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SAFETY TALKS! For Construction

MATERIALS HANDLING

Slings and Rigging



Construction lifting is hazardous

Prepare for it carefully

Consider a lift's three main parts:

- Lifting device
- Hitch, and
- Load weight



The lifting device can be a crawler

- A truck crane may lift your load
- Or pedestal-mounted or overhead crane
- When was it inspected?
- Will it lift high enough?
- What is its horizontal reach?

Load weight may be on documents

- It could be written on load
- Or you might weigh or calculate
- What is your rigging's rated capacity?
- Check how far load must move
- Choose a hitching method

Choose an appropriate sling

- Check end attachments; eye protection
- It needs proper attachment hardware
- Always inspect the sling before use
- Inspect the fittings
- Throw out defective slings

Rig up, not down

- Check everything before a lift
- Is load balanced, free of restraints?
- Ensure no one near suspended loads
- Avoid loads about to be lifted
- All should beware possible snagging

Sling-tightening is hazardous time

- **Keep hands out of danger**
- **Danger is between sling and load**
- **Don't use brute strength**
- **Tagline or tether can move load**
- **Avoid "shock" loading**

After lift, check sling for damage

- Is it in good condition?
- Then store it in a safe place
- If damaged, tag it
- Notify the supervisor
- Know your lift – never guess

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