

About Tool Box Talks

Please read through this document with each of your staff FACE TO FACE in the form of a Tool Box Talk, encourage interaction on the Discussion points. Each Toolbox talk should take no more than 10 – 15 minutes.

For each Tool Box Talk: a record sheet must be completed containing each employee's signature. Keep the original in your local Tool Box Talk record file and fax or email a copy to the scheme administrator.

Title: USING LIFTING TACKLE

The incorrect selection and use of lifting tackle can have disastrous effects. Employers are required by law to ensure that all lifting tackle are examined by a competent person. ERIKS has appointed a company to undertake this work, when passed they attach a coloured tag so users have confidence it is safe to use to the limit stated. Users must assume: Items not identified as such are not safe to use.



Examples of damaged tackle

Main Points:

- All lifting tackle must be colour tagged (coloured cable tie) to identify the next inspection date
- All tackle must be marked with its safe working load ((SWL) which must never be exceeded).
- Users of lifting tackle must be trained and authorised.
- Never improvise, always use correct tackle for the task and only ever use them in the manner intended.
- Inspect lifting tackle before use, such as: general condition, missing SWL or coloured inspection tag – if in doubt do not use, lock away in the quarantine area, and report to your supervisor.

Discussion Points:

- Always check for a current colour code tag: don't use accessories that don't have a tag or have an out of date tag. Put them into the locked quarantine box.
- Never use nylon, fibre or rope slings for hot loads and protect them from hot work such as welding.
- Protect all types of slings from sharp edges.
- Never tie a knot in a chain sling to shorten it and ensure there are no kinks or twists prior to use.
- If hooks are designed to be used with a safety catch don't use them without, put them into the locked quarantine box.
- If tackle items are covered in paint or varnish they must be thoroughly cleaned before re-use to enable inspection.
- Do not overheat tackle, the material's characteristics may change and make the tackle unsafe.
- Check splices, rings and thimbles on any slings, and check the bow and pin on shackles (never use home made shackles, or miss matched bows and pins).
- Land loads onto suitable bearers to avoid damaging accessories and to aid easy removal.
- Ensure your hands are clear: before tensioning ropes or chains.
- Before lifting/lowering/pulling, stand well clear and ensure others are well away from the area.
- Ensure all lifting accessories are suitably stored when not in use – they should not be left lying on the ground where they can be damaged or be a trip hazard.

A CHAIN IS ONLY AS STRONG AS ITS WEAKEST LINK

know-how makes the difference

ERIKS