



All Sealants, Inc.

8-4-21

## Rigging

Construction work requires lifting and moving large, heavy loads and that requires rigging. Equipment and materials are moved with tower cranes, mobile hydraulic cranes, and lattice-boom track cranes. Whether it's bundles of pipe, buckets of concrete, HVAC duct, structural steel, or wooden joists that need to be moved, some type of rigging is needed to get the job done. There are many safety issues to be considered before, during, and after a lift to ensure the safety of the operators and the workers in proximity to the activity.

**Before the lift:** First, calculate the weight of the load. Find the center of gravity of the load as accurately as possible. Determine the best method to attach the load and select the rigging equipment you will use for the job. All rigging equipment must be inspected for wear, corrosion, nicks, cracks, heat damage, and distortion. Do not use slings, eyebolts, shackles, or hooks that have been cut, welded, or brazed. Remove defective or damaged rigging from service. Do not use manila rope for rigging.

**Setting up the lift:** Wear gloves when handling wire rope. Avoid pinch points. Keep wire rope lubricated to prevent rust and dirt from weakening it. Avoid bird caging or kinking wire rope. Don't drag rope over obstacles or out from under loads. Avoid side-loading lifts. Use padding to protect the rope and slings from sharp edges on loads.

Make sure shackle pins are in place and secure. Be sure hook safety latches are engaged prior to giving the okay to lift. Never overload. Lift the load a few inches off the ground to test rigging and balance.

**During the lift:** Keep co-workers clear of suspended loads. Make use of a tag line to control the load. Be aware of overhead electrical lines. If you are signaling, maintain eye contact with the operator, use proper crane signals, and don't do anything that will divert your attention. Stop all hoisting operations any time you have doubts about safety.

**Maintenance:** Store rigging equipment away from mud and moisture. Inspect rigging equipment on a regular basis for wear and damage. If you have the opportunity to take a rigging safety course, take it.

Remember that cranes are only as reliable as their rigging components. Proper selection, inspection, use, and maintenance of rigging equipment are essential.

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**SAFETY REMINDER**  
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**If you're a bystander, don't stand too close.**

**Always stay out from under overhead loads!**

**NOTES:**

SPECIAL TOPICS /EMPLOYEE SAFETY RECOMMENDATIONS/NOTES:

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S.A.F.E. CARDS® PLANNED FOR THIS WEEK:

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REVIEWED SDS #

SUBJECT:

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**MEETING DOCUMENTATION:**

JOB NAME:

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MEETING DATE:

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SUPERVISOR:

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ATTENDEES:

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