



PSC LOAD-IT® — EVOLUTION SERIES

The Evolution of PSC Load-It®

A Global Alternative to the Conventional Push/Pull Tool

The Industrial Third Hand™ — Designed for the Last Few Inches™

In 2020, PSC introduced Load-It® around a simple idea: the load should determine the head geometry.

Before that, the push/pull tool followed a familiar pattern: a fibreglass shaft, a polymer head and a grip. Products such as Stiffy, Shove-It and LoadGuider established the category and found genuine adoption across lifting and rigging environments. Their contribution to safer load handling is real. But a single head profile, however well-made, cannot be the ideal interface for every load surface, contact condition or required movement. Load-It® began not as a rejection of what had come before, but as an answer to what remained unaddressed.

01

The Familiar Push/Pull Tool

Before 2020, the widely recognised push/pull tool followed a familiar pattern. The fibreglass shaft provided handling reach, the polymer V-shaped head engaged slings, chains and rigging at the interface point, and the D-handle offered a conventional grip arrangement. Products such as Stiffy, Shove-It and LoadGuider helped define the category and demonstrated that a simple, dedicated tool had a genuine role in load guidance operations. For many applications — particularly where the rigging geometry presented a natural channel for a V-shaped head — the tool worked as intended and found real adoption across lifting environments.

The limitation appeared at the edges of that geometry. A steel plate presents a flat surface. A pipe section presents a curve. A fabricated flange, a coil bore, a structural beam, a panel approaching its installation point — each presents a different contact profile. A V-shaped head carries one set of assumptions about what the engagement point will look like. That is sufficient for many tasks and insufficient for others.



“One head shape carries one set of assumptions about what the contact point will look like. The Load-It® platform was built to challenge that assumption.”

PSC Load-It® in multiple configurations — S, J, T, M and additional head geometries designed for specific load engagement scenarios.

02

PSC Load-It® Arrives in 2020

PSC introduced the Load-It® platform in 2020 around a practical design philosophy. The tool should be lightweight enough to manage comfortably across a full working shift. The head should be selected for the load and the required movement, not adapted from a standard shape that happens to be available. The grip arrangement should suit the operation. And throughout, the purpose is to help workers guide and position loads without requiring direct hand contact at the engagement point.

A tool that feels suited to its task will be picked up and used. One that is too heavy, awkward at the grip angle, or the wrong shape for the contact point is more likely to be set aside. Matching weight, grip and geometry to the application was PSC’s design rationale, not an abstract aspiration.

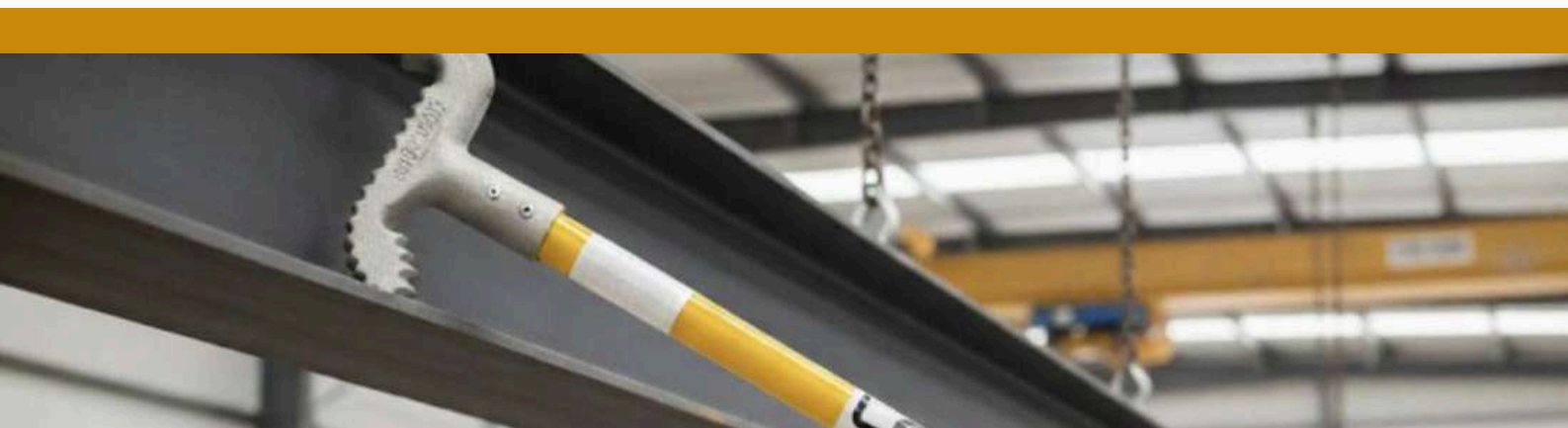
03

From One Shape to Multiple Engagement Geometries

The Load-It® platform developed a range of head geometries to address different engagement scenarios. Rather than adapting one head to every situation, the range expanded to include S, M, J, T, L and F head profiles, along with angled heads, scraper heads and paddle heads. Magnetic head options extended the platform further. Task-specific and custom configurations are available where the standard options do not cover a particular application.



This distinction matters in practice: engaging rigging — a sling, a chain, a shackle or a lifting hook — is different from contacting the load directly. The former involves hooking, guiding or stabilising a rigging component. The latter involves bearing against the surface of the load itself: pushing, pulling, positioning, nudging, steadying and aligning. Each movement, and each contact point, may benefit from a different geometry. The specific function of each head follows from its shape and the application; PSC's application guidance is the appropriate reference for matching head to task. Magnetic heads should not be assumed from a letter designation alone — the platform includes both mechanical and magnetic engagement options as distinct categories.



FEATURE PANEL

The Serrated S-Head

Additional engagement where a smooth contact face may slip

A smooth contact face is entirely adequate for a clean, dry, firm surface. When a surface is oily, lightly contaminated or presents a texture that a smooth face does not engage reliably, the Serrated S-Head offers an additional option. The serrated contact profile provides a mechanical engagement surface that a smooth head cannot.

This makes the Serrated S-Head relevant to a range of applications in process plant, fabrication yards and steelmaking environments where surface conditions are variable.

The Serrated S-head adds an engagement option for suitable surfaces where a smooth contact face may slip. Select the configuration to suit the surface and required movement.

Serrations improve surface engagement for suitable applications. They do not guarantee grip on every surface and cannot be assumed not to mark a surface. Where a load's surface condition is sensitive or the finish is polished, a head selected for that surface and a trial assessment are both appropriate.

Material Choices and High-Temperature Applications



PSC Load-It® with paddle head — coke oven environment

The platform’s material options span from ultra-lightweight aluminium heads through to stainless-steel heads designed for demanding service conditions. The XT Extreme stainless-steel option addresses applications in harsh environments and heat-adjacent service, where standard material grades would be inappropriate.

The relevance of material choice is clear in heat-adjacent applications. When a component is hot and requires guiding, steadying or positional adjustment, the worker’s hand would otherwise approach a surface that may cause injury through contact. An appropriately selected tool moves that interaction away from direct hand contact. Temperature suitability depends on the specified configuration, the nature of contact and the duration of exposure. PSC should be consulted for configuration suitability in such conditions. The heat tolerance of a stainless-steel head does not transfer to grips, shafts, magnets or the complete assembly, each of which must be considered separately for their service environment.

PLATFORM SPECIFICATIONS — PSC LOAD-IT®	
LENGTH RANGE	1 ft to 12 ft — select to reflect access, working position, hazard separation and controllability
ALUMINIUM HEADS	300 lb push/pull rating
STAINLESS-STEEL HEADS	300 kg push/pull rating
MATERIALS	Aluminium · Stainless Steel · XT Extreme Stainless Steel
<i>Push/pull ratings refer to push/pull force only — not lifting capacity, magnetic holding force or the weight of a load being guided. Ratings are configuration-specific. Distinguish working ratings from break-load test results; consult PSC’s technical documentation for the relevant configuration.</i>	

REACH

CONFIGURABLE LENGTH: 1 FT TO 12 FT

Tool length should reflect the access available, the worker’s working position, the required hazard separation and the controllability of the tool at that length. Shorter tools suit confined access; longer tools extend reach where the task geometry permits. No single length rule applies universally. PSC’s range covers the full spectrum from 1 ft confined access to 12 ft open working environments.



05 Magnetic Heads in the Field

The magnetic head options bring the Load-It® platform to ferrous loads where a mechanical contact point is not preferred or not available at the relevant engagement location. Steel plates, structural sections and sheet coils present surfaces where magnetic guidance supports the steadying, positioning and alignment task during the last few inches of placement.

Magnetic guidance is a contact function, not a lifting function. Suitability for a given application depends on the surface material, the required force, the operating environment and the application assessment. Fixed and articulated magnetic head options support different access geometries and task requirements.



06

The Magnetic Evolution

Magnetic head options extended the engagement possibilities of the Load-It® platform to cover suitable ferrous loads — steel plates, structural sections, sheet coils and similar materials where a mechanical attachment point is not preferred or not available at the relevant engagement location. Magnetic guidance is a contact method, not a lifting function. The magnetic head maintains contact with and position of the load during guidance, steadying and positioning operations appropriate to the tool's specification. Fixed and articulated magnetic head options support different access geometries and task requirements. As with all head options, suitability for a given application depends on the surface material, the required force, the operating environment and the application assessment.



07

Find The Hand™ and The Last Few Inches

The scenario is recognisable across lifting, rigging, fabrication and maintenance operations. A load travels under controlled handling — rigged correctly, the crane attentive, the lift plan followed. As the load approaches its landing point, the final correction is needed. A few centimetres. A particular angle. A precise seat.

At that moment, a worker's hand enters a closing gap at precisely the point where fine positioning is most needed. This is not recklessness. It is the logical consequence of a task that requires a degree of precision that the rigging alone cannot deliver.

Find the Hand. Ask why the hand is there. Identify the exposure. Engineer the hand out.

“The Industrial Third Hand™” describes this role directly. The tool performs the contact function that would otherwise draw the worker's hand towards the pinch point, the hot surface, the moving edge or the closing gap. “Designed for the Last Few Inches™” connects the platform to exactly this moment — final positioning, alignment, seating and adjustment during the most critical phase of the operation.

This does not imply that a tool alone establishes a safe working position, or that the use of a tool changes the conditions under which entry beneath a suspended load is or is not appropriate. The tool addresses one specific, recurring exposure: the need for human contact at the last point of travel.

“The Industrial Third Hand™ moves the contact point away from the worker's hand.”

08

Original Engineering and Global Reach

The Load-It® platform's field presence has attracted attention, and products of similar appearance have entered the market from other sources. This is not unusual for any tool that demonstrates genuine industrial uptake. Appearance, however, is not the measure of a tool's performance, reliability or suitability for sustained industrial deployment.

The factors that matter beyond appearance include the material specification and grade used in heads and shafts, the construction and retention method of head-to-shaft connections, documented load testing and configuration-specific ratings, the range of application knowledge available from the supplier, and the support available when a specific task presents a challenge that a standard configuration does not immediately address. These are the elements that determine the tool's value over a deployment lifetime and across the breadth of industrial applications it will encounter.

PSC reports more than 2,000 Load-It® tools deployed worldwide across lifting, rigging, fabrication, steelmaking, process plant and maintenance operations.

*“Find the hand. Understand the task.
Choose the geometry. Engineer the hand out.”*

PSC LOAD-IT® — APPLICATION PHILOSOPHY

APPLICATION ASSESSMENT INVITATION

Send Us Your Application — We Will Recommend the Right Configuration

PSC invites industrial users and safety professionals to submit application photographs for assessment. Useful submissions show:

- The load or rigging being handled
- The point where a hand currently makes contact
- The required movement — push, pull, steady, align
- Access, reach and working position
- Temperature and surface conditions at contact

Worldwide shipping available. Dispatch timing depends on configuration and stock availability.

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PRODUCT GUIDE

pschandsfree.com/psc-load-it-push-pull-tool-stick-pole...

An appropriate tool configuration — head geometry, shaft length and material — can be recommended from application photographs. A configuration matched to the task is always the starting point for effective hand exposure reduction.