

POP-IT® Tool #95-525

Operating Procedure for Flange Work

The **POP-IT® Tool** is a relatively simple tool to operate, but there are a few steps you will want to take to insure the durability and safe use of the product.

Step 1

The tool is designed to have the toes driven into place. You will want the toes of the tool driven into the flange as far as possible. Located on the back side of the tool, opposite the toes, is a rectangular metal plate that may be struck with a hammer to drive the toes into tight flanges. Try to keep center toe away from bolt wholes if possible. The center toe may chip if not fully protected under load.

Step 2

Once the toes are in as far as possible, flip the direction switch on the ratchet to the left to open toes. With one hand located on the handle of the tool, take your other hand and begin turning the ratchet handle clockwise in a slow manner as the flange begins to spread open. **DO NOT USE CHEATER BARS!** The **POP-IT® Tool** is designed to be operated with the ratchet supplied. **TRY TO NOT JERK ON RATCHET HANDLE.** A steady, even pull will keep from stripping out the guts of the ratchet. Never exceed 120 pounds of force on the ratchet handle. 120 pounds of force at the ratchet handle gives you 5 tons of force at the toes. If this is not enough, you may require two tools or some other means to spread the flange.

Step 3

ALWAYS CHOCK YOUR WORK! Never leave the tool in between the flanges while performing flange maintenance. After the flange is spread to the desired amount, set a chock between the flanges. Flip the direction switch on the ratchet handle to the right. With one hand on the tool handle, turn the ratchet handle counter clockwise to close the flanges onto the chock. Set the tool down.

Step 4

Perform necessary flange maintenance.

Step 5

Reinsert **POP-IT® Tool** along side the chock. Flip direction switch on ratchet back to the left. While holding the tool handle, turn the ratchet handle clockwise until the chock comes free. After removing the chock, flip the direction switch to the right. Turn ratchet handle counter clockwise until the flange are back to parallel.

Step 6

Remove **POP-IT® Tool** from the flange by hand. If necessary, remove the tool by tapping on the side of the tool lightly with a hammer.

MANY TIMES IT WILL BE NECESSARY TO USE TWO TOOLS. EITHER TO KEEP FROM PINCHING THE BLIND OR GASKET ON THE OPPOSITE SIDE OF THE FLANGE OR THE FLANGE MAY BE SO LARGE AND RIDGID AS TO REQUIRE TWO TOOLS. WHEN USING TWO TOOLS; OPERATE ACCORDING TO THE ABOVE PROCEDURE. **IT IS VERY IMPORTANT TO OPERATE THE TOOLS IN SYNC WITH ONE ANOTHER WHILE OPENING AND CLOSING.**

CLEAN SERRATIONS ON TOES WITH WIRE BRUSH BEFORE EVERY USE.

FOR PARTS AND MAINTENANCE ON TOOLS CONTACT
SPECIALTY MAINTENANCE PRODUCTS
AT (713) 667-4402

SAFETY IS PARAMOUNT

This tool should be used while observing the safety practices established by the authority having jurisdiction.

The **POP-IT Tool** also works well when lifting equipment for alignment work, removing gears or impellers from shafts. Anytime wedges or pry bars can be replaced, use the **POP-IT® Tool**.