

How To Wrap Short Loads On The A-Arm

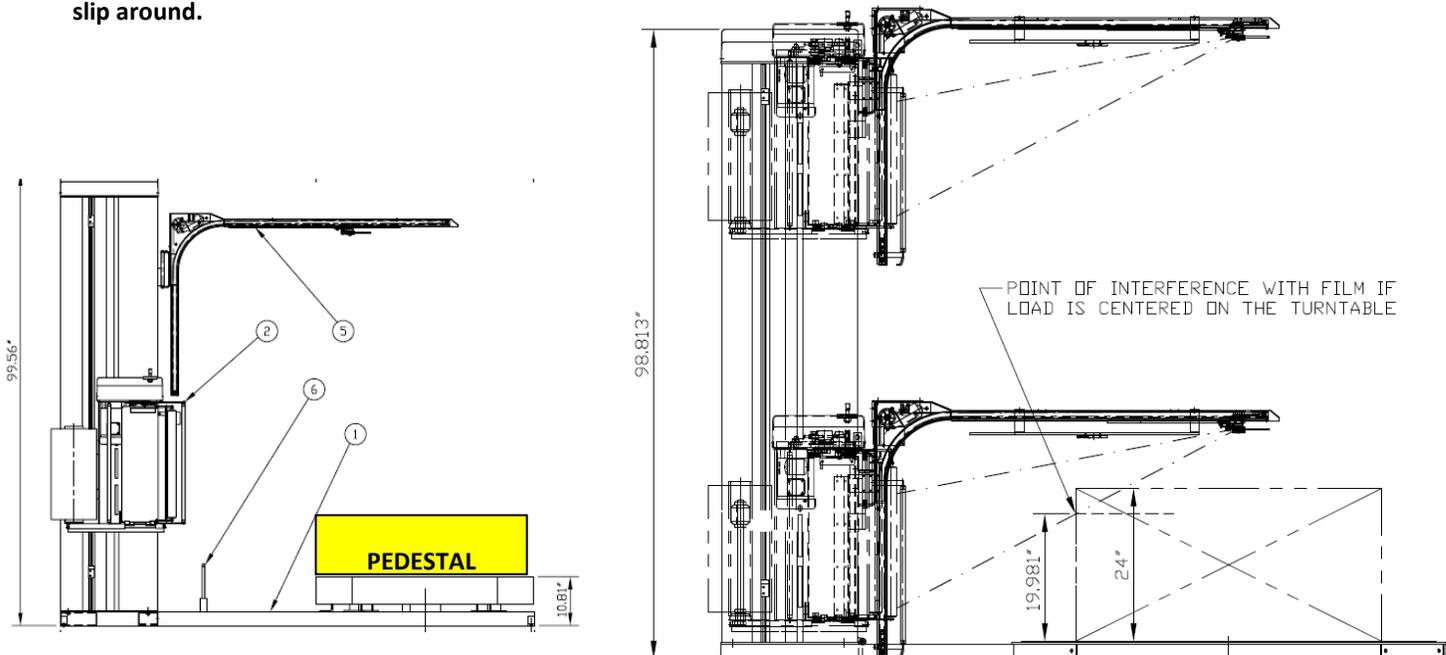
We do not publish a minimum load height on A-Arm machines because this will be influenced by load length, width, height, and the profile of the corners. To operate properly we need to know all the dimensions and details of the load. Two things are of fundamental importance to get an A-Arm machine to wrap a short load:

- 1) The Auto Load Height Sensing photo-eye on the film carriage must “see” the top of the load BEFORE the bottom of the A-Arm hits the deck of the machine and separates from the film carriage. If that happens, the machine will fault out, because it thinks the A-Arm has hit the load.
- 2) The corners of the load have to be able to hit the triangle of film suspended out over the center of the load by the A-Arm sufficient enough to “grab” the film and attach it to the load.

High profile (HP) turntable applications can be easily adapted to work properly by adding a pedestal to the turntable top (see drawing below left). The pedestal should be of sufficient height to raise the load to a workable level. Remember the height of this pedestal reduces the overall wrapping height capability of the machine. The same can be done for low profile turntables if loaded by forklift only.

Low profile (LP) turntable applications loaded by manual pallet jacks or powered walkies need different solutions.

Please take a look at the drawing (below right) showing a 40” x 48” x 24” high load. If the customer’s load is no smaller than this and the corners are nice square cartons, then we will have just over 4” of interference between the film and the corners of the load so we should be able to attach the film to the rotating load. In the worst case, if they find that the film is slipping over the corners rather than sticking, they could position the pallet off-center, either closer to or further from the machine tower. This will mean that at one point in the turntable revolution we will have a greater amount of interference to help “grab” the film. But it is important that the film attaches to the load as early as possible in the cycle because after 1.5 revolutions of the turntable we release the film from the A-Arm and if it has not overlapped itself on the load by then, it is probably just going to slip around.



Another solution is to modify the turntable/base moving the turntable closer to the machine tower which positions the load closer to the film web. This option is a factory quote.

Contact **COUSINS PACKAGING** for assistance to determine if your short loads can be wrapped on the A-Arm model. If not, we have other models with different designs that will satisfy your requirements.