

RIGGING EQUIPMENT

- A. Inspection – Rigging equipment must be inspected before each use. Defective rigging equipment shall be removed from service.
- B. Safe Loading – Rigging equipment shall not be loaded in excess of its recommended safe working load. Refer to OSHA/VOSHA 1926.251 H-1 thru H-20 table. – attached to this document.
- C. Custom lifting accessories will be labeled as to a safe working load and proof tested before use at 125 percent of their rated load.
- D. Steel Chains
 1. Stretched or overly worn chains will not be used. Maximum wear for a 3/8” chain is 5/64” at the link and 7/64” for 1/2” chain.
 2. All chain slings must be tagged or labeled with size, grade, rated capacity, and sling manufacturer.
 3. All hooks and attachments must have a rated capacity at least equal to that of the chain.
 4. Rated capacity (maximum working load) shall conform to the values in table H-1.
 5. Steel chain slings will be inspected at least every 12 month. Records will be kept of the most recent inspection of each chain sling.
- E. Wire Rope
 1. Use tables H-3 thru H-14 for safe loading of different types of wire rope.
 2. Strand ends in splices and on slings and bridles must be covered or blunted.
 3. Any woven splice must have at least 3 full tucks.
 4. Each wire rope used for pulling, hoisting or lowering loads; must be in one continuous piece without knots or splices except for at the ends.
 5. Wire rope shall not be used if any of the following applies:
 - a. Excessive wear exists
 - b. Corrosion or defects exist
 - c. Total number of visible wires in 8 diameters of length exceeds 10% of the total number of wires.
 - d. Always install u-bolts so that the “U” section is in contact with the dead end of the rope. See table H-20 for number and spacing of clips.
- F. Fiber Rope
 1. Refer to tables H-15 thru H-18 for fiber rope slings. Follow manufacturers recommendations whenever possible.
 2. Manila rope shall contain at least 3 full tucks for eyes and 6 full tucks (3 on each side) for short splices.

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3. Synthetic fiber rope must contain at least 4 full tucks for eye splices and 8 full tucks for short splices (4 on either side).
 4. Tails must be trimmed and taped. For fiber ropes under 1 inch, tails must extend at least 6 rope diameters beyond the last full tuck. Tails must extend at least 6 inches for ropes over 1 inch diameter.
 5. Tails may be eliminated by making 2 tucks more than required.
 6. Knots will not be used in lieu of splices.
 7. All nylon and fiber slings must be labeled with the following:
 - a. Manufacturer
 - b. Rated Capacity
 - c. Type of material
- G. Shackles and Hooks
1. Refer to table H-19 for sizing of shackles and hooks
 2. Follow manufacturers' recommendations for load capacity
 3. If no manufacturers' information is available, hooks will be tested to twice the intended safe work load before use. Records of dates and test results must be kept in this case.
- H. Refer to VOSHA/OSHA 1926.251 for further information on rigging equipment.