



TOOLBOX TALKS

RIGGING SAFETY PRACTICES

Toolbox Talks are designed to promote safety discussions and best practices on the jobsite. To see more Toolbox Talks, please visit hollandcs.com/toolboxtalks.

RIGGING SAFETY PRACTICES

- Read and understand the **Operating Manual** for the lifting equipment being used. Do not overload the rated capacities
- Wear the proper Personal Protective Equipment (PPE): consider **eye protection, head protection, heavy duty leather gloves and steel-toed boots with metatarsal guards**
- Ensure **slings and chains** are in good condition and not frayed or cracked. Understand their rated capacities and verify they are appropriate for the load. If the rated load of a sling cannot be read, the sling should be placed out of service and cannot be used
- Inspect **hooks and clasps**. Verify they are not deformed in any way. All hooks should have clasps that enclose the hook completely
- If using **straps with ratchet fasteners**, ensure the ratchet is large enough to safely secure the load and will not break loose. Ensure the locking clasp is working
- Secure chains and slings underneath, or attached to, the **strongest load bearing structure** on the load
- Keep in mind that all equipment needs to support both the largest **sustained load** and the largest **impact load**. It is important that the lift equipment operator minimize sudden movements of the load
- **Secure loose parts**, doors or other swinging components before lifting. Strapping or crating are common techniques
- Attach threaded **eyebolts** to the load to create lifting points. Verify the eyebolt is properly rated for the job. Secure the opposite side of the eyebolt with a nut and washer if possible
- If securing the load with **metal or nylon banding**, protect from lacerations by wearing a face shield, a long-sleeve shirt and heavy leather gloves
- Secure the load and identify latching points so the **load does not shift** during transfer. Understand the center of gravity of the load and how it may shift once lifted
- Attach **tag lines** to the load to direct where it will be placed and to mitigate risk of movement while transferring. Never stand underneath a load. Do not steady the load with your hands

QUESTIONS TO GENERATE DISCUSSION

- Why is it important to understand the center of gravity of the load?
- Why is it important to secure lifting devices to the heaviest, strongest part of the load?
- Why is it important for hooks to have clasps?

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