PLATES & BRACES

Rigid Brace & Brace Plate

The rigid brace is the most widely used type of brace in industrial switches. Its companion component, the brace plate, is engineered to match a specific brace design and is sometimes referred to as a combination plate, riser plate, or slide plate. The riser section of the plate can be manufactured in several ways:
Pressed riser: created by pushing the steel upward beneath the riser area.
Welded riser: made by attaching an additional steel shim to the plate through welding.
Milled riser: formed by machining a recessed “seat” or “pocket” into the plate for the rail.

Adjustable Rail Brace & Plate

Adjustable rail braces are typically used in mainline and heavy-duty switch systems. Their design allows the brace to be installed and later fine-tuned without removing the stock rail or plate. These adjustable versions are available in multiple configurations, one example being the 2-bolt AREMA-style model.

Turnout Pocket Plate

A turnout pocket plate is positioned behind the heel of the switch for demanding, heavy-duty applications and is often chosen over twin tie plates. Each plate is specifically crafted to match the rail profile, switch length, tie spacing, and turnout geometry. They can be produced as right-hand, left-hand, or universal (no-hand) designs. Universal plates are suitable for either right- or left-hand turnouts, whereas right- and left-hand versions are not interchangeable.