



CLEVELAND INTEGRITY SERVICES, INC.

Monthly Safety Newsletter

August 1, 2015

Rigging

A rigger is a construction worker who specializes in the lifting and moving of extremely large and heavy objects. Riggers play a major role in the safe operation of cranes. They work together with the crane operator and the signal person to complete lifts safely. A rigger is responsible for making sure every load is rigged properly. One wrong move could lead to a disastrous, possible deadly, lift.

There are many factors that a rigger must take into consideration before any lift. A rigger must:

- Know the weight of the load
• Locate the center of gravity of the load
• Double-check weights with shipping scale weights
• Consider both the weight and the configuration of the load while planning a lift
• Inspect the load and rigging gear prior to use
• Determine whether attachment points are provided on the load
• Ensure that attachment points on the load are intended to handle the entire weight and not just a component
• Account for the weight of all rigging components when determining the final weight of the load. This includes the jib boom, wire rope, hooks, shackles, and spreader beams
• Select a hitch that will hold and control the load
• Select the sling best suited for the load
• Protect the sling from sharp edges or corners
• Make appropriate crane capacity deductions based on the crane manufacturer's load chart
• Watch for overhead power lines. Keep loads at least ten feet away from any power lines
• Think about the load's path of travel. A properly rigged load will need the least amount of maneuvering by the crane operator

Whether you're a rigger or not, anytime a crane is carrying a load overhead, make sure everyone is kept clear of the lift area. All lifts should start and stop slowly and smoothly. Always use the proper hand signals. Never leave a load unattended. Make sure safety requirements are met at all times. Don't forget: the law of gravity judges rigging and crane mistakes immediately and without leniency.

Proper, safe rigging takes skill, care, and knowledge – it's a lot more than just tying up loose ends. A well-trained rigger can take pride in knowing that he is making lifting operations much safer.

Questions for Discussion

What are some of the most common rigging mistakes you have witnessed on projects?

Three horizontal lines for writing an answer.

Please list one or more near miss that has been addressed on your current project. What steps were set in place to prevent the potential near miss or incident from happening again?

Two horizontal lines for writing an answer.

In the past Month have you authorized payment to a contractor for work performed?

Please give an example.

One horizontal line for writing an example.

In the past Month have you rejected any work performed by a contractor based on your judgment of the work quality?

Please explain.

One horizontal line for writing an explanation.



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Near Misses Reported in July

Competent and Qualified Equipment Operator:

Contractor was operating a track hoe without proper training.

Before employee operates any heavy equipment insure operator is competent and qualified.

Inspection of tools and equipment before use:

Mat hook broke during use.

Closely inspect all lifting devices, equipment and tools before use.

Track hoe was unloading pipe with a vacuum attachment; vacuumed failed and pipe dropped four feet to ground.

Stopped work and replaced seals on vacuum unit.

Use of a Spotter:

While track hoe backing up contractors were walking around sides and behind equipment.

Track hoe stopped and spotter was put in place.

PPE:

Contractor climbing ladder of heater treater without fall protection.

Employees are not permitted to climb ladder without proper fall protection due to slips and loss of balance.

An operator of a track hoe was wearing a safety vest while operating an excavator, the vest became caught in a lever and caused the excavator to swing out of control.

Operators should not wear loose fitting clothing or vest while operating heavy equipment.

Safety Alert

Roustabout using a five gallon can while installing pipe and fittings on a separator

Work was stopped and crew was reminded to use proper tools for the task, including ladder and man lifts. Contractor put bucket away and used a step ladder. Too often we do not take the time to obtain the proper equipment to complete a job; a bucket could easily slip out from under you and cause serious injuries.

You guys be safe and have a blessed day.

Name: _____ Signature: _____

Job Title: _____ Date: _____