

Talk No. 12- Lifting Gear

Reason for Talk

Lifting operations can be hazardous.

Main Points

General

- Overloading or incorrect use of lifting gear.
- Insecure attachment of load.
- Improper methods of use of equipment.
- Failure of equipment due to lack of maintenance.
- Incorrect signals.

On Site Safety

- Before starting any lift check the SWL of the lifting gear against the weight to be lifted.
- The SWL of chains SHOULD be stamped on the item of gear.
- Before using wire ropes or fibre slings check for signs of wear.
- Protect wire ropes / fibre slings from sharp edges.
- Never lengthen a chain by joining pieces together.
- Make sure that chains are never twisted or kinked.
- Don't expose chains to acids or corrosive substances.
- Make sure that ropes / slings are not stored in wet conditions.
- Use the right type of shackle for the job in hand.
- Don't use a shackle that isn't marked with the SWL.
- Check the bow and pin for damage, if in doubt destroy it.
- Check hooks and eyebolts for cracks, cuts, abrasions, and dents – if in doubt destroy the item in question.
- Ensure that you can see the driver at all times
- Use approved hand signals that are clear and distinct.
- Rubbish skips must not be lifted by a lifting appliance unless the skip is designed and marked as being suitable for lifting purposes.
- Do not use lifting equipment in high winds.
- Be sure that the location of overhead cables / obstructions are taken into account before lifting starts.
- Remember a chain is only as strong as it's weakest link – know the SWL of all lifting gear.
- To avoid damage to lifting gear ensure that loads are landed on timber or another suitable bearer.

Questions

Presenter should request any questions from the audience

MAIN POINT FROM THIS SESSION

ONLY TRAINED PEOPLE SHOULD SLING LOADS



