



CHAPTER 5.0 RECOMMENDED OPERATING PRACTICES

Section 5.1 Purpose

- 5.1.1 The purpose of this chapter is to provide guidelines of webbing sling preparation, inspection and use.

Section 5.2 Mechanical Considerations

- 5.2.1 Determine weight of the load. The weight of the load shall be within the rated capacity of the sling.
- 5.2.2 Select sling having suitable characteristics for the type of load, hitch and environment.
- 5.2.3 Slings shall not be loaded in excess of the rated capacity. Consideration should be given to the angle of lift, (sling to load angle) which affects rated capacity.
- 5.2.4 Slings with fittings which are used in a choker hitch shall be of sufficient length to assure that the choking action is on the webbing, and never on the other fitting.
- 5.2.5 Slings used in a basket hitch shall have the load balanced to prevent slippage.
- 5.2.6 The opening in fittings shall be the proper shape and size to insure that the fitting will seat properly in the hook or other attachments.
- 5.2.7 Slings shall be protected from contact with edges, protrusions or abrasive surfaces.
- 5.2.8 Slings shall not be dragged on the floor or over an abrasive surface.
- 5.2.9 Slings shall not be twisted or tied into knots, or joined by knotting.
- 5.2.10 Slings shall not be pulled from under loads when the load is resting on the sling.
- 5.2.11 Do not drop slings equipped with metal fittings.
- 5.2.12 Slings that appear to be damaged shall not be used unless inspected and accepted as usable under Section 5.2.
- 5.2.13 The sling shall be hitched in a manner providing control of the load.
- 5.2.14 Portions of the human body should be kept from between the sling and the load, and from between the sling and the crane hook or hoist hook.
- 5.2.15 Personnel should stand clear of the suspended load.
- 5.2.16 Personnel shall not ride the sling.
- 5.2.17 Shock loading should be avoided.
- 5.2.18 Twisting the legs (branches) shall be avoided.
- 5.2.19 Load applied to the hook should be centered in the base (bowl) of hook to prevent point loading on the hook.
- 5.2.20 During lifting, with or without the load, personnel shall be alert for possible snagging.
- 5.2.21 The slings' legs (branches) should contain or support the load from the sides above the center of gravity when using a basket hitch.
- 5.2.22 Slings shall be long enough so that the rated load (rated capacity) is adequate when the angle of the legs (branches) is taken into consideration.