

## **Toolbox Talk # 5.05 – Rigging**

Inspection of wire rope slings is a priority responsibility for all co-workers. Spotting misuse or abuse of equipment can often save lives as well as money, and should be a regular part of your routine. Much of the rigging done is accomplished by craftsmen who may not have had as much training in the use of tools and equipment as they should have. Therefore they may overlook some of the specific hazards caused by improper rigging or use that causes damage to wire rope slings. Any time that you become aware of these hazards make sure you report them to the person in charge of the operation.

The following safety tips are for anyone involved in rigging and/or the inspection of wire rope. CAUTION - Slings shall be removed from service if any of these conditions are present:

- 10 randomly distributed broken wires in one lay, or 5 broken wires in one strand in one lay.
- Wear or scraping on one-third the original diameter of the outside individual wires.
- Kinking, crushing, bird caging, or any other damage to the wire rope structure.
- The evidence of heat damage to the wire rope.
- End attachments that are cracked, deformed or worn.
- Significant corrosion of the rope or end attachments.
- Hooks that have been opened more than fifteen percent of the normal throat opening measured at the narrowest point, or twisted more than ten degrees from the plane of the unbent hook.

If you check your rigging on a regular basis and remove any defective wire rope, then we know that the rigging won't fail during use. Remember, wire rope is only as strong as the weakest part of the wire. Don't take chances with damaged rigging. The accident you prevent could save a life -- maybe yours!

**NEVER HEAT A WIRE ROPE WITH A CUTTING TORCH.**

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Project: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Supervisor: \_\_\_\_\_

Company: \_\_\_\_\_

Other safety issues covered or comments from crew members:

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### Attendees:

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