

Talk No: 27	Title: USE OF LIFTING ACCESSORIES
<p>Introduction: Misuse and/or neglect of lifting accessories are a common cause of accidents, some of which prove fatal.</p>	
<p>Main points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – All lifting accessories should be marked with a safe working load (SWL) which must never be exceeded (note that some rope slings may not be marked but these should be accompanied by test certificate indicating the SWL). – Only ever use the correct type of lifting accessories for the task in hand, and only ever use them in the manner intended. – Visually inspect lifting accessories prior to use for any obvious faults – if in doubt do not use. <p>Discussion points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Never use fibre rope or wire slings for hot loads and protect them from hot work such as welding. – Protect nylon and wire rope slings from sharp edges. – Never tie a knot in a chain sling to shorten it or join pieces together to lengthen it, and ensure there are no kinks or twists prior to use. – Don't lubricate chain slings – they then pick up abrasive materials. – Use only approved "C" type hooks or those fitted with a working safety catch. – Check splices, rings and thimbles on any slings, and check the bow and pin on any shackles (never use homemade shackles). – Land loads onto suitable bearers to avoid damaging lifting accessories and to assist in easy removal. – Ensure your hands are clear of ropes and chains before the load is taken, and stand well clear. – Ensure all lifting accessories are suitably stored when not in use – they should not be left laying on the ground where they can get damaged. <p style="text-align: center;">A CHAIN IS ONLY AS STRONG AS ITS WEAKEST LINK</p>	
<p>Notes:</p>	