

# The Ultimate **STANCHION BUYER'S GUIDE**



● How to Choose  
the Right Stanchions  
for Crowd Control  
and Queuing



[www.lavi.com](http://www.lavi.com) | (888) 285-8605

# Introduction

Stanchions are essential tools in effective public guidance, crowd control, and queue management.

Simply described as upright bars or posts that provide support for another object, stanchions come in a wide range of styles, materials, and sizes. They include varieties with retractable belts, ropes, and chains and each is attached to a base (floor mounted, magnetic, weighted steel, or rubberized) that keeps the stanchion in place.

Stanchions are used in an array of settings, from banks and retail shops to restaurants, convention centers, airports, and even parking lots. And they are relied upon to form waiting lines, direct the flow of crowds, control access, enhance safety, and more.

*Those stanchions have a lot of responsibilities!*

As many combinations of uses and settings you can imagine, there are an equally expansive list of stanchions from which to choose. When you're in charge of the stanchion purchasing decision, the choices can be overwhelming.



## What's Covered in this Stanchion Buyer's Guide?

This guide is intended to help you wade through the choices and find the optimal stanchion for your unique venue, needs, and goals. Inside you'll discover:

- **Tips related to the effective use of stanchions for crowd control and queue management**
- **How to narrow your choices by understanding the 3 main categories of stanchions**
- **The “anatomy” of a quality stanchion**
- **A handy “cheat sheet” for matching your needs to the most popular Lavi stanchions**

Let's get started!



# Stanchions in Action

**Two of the most common applications of stanchions are in crowd control and queuing/line formation. Here we review some use cases for each.**



## CROWD CONTROL

Crowd control is all about preventing disorder and keeping crowds comfortable and relaxed. Stanchions play their part by facilitating some of the critical factors that can mitigate the disarray, discomfort, and tension among people in “crowded” environments. Here are some of the ways stanchions are used to enhance crowd control:

### **Improve Customer Flow**

When customer flow is optimized, customers move through a venue from entrance to exit in an efficient and enjoyable manner. Stanchions form clear pathways, offer directional guidance, block access to the “wrong way,” and easily reconfigure with the ups and downs of traffic volume.

### **Facilitate Temporary Closures**

Crowd control managers must be prepared to address temporary closures that will naturally, yet temporarily, impede the flow of traffic. Scheduled cleaning or maintenance may require areas to be closed off for a short time. Similarly, aisle ways or entryways may need to be opened and closed temporarily. Stanchions with retractable belts, swinging gates, or barriers that can easily move in and out of place offer an ideal solution.

### **Enable Rapid Response**

Stanchions can be very easy and fast to deploy in emergencies or cases where rapid deployment is essential. Closing off a basketball court at half-time, blocking off an area during a medical emergency, redirecting crowds away from a suddenly inoperable elevator... portable stanchions make quick action possible.

### **Enhance Wayfinding**

People typically know where they want to go; they just don’t always know how to get there. All of this wandering around can lead to major crowd control issues as frustration and disarray ensue. Stanchions offer a comprehensive wayfinding solution; effectively guiding people to their desired destination by forming pathways, displaying signage, and providing clear cues as to the “right and wrong” ways to go.





## QUEUE MANAGEMENT

Waiting lines are a profound source of tension between customers and businesses. For this reason, a discussion of stanchions is not complete without a specific focus on their role in queue management and line formation. Here are some of the ways stanchions are used to improve queue management:

### **Make the Line Clear**

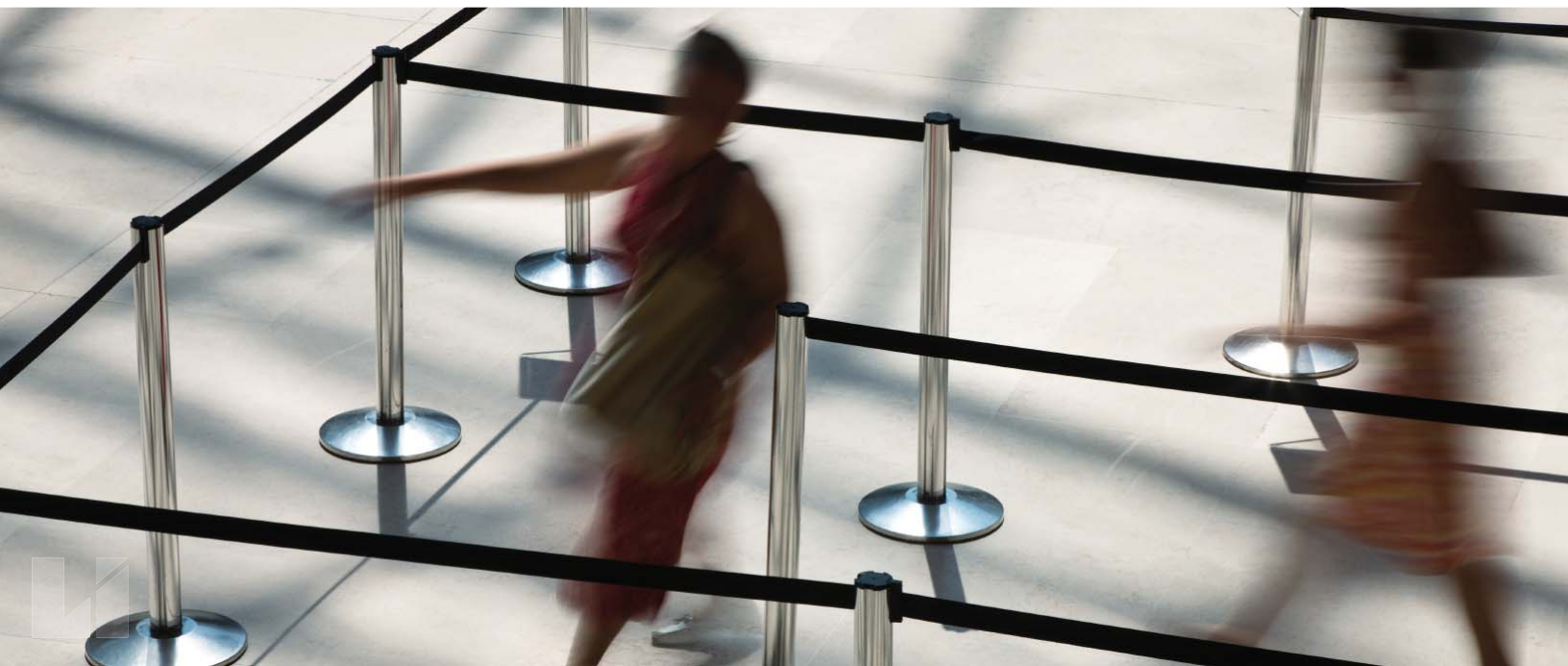
When people see a belted stanchion they immediately recognize the waiting line. That first stanchion says it all: “Line up here.” Stanchions form a clear clue to the queue.

### **Allow Lines to Expand and Contract**

In most business environments, customer traffic ebbs and flows throughout the day, week, or season. Stanchions allow a line to scale quickly and easily since the belts between stanchions can be removed to shorten the line during slow periods or connected to expand the line during busy periods. In retail, retractable belts are sometimes placed in between merchandising panels to easily open up the flow of traffic.

### **Enhance Safety**

An orderly line is a safer line. High traffic settings such as airports, amusement parks, movie theatres, and big-box retail stores require a well-designed queuing strategy, as much for safety as for efficiency and customer satisfaction. Stanchions play a large part in enhancing crowd control and safety by establishing clear boundaries and forming a fair and logical progression for customer flow. All of this translates into a safer experience for all.



# Narrowing Your Choices

A quick way to narrow your stanchion choices is to understand the 3 primary categories and determine which general variety best fits your needs. From here, you can more easily hone in on an exact stanchion or perhaps a combination of solutions.



## 1 TRADITIONAL POST & ROPE STANCHIONS

...classically styled, utilizing swag ropes or chains to form a queuing line.

...settings where a more elegant, classic feel to crowd control and queuing is desired.

## 2 RETRACTABLE BELT STANCHIONS

...a durable and flexible choice for waiting lines, crowd control management, and queue systems.

...situations that require a stable, long-lasting waiting line and crowd control solution.

## 3 EXTRA-LONG BELTED STANCHIONS

...as the name implies, extra-long! Perfect in situations where large areas must be easily blocked off.

...large areas where one or a few long-belted stanchions would be more practical than rolling out dozens of smaller stanchions.

These stanchions are...

Choose this category for...



# TRADITIONAL POST & ROPE STANCHION

They grace the floors of movie theaters, music halls, museums, amusement parks, and even the Red Carpet – the classic post-and-rope barrier creates an elegant feel to crowd control and queuing.

This traditional stanchion combo serves to direct traffic, maintain order, and block off no-access areas both efficiently and stylishly. Brass, stainless steel, or painted post finishes combined with vinyl, velvet or braided ropes, or chains make it easy to complement existing décor. And make no mistake that while these stanchions may look dainty, there is no need to sacrifice durability or construction. There are many options available with superior construction to weather the storms of many crowds.

## Comparing Popular Lavi Post and Rope Stanchions



### TULIP POST

- Solid steel with a mirror chrome finish
- Light weight base
- Light weight foam core ropes

**Ideal for applications which require frequent set up and tear down**

Price Range: 💰



### REGAL POST

- Virtually indestructible structural steel skeleton
- Rubberized flat base protects floor surface
- Universal ring connector accepts ropes from any direction

**Ideal for banks and busy movie theatres**

Price Range: 💰💰



### TEMPO REMOVABLE STANCHION

- Classically styled public guidance posts
- Permanent or removable mounting
- Use with chain for outdoor solutions

**Ideal for outdoor use and heavy traffic areas**

Price Range: 💰💰💰



# The Anatomy of a **TRADITIONAL POST & ROPE STANCHION**

**Classically styled to elegantly guide the public.**

## Large Variety

of post finishes and base styles.

## Rich Velour or Vinyl Swag Ropes

create a pleasantly draped visible barrier.

## Hand-Polished

solid brass and stainless steel posts ensure a bright mirror finish.

## Durable

baked-on Lido-Tone® color finishes provide a contemporary appearance.

## Unique Rubber Bottom

protects floor surfaces and allows area under post to remain dry.

**Superior construction for durability.**

## Removable Finial

allows posts to accept radius corner sign frames.

## Universal Ring

accepts swag ropes from any direction.

## Steel Inner Sleeve

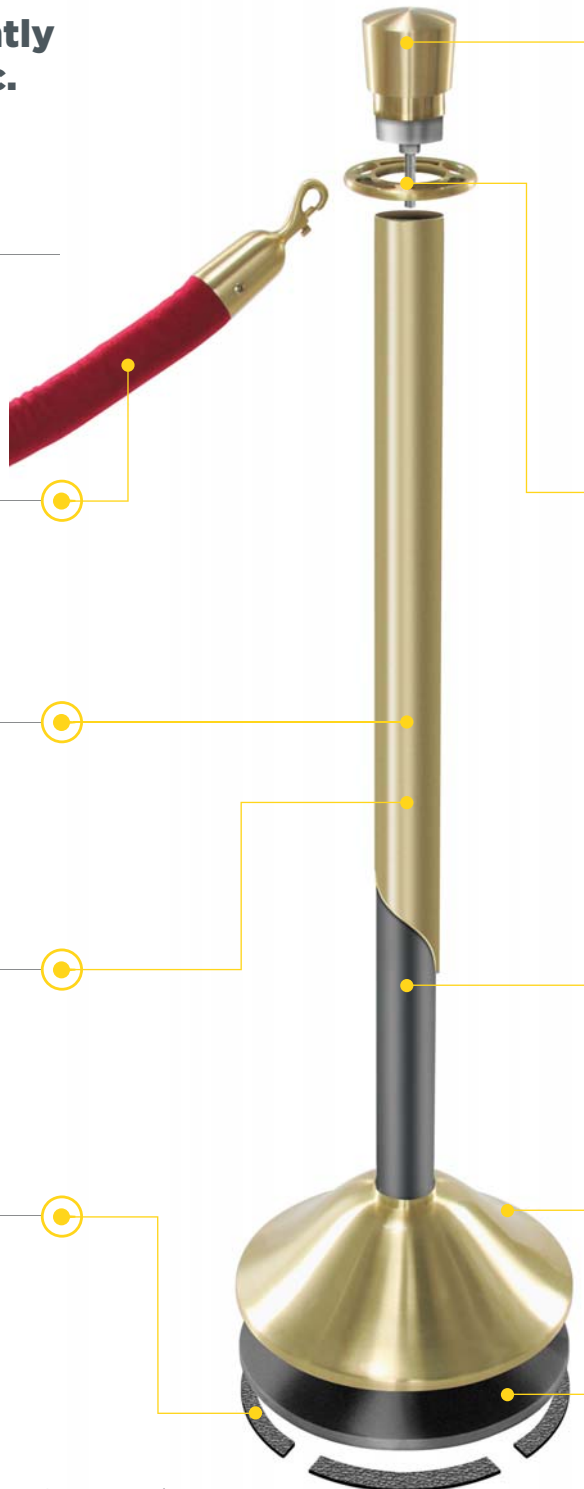
provides superior strength along the full post length for added durability.

## Titanium Cover Plate

on brass/gold finishes helps prevent dents and scratches.

## Cast Steel Base

provides exceptional stability.



Explore the full line of Lavi post and rope stanchions at <http://bit.ly/post-rope-stanchion>

# RETRACTABLE BELT STANCHIONS





The retractable belt stanchion is the best friend of many crowd control professionals. Modern and multi-purpose, retractable belt stanchions can be found in a variety of post finishes and their belts can be embellished with logos, graphics, and/or messaging to amplify the results.

Belted stanchions also lend versatility to queue arrangements and crowd management since they can easily expand and retract with the ebb and flow of crowds and waiting patrons. A four-way receptacle atop a stanchion also allows belts to expand in any direction and a universal belt-end can make it easy to add on to an existing queue or crowd control arrangement.

When it comes to belted stanchions there are standard single-belted varieties, double-belted (ideal for ADA compliance), and low-level “exhibit height” stanchions that work to block off sensitive exhibits without blocking the view of the display. Also available are all-weather stanchions, made to withstand harsh elements.

## Comparing Lavi Retractable Belt Stanchions

	DESCRIPTION	BEST USES	PRICE RANGE
 <p><b>BELTRAC 3000</b></p>	One-piece aluminium extrusion with our patented dovetail grooves for attaching in-line merchandising and signage panels. Patented self-contained retractable belt architecture.	Perfect choice for waiting lines, crowd control management, and queue systems.  Combine with in-line merchandising and signage panels.	\$ \$
 <p><b>BELTRAC CONTEMPO</b></p>	Sleek crowd control stanchion featuring a continuous solid steel tubing in over a dozen different finishes for a fresh, modern look. Patented self-contained retractable belt architecture.	To add style and elegance to waiting lines and queue systems.	\$ \$
 <p><b>THE BASIC POST</b></p>	Premium features at a budget-friendly price.	Budget-friendly choice.	\$
 <p><b>TEMPEST PLASTIC POST</b></p>	Versatile outdoor stanchion is built for strength and endurance. 100% recycled rubber base.	Ideal choice for outdoor safety barricades, crowd control and public guidance.	\$
 <p><b>DOUBLE-BELTED POST</b></p>	ADA compliant. Two parallel retractable belts totally embedded within the post. Patented self-contained retractable belt architecture.	Perfect for queuing and crowd control where ADA compliance is a top priority.	\$ \$ \$
 <p><b>EXHIBIT POST</b></p>	24-inch-tall stanchions provide a subtle visual barrier while offering visitors an unobstructed view of exhibits and displays.	Ideal for exhibit and display environments.	\$ \$ \$



# The Anatomy of a **RETRACTABLE BELT STANCHION**

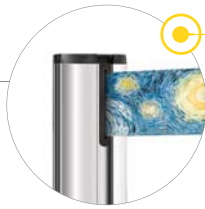
## **Embedded Belt Mechanism**

protects the belt from dirt, grime, and physical abuse, yet is easy to replace when a new belt is needed.



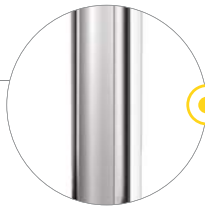
## **Belt Imprinting**

adds impact whether using one color or intricate full-color art.



## **Continuous Aluminum Extrusion**

or steel tubing, without breaks or cuts, means superior strength and reliability, even under the most extreme conditions.



## **Post-to-Base Connection**

allows for a quick and easy assembly and provides superior strength, keeping the post straight and secure.



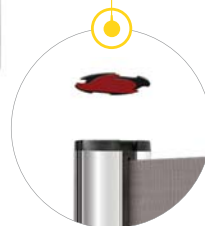
## **Rubber Feet**

are non-marking to protect floor from scratches and are notched to allow for continuous airflow, enabling fast, even drying of wet floors.



## **Belt Locking System**

fully automatic metal locking system prevents the accidental release of belts or post-top accessories, keeping the queue safe & secure.



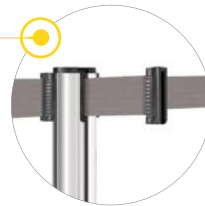
## **Universal Belt-End**

allows posts to be used with most other manufacturer's posts. Other belt ends, such as magnetic or s-hook, are available.



## **4-Way Receptacle**

allows for attachment of up to 3 other belts to a single post providing maximum in-queue flexibility and versatility.



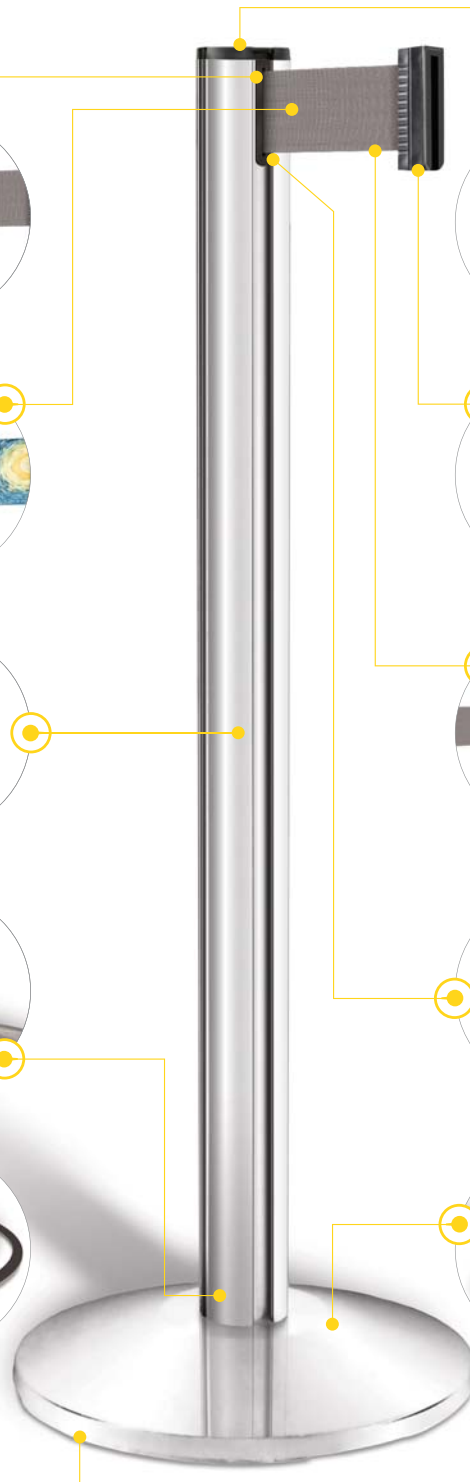
## **Slow-Retract Belt**

uses advanced technology to slowly retract the belt each and every time, keeping customers safe.



## **18 lb. Cast Iron Base**

provides exceptional stability to withstand a lifetime of heavy use and dropping.



# Covering the Bases

Selecting the right stanchion is one thing. Choosing the base is yet another consideration. Traditional and retractable belt posts can be mounted with either removable mounting solutions or permanent mounting solutions. Or you can choose a completely portable base with no mounting requirements.

Here we provide an overview of the most popular stanchion bases and a few tips to help you select the best option for your crowd control or queuing needs.



## PORTABLE

Portable bases can still be strong. Weighted steel stanchion bases are available for superior stability. Lavi stanchions feature a slotted rubberized base that protects flooring and promotes air flow, allowing wet floors to dry quickly. Also consider a galvanized base for outdoor use.



## REMOVABLE

A floor socket solution can keep retractable-belt posts firmly in place and still easy to remove. When the post is not in use, the flush cap seals the socket.



## MAGNETIC

The strength of a permanent solution without the need for floor drilling: A strong magnetic base keeps posts firmly in place and allows for quick removal from floor plate as needed. Steel floor plate affixes with center bolt or adhesive.



## PERMANENT

Keep stanchions permanently in place with a surface-mounted flange.



# EXTRA-LONG BELTED STANCHIONS



A distinct category of retractable belt stanchions is the extra-long, portable variety. With options to easily cover as much as 260 linear feet (ideal for tarmacs, terminals, stadiums, arenas, parking garages and lots, convention centers, and any large area) these stanchions promise superior coverage and easy deployment. Push cart, shuttle-like carriers are available to transport and store stanchions and belts, which makes it easy for even a single staff member to deploy an extra-long belted stanchion in minutes, and just as easy to retract the belt and store it away.

## Comparing Lavi Long-Belted Stanchions



**JETTRAC DUAL**

An instant barricade that features dual belt mechanisms for a total coverage area of 130 linear feet.

Price Range: 💰💰💰💰



**JETTRAC SHUTTLE**

Easily and quickly deploy and store up to 3 JetTrac Satellite Posts for a total coverage area of 260 linear feet.

Price Range: 💰💰💰💰



**JETTRAC SATELLITE POST**























































Instantly add an additional 65 feet of coverage into your JetTrac Barrier solution. Fits into the JetTrac Shuttle for easy deployment and storage.

Price Range: 💰💰💰



# Matching Your Needs to THE RIGHT LAVI STANCHION

- Low Profile
- Classic Look
- Merchandising-Ready
- Maximum Durability
- Portable
- Extra-long Coverage
- Custom Imprinting
- Modern Look
- Eco-Friendly
- Lowest Price
- ADA Compliance
- All-Weather Solution

		Low Profile	Classic Look	Merchandising-Ready	Maximum Durability	Portable	Extra-long Coverage	Custom Imprinting	Modern Look	Eco-Friendly	Lowest Price	ADA Compliance	All-Weather Solution	
RETRACTABLE BELT STANCHIONS	 <b>Beltrac 3000</b>													
	 <b>Beltrac Contempo</b>													
	 <b>Basic Post</b>													
	 <b>Tempest Plastic Post</b>													
	 <b>Double-Belted Post</b>													
	 <b>Exhibit Post</b>													
POST & ROPE	 <b>Tulip Post</b>													
	 <b>Regal Post</b>													
	 <b>Tempo Removable Post</b>													
LONG-BELTED STANCHIONS	 <b>JetTrac Shuttle</b>													
	 <b>JetTrac Satellite</b>													
	 <b>JetTrac Dual</b>													



## Your “Go-To” Source for Stanchions

Stanchions are an important part of crowd control and queue management. Choosing the right stanchions for your venue can facilitate better customer flow, guide customers to their desired end point, and create an orderly queuing environment.



Let us help plan your approach with the right stanchions.

**Contact a  
Lavi Expert ▶**

[www.lavi.com](http://www.lavi.com)  
(888) 285-8605