole, to reduce friction and aggregate collapse when raising the base. See *Figure 6*.



Figure 5: Dig a hole 8 in. [200 mm] larger in diameter than the base module. Use a base plate as a template.





B. Prepare the Base Module

Preparing the base module is extremely important, as the entire pole is erected from the base. The crew must have a good discussion to decide which axis will be used for the hardware, gin pole, and pole steps. Use the pre-defined factory-marked axis lines for a reference. Once the axis location is agreed upon, the pole steps may be installed prior to putting the module into the hole. See *section III. USING AXIS LABELS TO PLAN AND COMMUNICATE* for information about RS pole axes.

- 5. Determine the following axes locations:
 - Hardware for primary conductor (usually along the A/C axes or B/D axes).
 - For the gin pole (commonly on a secondary axis E, F, G, or H which is between the A, B, C, D primary axes, offset 30–45 degrees).
 - For pole steps (commonly along a primary axis such as A/C or B/D).
- 6. Install the pole steps 15 in. [381 mm] apart on 180 degree opposite axes. A chalk line may be used to increase clarity for the pole step axial line if the factory-installed lines have faded. Do not drill holes or install steps within 4 ft. of the top of the module.



Figure 7: The base module installed in a backyard, one day prior to the planned outage.

C. Team Handling the Module into the Hole

- 7. Re-locate the base module toward the hole resting the lower end on the fulcrum with the base over the open hole and against the pole shoe.
- Three to five workers are required to safely lift and walk the module upright, allowing the base of the module to slide into and down the hole up against a pole setting shoe. Pole steps can act as handholds when lifting, and can also provide a good visual for alignment, if installed prior to installing the base module. See *Figure 8*.
 CAUTION: As the module becomes upright, it will fall quickly into the hole. Workers must keep arms extended as this happens, to ensure the pole steps clear the workers' elbows and shoulders.
- Use the climbing steps to manually position the module in the hole for proper alignment.
 IMPORTANT NOTE: Accurate alignment of the base module is critical to ensure the remaining modules are properly aligned with respect to hardware, pole steps, and keeping the pole vertically plumb.
- 10. Backfill the hole with aggregate less than 3/4 in. [20 mm] in diameter and tamp the soil to complete the base installation. Pole setting foam may also be used.



Figures 8a/8b: (a) Setting the base module with steps pre-installed. (b) Rotating the base for proper alignment.

2. INSTALL THE CLAMP ASSEMBLIES

The stainless steel clamp assemblies mount the gin pole to the module. Both are installed vertically along the gin pole axis (commonly a secondary axis), facing the work area or module being raised (see *section III. USING AXIS LABELS TO PLAN AND COMMUNICATE*). The third clamp assembly is used only when leap frogging the gin up the pole.

The clamp assembly unit consists of a friction clamp that swivels on a symmetrical housing with 2 eyelets and is attached to the pole module using a built-in industry standard 2 in. ratchet strap. See *Figure 9*.

The grip on the friction clamp is controlled by tightening or loosening a wing nut with a screwdriver. The friction clamps are tightened to secure the gin pole while raising a module, and loosened when sliding the gin up the pole in preparation for the next module.



Figure 9: Gin pole mounts to RS module using two (2) clamp assemblies spaced 40.5 in. [1029 mm] apart.

A. Secure Hand Line Block

- 1. If climbing steps were not installed when preparing the base module, install steps to climb the pole, stopping within 4 ft. [1.2 m] of the top of the pole.
- 2. Hang hand line over the edge of the module. See *Figure 10.*

B. Mark Clamp Assembly Locations

 Along the gin pole axis, measure
 43.5 in. [1105 mm] from the top edge of the module and mark with a thick

2 in. [50.8 mm] horizontal line using a black or yellow Sharpie marker. NOTE: If installing an RSM-1L module, measure and mark at 27 in. [686 mm].

4. Descend a couple of steps and make a second mark 40.5 in.
[1029 mm] below the first mark, or 84 in. [2134 mm] from the top edge of the module. See *Figure 11*.



Figure 10: Hanging hand line.



Figure 11: Measuring and marking the clamp assembly locations along the gin pole axis.

C. Install the Clamp Assemblies to the Module

- 5. The ground worker must hold the weight of the heavy clamp assembly by attaching the hand line hook into the top eyelet of the clamp assembly. See *Figure 12*.
- 6. The climber will communicate with the ground worker to align the top bolts of the clamp assembly with the marked line made in step 3 in *B. Mark Clamp Assembly Locations.*
- 7. While the ground worker holds the weight of the clamp assembly, the climber must tighten the ratchet strap as tight as possible to avoid slippage on the smooth RS module.
- 8. On the same vertical axis as the upper clamp assembly, attach the lower clamp assembly, aligning with the lower marking placed in step 4 in *B. Mark Clamp Assembly Locations.* The clamp assembly will be centered on the gin axis. This will ensure that the assemblies are completely vertical/plumb.



Figure 12: Installing a clamp assembly in preparation for mounting the gin pole.

3. ATTACH GIN POLE TO THE BASE MODULE

A. Attach Gin to Upper Clamp Assembly

- 1. Lay the gin pole out with the head near the base of the RS pole. Attach the hand line hook into the eyelet of the gin head and raise it to a convenient level for the climber to fasten the top friction clamp around the gin pole.
- 2. Close the wing nut but **do not tighten**. This will enable the gin to slide up the friction clamp in the next step. The bottom of the gin pole can rest on the ground. See *Figure 13*.



Figure 13: Climber attaches top of gin pole into the friction clamp, leaving the wing nut loose to allow the gin pole to slide into the vertical position.

B. Attach the 3-Sheave Blocks

- 3. The climber snaps the hook of the 3-sheave blocks into the eyelet of the gin pole head. Keep the blocks closed for now.
- Attach a tag line to the bottom of the 3-sheave block so the bottom sheave can be lowered once the gin pole is in place.
 NOTE: Ensure the blocks are not twisted and that the tag line is attached, as this will be the last time the climber can reach the gin tip. See *Figure 14*.

C. Raise the Gin into Position

5. Re-locate the hand line, attaching the block to the bottom eyelet of the upper clamp assembly.



Figure 14: 3-sheave blocks and a tag line are attached to the gin head before raising the gin into the vertical position.

- 6. Separate the hand line and place the hook into the base band at the bottom of the gin pole.
- 7. Raise the gin pole into the vertical position using the hand line. One worker can pull on the hand line, sliding the gin pole through the upper clamp while another worker guides and supports the bottom of the gin pole. See *Figure 15*.
- Continue to vertically raise the gin pole until it can be placed into the lower clamp assembly.
 NOTE: Close the friction clamp but do not tighten, as the gin pole needs to slide freely. The base of the gin pole can rest on the ground.
- 9. Check to ensure the clamp assemblies are vertically plumb (straight up and down). If not, loosen the lower assembly and rotate for vertical alignment, and re-tighten. Be sure to maintain control of the gin pole while the lower assembly is adjusted.
- Raise the gin pole again until the base band is up tight against the bottom friction clamp, and rotate the eyelet (lifting axis) over the edge of the module. Tighten both upper and lower friction clamps by hand, and then tighten with 1-1/2 to 2 turns with a screwdriver.



Figure 15: Sliding the gin pole through the upper clamp assembly to raise into vertical position.

4. PREPARE MODULE TO BE RAISED

A. Support Module Off the Ground

1. Place the module on two timbers or pallets or pole stands with the **B axis** facing upward, and **far** enough away from the base of the pole to stay clear of the drop zone. See *Figure 16*.



Figure 16

B. Mark Clamp Assembly Locations

- 2. Along the gin pole axis, **measure 43.5 in. [1105 mm] from the top edge of the module and mark** with a thick 2 in. [50.8 mm] horizontal line using a black or yellow Sharpie marker.
- 3. Make a second mark 40.5 in. [1029 mm] below the first mark, or 84 in. [2134 mm] from the top edge of the module. See *Figure 11.*

C. Install Climbing Steps

- 4. Measure, mark and drill holes for the climbing steps. **NOTE:** Steps are commonly 15 in. [381 mm] apart, spaced alternately along opposite 180-degree axes for the entire length of the pole.
- 5. Install climbing steps.

If the installation zone is extremely busy with adjacent poles, wires, trees, etc., it is recommended to install some or all of the steps after the module is vertically secured in place on the pole.

Do not install steps in the slip joint area which is approximately 2.5 ft. [762 mm] from the base of the module and 2.5 ft. [762 mm] from the tip of the module. These steps are installed by the climber after the modules are jacked together and the slip joint is secured.

D. Install Jacking Bar and Slings

- 6. Insert the two (2) jacking bars into the pre-drilled jacking holes.
- 7. Slide the (loose) jacking plate onto each jacking bar.
- 8. Slide a retention collar onto each jacking bar, with the flanged side of the retention collar oriented towards the (loose) jacking plate. See *Figure 17*.
- 9. Rotate the retention collar around the jacking bar to find the best pin holes that will keep the jacking plate tight up against the pole wall. See *Figure 18*. CAUTION: If the gap between the pole wall and the back of the jacking plate exceeds 1/8 in. [3 mm], the significant forces applied during slip joint assembly may result in bending one or both jacking bars, making them difficult to remove and reuse again in the future.
- 10. Insert the quick-release pin.
- Attach two (2) 4 ft. [1.22 m] slings to each jacking plate on the bar with clevis, and 2.5 ft. [762 mm] from the tip of the module. These steps are installed by the climber after the modules are jacked together and the slip joint is secured.

E. Lower Rope Block and Attach Tag Lines (x2)

- 12. Pull down on the previously installed tag line to lower the bottom 3-sheave block in preparation for the module to be lifted.
- 13. This tag line can now be installed at the tip of the module and another at the base of the module to be lifted.
- 14. The lower tag line may be looped through the bottom portion of the slings attached in step 11 above.

The tag lines should be minimum 3/8 in. [9.5 mm] in diameter and long enough to reach the top of the finished pole with a little extra. Pole length plus 10 ft. [3 m] is a good rule of thumb.

F. Attach Lifting Sling

15. Secure the lifting sling just above the center of gravity and below a step. It is imperative that the sling does not slip during the installation process. See *Figure 19*. Keep the sling as short as possible to ensure maximum clearance when module is raised. See *Table 1* in section *IV. MODULE AND RIGGING WEIGHTS AND SPECIFICATIONS*.

step bolt will prevent slippage.



Figure 17: Install the retention collar onto the jacking bar with the flanged side toward the jacking plate.



Figure 18: Rotating the retention pin to find the most suitable hole to keep the plate tight against the module wall.



G. Mark Future Clamp Assembly Positions (only required if raising another module)

- 16. Along the gin pole axis, **measure 43.5 in. [1105 mm] from the top edge of the module and mark** with a thick 2 in. [50.8 mm] horizontal line using a black or yellow Sharpie marker.
- 17. Make a second mark 84 in. [2134 mm] from the top edge of the module. See Figure 11.

H. Install Ballast Weight (RSM-04 module only)

The ballast weight is required for raising the RSM-04 module only. If not raising an RSM-04 module, continue to the next section.

The RSM-04 module requires ballast weight to ensure the sling can be attached as low as possible above the center of gravity.

 Attach the 40 lbs. [18.2 kg] of diver weights to the base of the RSM-04 module just above the base, using a ratchet strap. See *Figure 20*.



Figure 20: Adding ballast weight to the base (required for RSM-04 module only).

I. Place the Module Beside the Base of the Pole

- Prior to attaching the load line blocks to raise the module, position the module as close to the base of the pole as possible to ensure a vertical lift from the start, and to prevent the module from swaying.
 NOTE: The gin pole is designed for vertical lifting only. Any side pull on the load line or fall line may result in the clamp assemblies shifting and possible overload of the gin pole.
- 20. Attach load line 3-sheave block to short sling module.

The module is now ready to be raised with the rope blocks. The force (load) required on the fall line is based on the following formula:

(Fall Line Load = [Load + number of sheaves x 10% friction of load]/number of lines from moving block)

Refer to Table 2 for loading scenarios with rigging, equipment, and climbing steps installed.

CAUTION: When raising the heavier RSM-03 and RSM-04 modules, **it is imperative that 3-sheave blocks are used**, as their mechanical advantage will require less force on the fall line and keep the full load on the gin head less than the 500 lbs. [227 kg] rating. A two-part line would overload the gin pole rating.

Module Lifted	Number of Steps Installed	Weight (includes Jacking Bars, Shackles, Slings)	Force Required on Fall Line	Total Load on Gin Pole Head
RSM-01	10 steps	209 lbs. 95 kg]	56 lbs. [25 kg]	265 lbs. [120 kg]
RSM-1L	13 steps	266 lbs. [121 kg]	71 lbs. [32 kg]	337 lbs. [153 kg]
RSM-02	10 steps	236 lbs. [107 kg]	63 lbs. [29 kg]	299 lbs. [136 kg]
RSM-03	10 steps	282 lbs. [128 kg]	75 lbs. [34 kg]	357 lbs. [162 kg]
RSM-04	2 steps	395 lbs. [179 kg]	105 lbs. [48 kg]	500 lbs. [227 kg]

Table 2: Loading scenarios with rigging, equipment, and climbing steps installed.

J. Attach Snatch Block to Base of Pole

- 21. Use a short sling at the base of the pole to ensure a vertical pull-on fall line.
- 22. Feed the fall line through the block and out at 90 degrees for pulling. Pull on the fall line may be by manpower, capstan hoist, or other hoisting mechanism (if space allows).

5. RAISE THE MODULE

A. Pause for Rigging Check and Task Assignment



Before the lifting begins is a good time to pause, double check the rigging, and ensure each worker is aware of the task assigned to them while the module is being raised. See *Table 3* for crew assignment and task duties.

CAUTION: The tip deflection of the gin pole head must **never exceed 12 in. [300 mm]** during the lift.

This may be caused by wind or improper rigging. **STOP** and wait for wind to die down OR re-evaluate all rigging and tag lines.

All crew members must remain out of the "drop zone" while raising the module.



Figure 21: Three workers pull hand over hand, raising the module, while listening for directions from the observer.

Crew Member	Task	Comments
Crew lead / observer	 Assign task to crew members prior to start; Instruct crew as pole is being raised; Ensure rope blocks are not twisted; Ensure safe limits of approach for overhead conductor and obstructions; Observe deflection of gin tip. 	The observer should have no other physical task to distract him/her.
Climber	 Ensure clamp assemblies do not shift; Clearances as the module is raised; Signal rope pullers and take over instruction from crew lead when module clears the base; Instruct lowering of the module onto base; Align module as it is lowered. 	It is safe for the climber to remain up the pole while module is being raised.
Tag line operators	 Gently steer module around snags and obstructions; Facilitate the module as it transitions into a vertical position; Assist vertical alignment and eliminate binding when lowering module onto base. 	Minimal and gentle force is required for tag line operators to manipulate the module.
Fall line rope operators	Pull on the fall line (in sync);Follow instructions from crew lead or climber.	A capstan hoist or similar may be used to assist pull.

Table 3: Crew task assignment for a safe and efficient lift.

B. Raise Module

Unless imminent danger exists, communication/instruction during the raising of the module should be by the crew lead/observer only, and taken over by the climber once the module has cleared the base. See *Figure 22*.

- 1. Two to three workers raise the module in a smooth and consistent manner by pulling hand over hand on the fall line.
- 2. One or two workers control the tag lines as the module is raised, gently directing the module around any obstacles in the way.
- 3. The climber will instruct the crew to stop raising the module once the module base has adequately cleared the upper edge of the installed module.



Figure 22: Crew lead is observing and directing the crew as the module is raised with a smooth consistent pull until the base has cleared the upper edge of the bottom module *(far right).*

C. Lower Module Onto Pole

CAUTION: Keep fingers away from pinch points (between the modules).

Crew direction for the following steps should come from the climber only:

- 4. The tag line operators can assist with aligning the upper module over the lower module in preparation for lowering it.
- 5. While guiding the module from the outside surface only, the climber should give the signal and direct workers on the fall line to slowly let off. As the module is being lowered, align the axis with the lower module using pole steps, axial markings, and jacking bars as reference. See *Figure 23*.
- 6. The upper tag line can be used to vertically align the upper module such that it does not bind at the joint while the module is being lowered.



Figure 23: Keeping fingers away from pinch points, the climber gives direction to the crew while guiding the upper module onto the lower module.

6. SECURE THE SLIP JOINT

A. Install Lower Jacking Bar

- Drill two (2) 1-1/8 in. [28 mm] holes on the A and C axes approximately 2 ft. [600 mm] above ground line. NOTE: It is important that these holes be at the exact same height. These holes will be in line with the pre-drilled jacking holes farther up the pole.
- 2. Install the jacking bar through the holes.
- 3. With the jacking plates in position, slide the retention collar onto the jacking bar ensuring that the flanged side is oriented towards the jacking plate.
- 4. Rotate the retention collar to find the tightest, best matching hole set and insert the quick-release pin.

B. Compress the Joint (2-Ton Hoists)

- 5. Join the upper and lower jacking bars with the lever hoist chain and the 48 in. [1220 mm] sling previously attached to the upper bar. **NOTE:** Additional slings are added to the upper sling as additional modules are raised, always keeping the hoists connected and operated from the lower jacking bar.
- 6. Begin ratcheting the two hoists simultaneously, one worker on each hoist to ensure that the tension is as equal as possible. See *Figure 24*.
- 7. Continue applying tension with both hoists. **NOTE:** As tension increases, built up static friction may release, causing the upper module to shudder downwards.

C. Strike the Overlap Area

8. As the assembly force increases and the slip joint becomes tight, use a dead blow mallet to alleviate any static friction that may have built up in the overlap or slip joint during the jacking process.

IMPORTANT: Compressing the slip joint is complete with 4,000 lbs. [1814 kg] of force per side has been applied and all static friction has been released by striking the overlap area with a dead blow hammer.

NOTE: 95% of assembled slip joints will reach to within ±1 in. [25.4 mm] of the target assembly line as marked on the lower (large) module.

9. Once the slip joint is fully compressed, remove the slings and lower tag line, and lower safely to the ground.



Figure 24: Compressing the joint from the ground using 2 ton lever hoists.



Figure 25: Alleviating static friction by striking the joint with a dead blow mallet.

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D. Install Climbing Steps, Blind Nuts or Lags

Blind nuts or lags are required if climbing steps are not permanently installed to secure the slip joint.

- 10. Chase drill the 1-1/8 in. [29 mm] holes in the slip joint overlap area and install the climbing steps. See Figure 26.
- 11. At the base end of the pre-drilled slots (beside the "Drill Here" printing) along the A and C axes, drill 1-1/8 in. [29 mm] holes if blind nut kits are being used, or 5/8 in. [16 mm] pilot holes if lags are being used, to mechanically secure the slip joint. NOTE: Install the blind nut kits or lags as per the RS Assembly and Installation Guide.

Once climbing steps or blind nuts or lags have been installed in the slip joint overlap, the upper raised module can be safely climbed. The first raised module is now completely installed.

Figure 26: Chase drilling the hole for a climbing step after the joint is compressed.

If assembly is complete, continue to section 8. GIN POLE REMOVAL AND STORAGE. If another module is being installed, continue to section 7. RAISE THE NEXT MODULE.

7. RAISE THE NEXT MODULE

A. Climb to Within 4 Ft. [1.22 m] of Top of Module

- Install climbing steps to ascend the pole (if not previously installed). 1.
- 2. Hang the hand line block over the top edge of the module.
- 3. Remove the upper jacking bar and slings, and lower to the ground.
- 4. Remove the upper tag line and install on the lower snap hook of the 3-sheave rope blocks.
- 5. Fully compress the 3-sheave blocks and leave the tag line connected, ensuring it is long enough to reach the ground when the gin pole is raised to its new position.

B. Relocate Gin Pole Up to Next Module

- 6. Both the 43.5 in. [1105 mm] and 84 in. [2134 mm] marks made on the module previously should be visible along the gin axis.
- Install the third clamp assembly at the 43.5 in. [1105 mm] mark. 7. **NOTE:** The ground worker should support the weight of the clamp with the hand line, while the climber tightens the ratchet straps.
- 8. Tighten the friction clamp to secure the gin pole. **NOTE:** All three (3) clamp assemblies should now be on the pole with the friction clamps tightened.

NOTE: At this time, a second climber is required to assist the gin up the pole.

- The lower climber can completely remove the lower clamp assembly from the lower module and send 9. to the ground.
- 10. Relocate the block of the hand line from the top of the pole and snap into the bottom eyelet of the



Figure 27: At this stage, a second climber is required to assist relocating the gin up the pole.



B. Relocate Gin Pole Up to Next Module (continued)

- 10. Place the hook of the hand line into base band at the bottom of the gin pole.
- 11. With one person holding tension on the hand line, helping support the weight of the gin pole, the person aloft can loosen the lower friction clamp on the lower module.
- 12. Slowly release tension on the hand line while ensuring the gin pole is secured in the top saddle. **NOTE:** If the gin pole begins to slide, re-tighten the upper friction clamp.
- 13. With the assistance of the ground worker on the hand line, relocate the recently removed clamp assembly to the 84 in. [2134 mm] mark on the upper module, and attach the gin pole inside the friction clamp, but do not tighten this time as the gin pole must slide through the clamp as it is being raised into position.
- 14. Place the hook of the hand line into the gin pole base band, loosen the upper friction clamp, and slide the gin pole up until the base band is tight against the lower friction clamp.
- 15. Tighten the uppermost friction clamp.
- 16. Check rotation of the gin pole tip to ensure the eyelet (left axis) is centered over the edge on the side you wish to raise to the next module, and adjust as necessary. **NOTE:** The gin pole should now be relocated to the next module.
- 17. Repeat steps in sections *4. PREPARE MODULE TO BE RAISED* and *5. RAISE THE MODULE* to raise the next module.
- 18. Connect 12 ft. [3660 mm] slings to the 48 in. [1220 mm] slings hanging from the jacking bars on the module just raised to lengthen the span for hoisting from the ground.
- 19. Repeat steps in section 6. SECURE THE SLIP JOINT to secure the slip joint.

The second raised module is now complete.

If assembly is complete, continue to section 8. GIN POLE REMOVAL AND STORAGE. If another module is being installed, repeat the steps in section 7. RAISE THE NEXT MODULE.

8. GIN POLE REMOVAL AND STORAGE

A. Remove the Gin Pole and Components

- 1. Hook the block of the hand line over the tip of the module that was just lifted.
- 2. Completely compress the rope blocks, half hitch them and remove from the eye of the gin pole head, and lower the blocks to the ground.
- 3. Place the hand line hook into gin pole base band.
- 4. With a ground worker holding the weight of the gin pole with the hand line, the climber(s) can loosen off both clamps so that the gin pole can slide through them.
- 5. Safely lower and slide the gin pole until the gin pole head is resting on the upper friction clamp. **NOTE:** There is no need to tighten the friction clamps.
- 6. Please the hand line hook into the eyelet of the gin pole head.

A. Remove the Gin Pole and Components (continued)

- 7. With the ground worker holding the weight of the gin pole with the hand line, the climber(s) aloft can open both clamps and remove the gin pole.
- 8. Safely lower the gin pole using the hand line while the climber(s) guide the gin pole around any obstacles.
- 9. Install the top cap while the climber is at the top of the pole.
- 10. Install hole plugs as you descend down the pole, and remove any steps that are only temporarily installed.
- 11. Carefully remove the two clamp assemblies from the module, lower to the ground using the hand line, and re-close the clamps to protect the latching components for proper storage.

B. Proper Storage

- 12. Ensure the friction clamps are in the closed position to protect the finer components during transportation and storage.
- 13. Place the gin pole rigging equipment back into the Stanley tool chest.
- 14. Place the gin pole into its storage bag to protect the surface. **NOTE:** The gin pole is not comprised of the same material as the RS pole and not have any UV protection.

CAUTION: If the surface of the gin pole becomes compromised with UV damage and/or scrapes and scratches, it will impede the ability for the pole to slide through the saddle clamps.



Figure 28: Keep the gin pole protected by placing in the storage bag.

APPENDIX A: SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

The following RS documents provide additional detail and support for general RS pole assembly and installation. If unfamiliar with assembly and installation of RS poles, these documents should be reviewed prior to the gin pole installation.

The following documents can be found on our website at **RSpoles.com**, or by contacting your RS representative:

- RS Assembly and Installation Guide
- C610 | Drilling and Cutting RS Poles

APPENDIX B: VERTICAL GIN POLE ASSEMBLY - CERTIFICATION



APPENDIX C: VERTICAL GIN POLE ASSEMBLY - GENERAL ARRANGEMENT



APPENDIX D: VERTICAL GIN POLE ASSEMBLY – DIMENSIONAL



APPENDIX E: CERTIFICATION NOTES AND USE CRITERIA, INSPECTION AND ACCEPTANCE CRITERIA

CERTIFICATION NOTES & USE CRITERIA:

- 1. THIS VERTICAL GIN POLE ASSEMBLY IS CERTIFIED FOR SUPPORTING A MAXIMUM VERTICAL LOAD OF 400 lbs. WHEN USED ACCORDING TO THE SPECIFICATIONS DESCRIBED WITHIN & WITH THE SUPPLIED USER WORK INSTRUCTIONS.
- 2. THIS VERTICAL GIN POLE HAS BEEN DESIGNED TO RESIST 500 lbs. (400 lbs. CAPACITY + 100 lbs. FORCE ON FALL LINE).
- 3. THIS VERTICAL GIN POLE ASSEMBLY COMPLIES TO THE CURRENT O.S.H.A. STANDARD 1926.1441-EQUIPMEMT WITH A RATED HOISTING/LIFTING CAPACITY OF 2,000lbs. OR LESS.
- 4. MAXIMUM LOAD IS BASED ON A GIN POLE LOAD TEST PERFORMED REPORT DATED NOVEMBER 29, 2017.
- 5. SIZE OF MODULE TO LIFT MUST NOT EXCEED 387.0 lbs. (RSM-04 MODULE MASS + RIGGING EQUIPMENT).
- 6. MAXIMUIM CAPACITY LABEL (OR TAG) TO BE AFFIXED TO GIN POLE TIP ASSEMBLY.
- 7. THIS VERTICAL GIN POLE ASSEMBLY IS NOT TO BE ALTERED OR USED FOR ANY OTHER PURPOSES.
- 8. ANY ALTERATIONS TO THIS VERTICAL GIN POLE ASSEMBLY WILL VOID THE CERTIFICATION UNLESS FIRST APPROVED BY 'RS TECHNOLOGIES INC.' AND CERTIFYING PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER.
- 9. ASSEMBLY & USE OF THIS VERTICAL GIN POLE MUST BE DONE AS PER THE SUPPLIED USER WORK INSTRUCTIONS PROVIDED BY 'RS TECHNOLOGIES INC.'.
- 10. ALL RIGGING SHALL CONFORM TO THE CURRENT O.S.H.A. STANDARD 1926.251-RIGGING EQUIPMENT FOR MATERIAL HANDLING. RIGGING EQUIPMENT INCLUDING SHEAVE BLOCK, STRAPS, SLINGS & SHACKLES MENTIONED IN THE SUPPLIED USER WORK INSTRUCTIONS ARE NOT INCLUDED IN THIS CERTIFICATION. CERTIFICATION OF RIGGING EQUIPMENT IS BY SUPPLIER OR MANUFACTURER.

INSPECTION & ACCEPTANCE CRITERIA:

1. THIS VERTICAL GIN POLE ASSEMBLY IS TO BE INSPECTED AS FOLLOWS:

- i. PRIOR TO BEING PUT INTO SERVICE FOR THE FIRST TIME.
- ii. AT LEAST EVERY 6 MONTHS THEREAFTER BY A QUALIFIED PERSON DESIGNATED BY THE END USER.
 - iii. BEFORE EACH USE BY THE OPERATOR(S).
- iv. WHENEVER IT HAS BEEN SUBJECTED TO ABUSE OR UNUSUAL CONDITIONS.
- 2. END USER LOGS SHALL BE KEPT AND MAINTAINED IN ORDER TO DOCUMENT INSPECTIONS AND TO RECORD INFORMATION.
- 3. EXCESSIVE WEAR GREATER THAN 15% OR DAMAGE SHALL NECESSITATE REMOVAL FROM SERVICE FOLLOWED BY SUITABLE REPAIR(S) OR REPLACEMENT AND RE-INSPECTION.



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APPENDIX F: GIN POLE AND COMPONENT INSTALLATION ILLUSTRATION



NOTES



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