

Slinger/Signallers

Heavy objects are lifted around sites by cranes regularly, the potential for danger is obvious. One person must be nominated to supervise the lifting operation.

- All Slinger/Signallers must be trained, hold a current CPCS card and be authorised to give instruction.
- **Check** lifting gear daily for good order and report any defects immediately.
- Lifting gear **must** not be used unless its safe working load is known. The combined weight of load to be lifted and lifting gear **must never** exceed the safe working load of the crane.
- Use only slings and lifting gear provided by your employer. **Never** use improvised slings.
- Speak to the crane driver before you start so he knows who his appointed banksman is.
- Make sure you can communicate with him at all times.
- When signalling, stand where you can see the load **clearly** and where the operator can see you. Whenever possible face the operator.
- **Wear** a safety helmet and high visibility clothing.
- Make your signals clearly and distinctly and **always** use the approved Signals.
- **Never** tie knots in chains to shorten them use shortening clutch or smaller chains.
- **Make sure** the right pin is used in all shackles and that the pin is properly screwed home.
- All hooks **must** either be an approved 'C' type or fitted with an effective safety catch to prevent displacement of the lifting gear.
- **Always** see that the crane hook is centrally placed over the load to prevent swinging when the load is being raised.
- Take your **hands** away from chains and ropes before the crane takes the load and stand clear.
- **Ensure** that the load is lifted off the ground to see that it is free and correctly slung before hoisting.
- When the crane is travelling, **ensure** that you signal to the operator to warn him of obstructions on the route or awkward corners.
- When the crane is operating, **do not** leave the area unless you have been relieved by a trained deputy.
- **Protect** wire ropes and slings with soft wood or other suitable packing from the sharp edges of the load.
- Loads should be landed onto suitable bearers to **avoid** damage to lifting gear and to facilitate removal.
- Riding on loads is strictly **prohibited**.
- **Backslung** hooks when no load is carried to prevent them getting caught or snagged.
- **Do not** allow lifting gear to be used for other purposes, eg: towing.
- When not in use, **store** your gear tidily off the ground.

Remember:

Any lifting operation is only as safe as the people who control it

Further Information:- CIP Manual, Section 9
IPSL Card L105