

Test: Flex Characteristics

Purpose:

To compare the amount of flex in SCHULTE, Lee/Rowan, and Closet Maid shelving under a varying shelf loads.

Method:

3-foot sections of SCHULTE, Lee/Rowan and Closet Maid 12" Linen were mounted in a wall-to-wall installation. An increasing amount of weight was evenly distributed over the deck of the shelving to reflect varying shelf use from light to heavy loads. The flex of the shelf, as a result of the weight added, was measured.

Results:

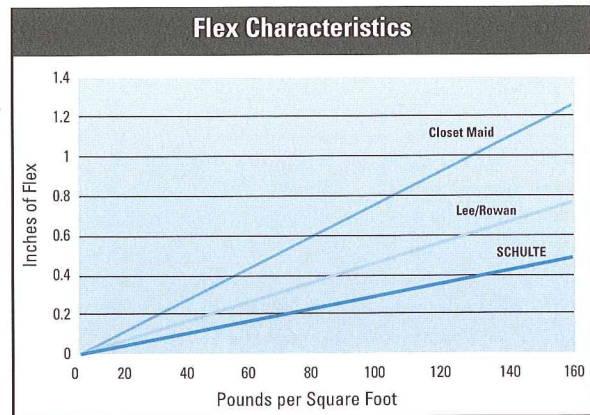
The SCHULTE shelf was up to 150% more rigid than Closet Maid and up to 50% more rigid than Lee/Rowan.

Observations/Comments:

As expected, SCHULTE flexed significantly less than Closet Maid and Lee/Rowan because SCHULTE puts more steel in the shelving.

The more a shelf flexes, the more it has a tendency to start pulling out of the wall.

One interesting note, was how quickly and how much the Closet Maid shelf flexed. This flex caused the Closet Maid anchors to begin to work out of the wall.



Test: Hanging Shelf Coating Durability

Purpose:

To compare the coating durability of SCHULTE, Lee/Rowan, and Closet Maid ventilated shelving.

Method:

4-1/2 lbs were added to a typical suit hanger*. The hanger was hung on each manufacturer's shelving and repeatedly cycled 10" across the hanging rod by a cycling fixture. Time was given between each cycle so no frictional heat built up over repeated cycles, which more closely mimics consumer use. Results were recorded every 1,000 cycles.

*4-1/2 lbs was used to represent the typical weight of a man's suit.

Results:

The Closet Maid vinyl failed first at 6,000 cycles (approximately 8 years). Strong discoloration from the hanger was picked up and embedded into the soft vinyl. The coating became rough, bare metal became exposed, and the hanger jumped when cycled. Black marks began appearing during the first 1,000 strokes of the hanger (and progressively worsened) and could not be cleaned off shelving.

We stopped the testing SCHULTE shelf at 40,000 strokes (approximately 50+ years). SCHULTE did have a small black line on top of the hanging rod where the hanger made contact. This was easily cleaned with a household cleaner (Soft Scrub). The hanger always slid easily and freely as it was cycled.

In this test, Lee/Rowan performed similarly to SCHULTE.

