



**House Head: Fly Operator (IATSE)**  
**– Job Description**

**JOB TITLE:** House Head Fly Operator

**ALTERNATE TITLES:**

**REPORTS TO:** Technical Director and/or Stage Management Team

**JOB TYPE:** Hourly, IATSE, Non-exempt

**SUPERVISES:** IATSE Assistant Fly Operators

**GENERAL JOB STATEMENT:** The fly operator house head is one of the core IATSE departmental heads employed by Music Theatre Wichita (MTWichita) during the summer production season. This person assists MTWichita staff in pre-planning for the season, helps to address any unique show-specific challenges during the season, supervises IATSE assistant fly operators on calls, fulfills duties typical of an IATSE fly operator on all calls, and works with MTWichita staff consulting on long-term goals.

**PRINCIPAL DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:**

- Availability to consult via phone or email before, during, and after a season to assist in planning and troubleshooting for the season or for specific shows.
- Knowledge of IATSE rules including, but not limited to; rules pertaining to call times, breaks, and span-of-day; timesheet logging and reporting; labor classification as it relates to the Union; Union jurisdiction; etc.
- Knowledge and comfortability with basic theatrical terms, skills, and standards.
- Knowledge, comfortability and/or the willingness and capacity to be trained on advanced theatrical operations including, but not limited to; automation, personnel and equipment flying, rigging principals, etc.
- Ability to provide direction to assistant fly operators on all calls.
- When acting as call steward, the ability to manage all Union personnel on the call and to skillfully communicate concepts, address conflicts, and to enforce all Union and MTWichita rules as identified in the MTWichita-Local 190 Collective Bargaining Agreement as well as MTWichita's Employee Handbook.
- The ability and willingness to perform duties expected of head fly operator on all MTWichita calls to which they are assigned. This includes, but is not limited to, the ability to lift 50 lbs.; the ability to work at height from a personnel lift, the fly floor, the loading bridge, or the grid; the ability to work up to a ten-hour shift on their feet; a knowledge of Century-II's fly systems and associated equipment; familiarity with and/or a willingness to be trained in the operation of fly apparatus such as that installed by ZFX, Flying by Foy, Vertigo, etc.; familiarity with the operation and the mechanical principals behind single- and double-purchase counterweight systems; the ability to safely mitigate out-of-weight situations; the ability to communicate clearly between the deck, fly rail, and loading bridge when loading or unloading arbors; etc.
- Punctuality in arriving to calls and when returning from breaks.
- Maintenance and care of any MTWichita-owned or leased equipment for which they've been given responsibility over.
- Proficiency with the following tools and equipment:
  - General hand tools such as wrenches, ratchets, hammers, saws, etc.
  - Handheld power tools including drills, etc.

- Adherence to all safety directives written out in Union or MTWichita policy as well as any verbal directives given by MTWichita staff in the course of the House Head Fly operator crewmember completing their duties.
- Any additional tasks as requested by the Director of Production or the Technical Director.

**QUALIFICATIONS AND SKILLS:**

- 5 years' experience in rigging and operation of various fly systems.
- Member in good standing of IATSE, or willing to become a member.
- Excellent communication and interpersonal skills.
- Ability to lead and supervise a crew.
- Strong organizational skills.
- Strong practical knowledge of basic and advanced stagecraft.
- Interdisciplinary knowledge of other departments is a plus.
- Advance knowledge of stage rigging procedures and practices