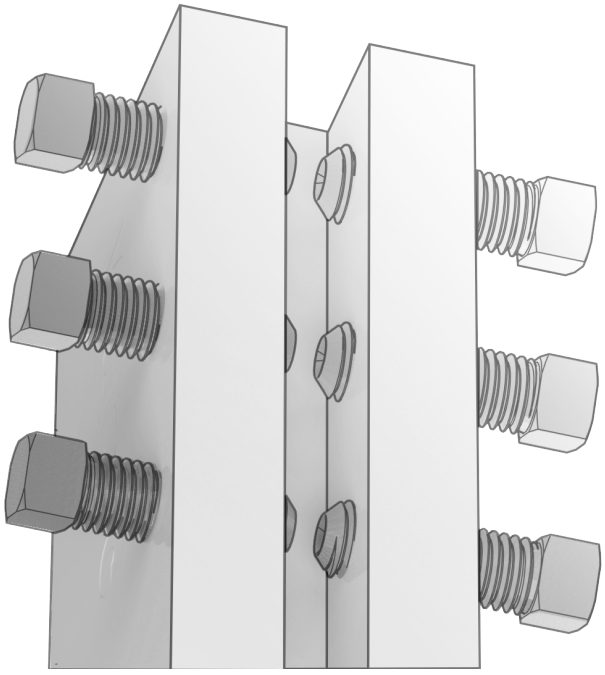
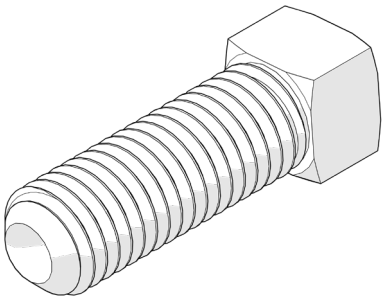
wurtec



WURTEC RAIL BLOCK & SCREW REPLACEMENT

SAFETY BULLETIN





Cup Point Screw with Concave Tip

THE RISKS OF REUSING CUP POINT SCREWS

Wurtec's Rail Blocks are equipped with cup point set screws, designed with a concave tip that allows the screw edge to bite into surfaces. This bite creates essential friction, helping distribute stress and enabling the rail block to support heavy loads.
The sharp edge of the concave tip must be maintained. However, each installation degrades the tip—causing deformation, micro-cracking, and a reduction in bite depth. The cup point's thin edge flattens with repeated tightening, significantly decreasing contact pressure and grip strength

In addition to diminished clamping force, reused cup point screws demonstrate 30–50% lower static friction compared to new screws tightened to the same torque. This friction is critical for the rail block to maintain its load-holding capacity. Once deformed, screw tips fail to make consistent contact, leading to micro-movements that accelerate wear and may lead to catastrophic failure.

WHAT WE RECOMMEND

Wurtec recommends that the cup point set screws are replaced after each use. Rail block performance depends on pristine screws, which are compromised during initial installation. Reuse creates safety risks due to reduced friction, and unpredictable load capacity.

KEEP YOURSELF SAFE

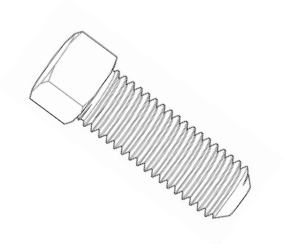
These guidelines could prevent death or serious injury.

Familiarize yourself with the rail block installation instructions. Carefully read the warning information, specification table, and installation steps.

Follow the daily safety check in the instructions to test for rail block slippage. Check the set screws before each use. Discard and replace the screws if they show any signs of wear or deformity. Never use alternate hardware.

Order new screws online at Wurtec.com, or talk to a Wurtec customer service agent at 1-800-837-1066 to help you order the screws you need.

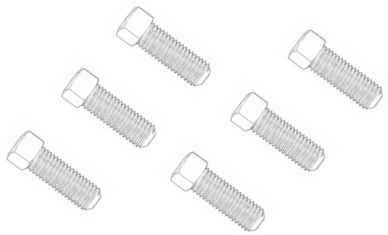
STANDARD RAIL BLOCK SCREWS



Part No. 26160

For all standard rail blocks and car building blocks (working load limit of 25,000 lbs | 11,340 kg)

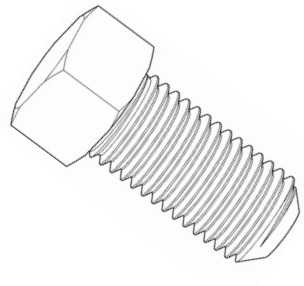
6-PACK STANDARD RAIL BLOCK SCREWS



Part No. 11-185-03-HDW

Sets of six standard rail block screws are also available.

HEAVY DUTY RAIL BLOCK SCREWS



Part No. 26256

For heavy duty rail blocks (working load limit of 35,000 lbs | 15,875 kg)