

## Description

Rigging is a necessity for efficiency in any large scale construction project. The ability to easily raise or lower heavy tools or materials saves time and man power, however it does come with it's own risks. Improper use of rigging can easily cause harm to workers, property and can even bring fatalities.

## Dangers

- Falling objects
- Falls
- Crushing of limbs
- Property damage
- Death

## Examples

- A passerby is struck by a falling object from an insecure load
- A load is nearly flipped by an obstruction between floors due to lack of communication
- A uninspected nylon sling fails during operation and drops the load causing massive property damage
- A worker grabs the load bearing chain and is pulled to his death
- The air hoist break fails due to a load that exceeds maximum capacity
- A chain link is bent by an unguarded sharp edge
- A nylon is damaged by an unguarded sharp edge

## Prevention

- Rigging equipment is to be inspected before use in each shift
  - Inspect ropes for kinking, crushing or bird caging
  - Inspect for loose or missing nuts, pins or bolts
  - Rust, corrosion, cuts, abrasion, broken strands
  - Missing hook latch, or malfunctioning latch
- Any damaged equipment must be taken out of commission and cannot be used in a rigging operation
- Maximum load must not be exceeded
- Keep load balanced (distribute materials evenly) and secure
- If there are any signs of improper operation such as unusual sounds, break mechanism failing or slipping under load or appearance of metal shavings during use, seize the rigging operation
- Insure proper means of communication between levels such as walkie-talkies and hand signals
- Hoists must be placed so that the operator is able to stand clear of the load
- Post proper signage and barricades around operation to protect passersby
- Hands or fingers shall not be placed between slings and load
- Always protect load and it's components from obstructions between elevations

