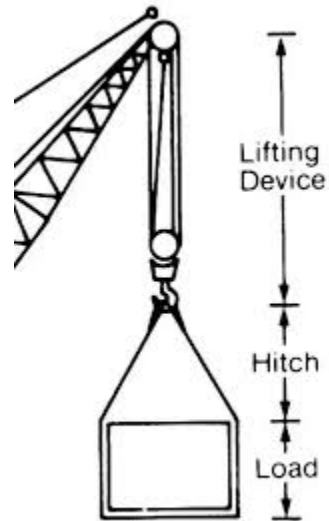


TOOLBOX TALK #27

PLAN AHEAD FOR CORRECT CRANE RIGGING

Will you be using a crane to move materials around a jobsite? Supervisors should conduct a lift-planning meeting with all involved workers before beginning. During this meeting, identify hazards associated with crane rigging. WorkSafeBC, the safety agency for British Columbia, Canada, lists some hazard scenarios:

- Sharp edges of suspended loads can damage rigging.
- If a load shifts, the rigging may fail or the load may fall.
- A suspended load can fail if it has insufficient structural integrity for the forces imposed on it during the lift.



Reduce the risk of rigging failures by following these safety tips from WorkSafeBC:

- Design the load to have designated lifting points that “enable the load to withstand the forces imposed by the lift” and areas with “sufficiently rounded corners.”
- Create a lift plan that ensures the slings and load will not be “overstressed” and the rigging configuration won’t cause the load to shift.
- Only include trained, licensed/certified workers to be part of the lift.
- Perform required inspections of the rigging to ensure it’s safe for use, and that the load limit of the rigging is marked.
- Use effective edge protection.

WorkSafeBC also suggests enforcing “an appropriately sized exclusion zone below the load during lifting to ensure worker safety in case of a rigging failure.