

“Companies that use roll cages have found up to a third of their accidents are roll cage related” HSE*

Utilising iRoll® Safety Handles on cages, roll cages and mobile containers provides levels of safety never available before.



Fined £2.2 million with £70,835 costs

An employee was trying to move a laden roll cage. The cage fell on top of her as she struggled. She was paralysed and the judge stated nine “failings” by the retailer. The judgement said there was no knowledge of the hazards and dangers of using a roll cage, especially on an uneven surface. The high-street retail chain was fined £2.2 million with £70,835 costs. More details are [here](#).

Talking to people in the industry, we have had numerous conversations about toes and fingers being broken during roll cage use. A broken foot occurred to an employee of a supermarket leading to a £20,000 fine.

The correct position to handle a roll cage, as advised by The Health & Safety Executive* (HSE) of His Majesty's Government, is not often adhered to. This is because we tend to naturally engage the roll cage in a high position. However, this can unbalance and make the cage unstable, especially on unlevel flooring. iRoll Safety Handles can be used to enforce the correct height range.

In lawsuits casualties have said they did not know about how to use roll cages or failed to follow training. There were gaps in their knowledge. They questioned online training effectiveness without a control measure.

With the introduction of iRoll Safety Handles it will reduce the chance of getting roll cage operation wrong and therefore the likelihood of getting injured.

“An easy way to show we care about the welfare of our team”

Ross Bullerwell Managing Director



iRoll Safety Handles providing safety with 500Kg loads and unstable bun tray towers

Protecting the employee and reducing employer liability

Roll cages are designed to move goods around from distribution until they arrive on the retailer's shelf. They are not designed for human ergonomics, offering little protection and comfort to the user.

An employer is legally bound to deal with the risks from manual handling. Training goes part of the way, but 12,000 injuries happen a year from manual handling (source HSE). Apart from the design issues, this is especially difficult as employees may not have had the chance for thorough training. Retail uses a lot of temporary or part time staff therefore any way to reduce the risk is in the employer's interest to implement. Click for the [HSE Manual Handling at work](#) website. One of the key points is;

“reduce the risk of injury to as low as possible.”

This is a combination of training, risk assessment and using the latest developments to reduce the chances of injury.



HSE Scientists testing roll cages with iRoll Safety Handles at the Buxton Research Centre

iRoll Safety Handles on a roll cage

iRoll ergonomic Safety Handles are high visibility, ergonomic rotating handles that can be attached to a roll cage using a roll cage adapter. They re-enforce and supplement training for many of the potential injury situations arising from roll cages. These include;

1. Handling roll cages from the correct side, making sure the coasters move in the correct direction. Once iRoll Safety Handles are fitted, the direction of travel is obvious.
2. Fitted iRoll Safety Handles mean the employee is always controlling from the correct height for the cage (specified by the HSE*). This reduces the chances of the cage toppling over on them or a colleague.
3. Holding iRoll Safety Handles means fingers are outside of the cage, removing potential cuts and finger injuries from holding the cage itself.
4. iRoll Safety Handles add distance. Toes are well away from the wheels reducing the opportunity of the user running over themselves and breaking foot bones.
5. Bright large handles signal controlled operation, whilst also highlighting to colleagues where the user's hands are in situations where multiple tasks could cause crushing.
6. A solid wide ergonomic handle reduces the chance of losing grip. It is also useful for arthritis sufferers.
7. The angle is automatically adjusted by iRoll Safety Handles to reduce musculoskeletal (MSK) back and wrist strain, whatever the user's height.
8. Provides the platform for a valid RAMS statement.
9. The ability to execute a virus spreading reduction strategy. By allocating a set of iRoll Safety Handles to a user they can attach to the roll cage as required. They can be suspended from a belt connection and at the end of the shift, sanitised. This reduces PPE requirements and the touching of common equipment between users.
10. They are quickly interchangeable and can be colour coded for operational control.
11. Maintenance is very low, just the occasional use of a silicon spray in the rotation mechanism. The D handle sections are easily removed for washing/ sterilisation.
12. iRoll Safety Handles provide user comfort, all surfaces are thermo neutral to touch on a hot day and equally temperate in the cold.

Video illustrations on iRoll Safety Handles are available [here](#).



Fixed and removeable iRoll Safety Handles

Depending on the organisation, the type of roll cage purchased and the situation arising the choice of iRoll Safety Handles will vary. If the roll cages remain in an organisation, for example they are used within a warehouse only, it is recommended to use a welded connection. This means iRoll Safety Handles are a solid attachment to the cage and are always at the correct HSE height. The roll cages can still be collapsed and stacked with welded connections fitted.



A welded high visibility iRoll Safety Handles connection

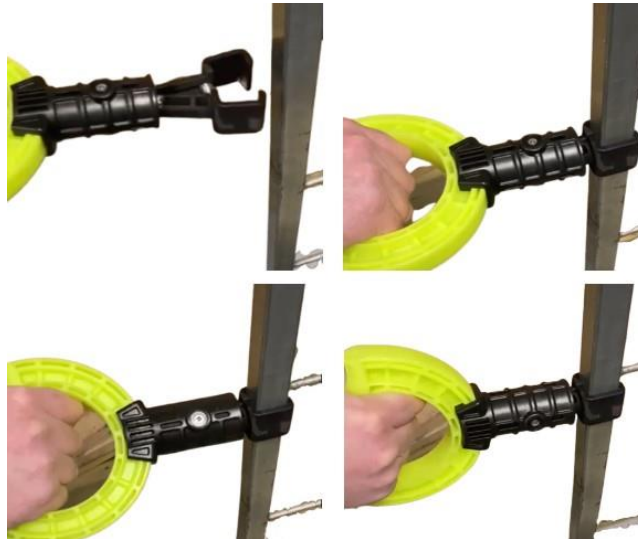
Due to the nature of retail and hospitality it is often the case that roll cages are swapped between organisations. For example, dropping off and then picking up laundry from a hotel. The mobile container might have originated with a retail delivery, then been filled up with dirty laundry bags. The driver from the laundry is not going to swap the contents so on this cycle the retail roll cage ends up at his company.

We have been developing some adapters to allow iRoll Safety Handles fitting at the time of the requirement, rather than having a permanent welded connector.

Removeable iRoll Safety Handles

The frame of a roll cage is sometimes round tubes and others square, depending on the manufacturer, type of cage and the preference from the organisation. We are developing adapters to provide a quick neat solution for different frame types.





iRoll Safety Handles adapter A, twists to grip on a roll cage square frame

The core iRoll Safety Handle remains the same delivering the safety benefits and protection outlined previously. Only the claw adapter section changes to make sure a solid grip is maintained.

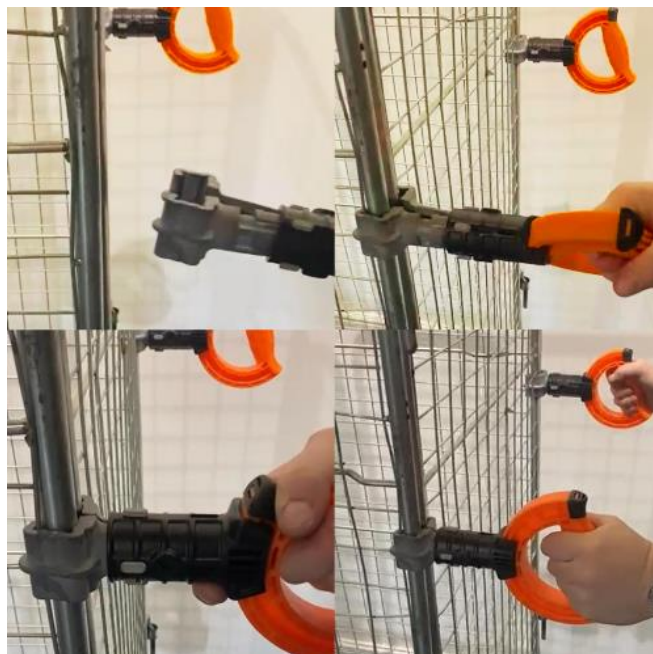


Figure of 8 iRoll Safety Handles adapter B, gripping on a round tube roll cage

Weight tests have been carried out successfully with a colossal 500 kg inside the roll cage. In addition to the safety benefits, the retail employee reported that manoeuvring was easier with iRoll Safety Handles fitted. See them [here](#).

Bespoke service

A bespoke service is available if you would like to discuss your specific roll cage requirements, or you have a different cage or rack that will benefit from iRoll Safety Handles.



A bespoke Safety Handle for a burger bun rack

Risk Assessment Method Statement (RAMS)

The HSE guidance highlights the importance of carrying out risk assessments for each application of the roll cage which should cover correct loading and cage operation, floor surface variations, operator visibility, loading and unloading risks and correct lifting methods amongst other points. iRoll Safety Handles allows full control of a roll cage as well as enforcing multiple safety factors. It allows the most complete Method Statement (RAMS) to date. iRoll Safety Handles are an inexpensive control measure designed to improve safety and comfort.

Background

Safety Handles are a UK invention designed to reduce musculoskeletal symptoms such as backache, when completing manual handling tasks. Although automation has reduced the need for human involvement in many tasks, there are still situations where it is more time and cost effective to use traditional methods. Safety Handles have been independently evaluated by the HSE. The scientists summarised the effects as;

“The measured reductions in the wrist angles will, in the long term, decrease the risk of musculoskeletal symptoms and disorders developing in the wrist”

The report is [here](#). There is an additional report at the same location about Safety Handles being independently tested for strength. Safety Handles are rated and exceed the HSE's guidance. Since being introduced to the health and safety industry, Practitioners have found additional benefits from Safety Handles including being used on cement mixers and roll cages. The HSE have a roll cage with iRoll Safety Handles at their Buxton Laboratories, to demonstrate safety innovation. In fact, the Innovation Society awarded them the Best International Invention of the Year. They have also won awards such as Product of the Year, Best New Tool, and Best of British. The Highways industry have marked them “Highly Commended” and recently awarded them with the Innovation Festival 2023 Local Council Roads Innovation Group (LCRIG) winner of the Fleet and Equipment award.



iTip Safety Handles are designed to reduce manual handling injuries and with a range of claw attachments become iRoll Safety Handles.



ezTip Safety Handles have the same safety properties and are great when a cleaning process is difficult.

Sustainability

A key parameter for innovation is to make the product as sustainable as possible. To this end Safety Handles readily breakdown in the correct compostable conditions. They are manufactured in Slough, the UK, to reduce their carbon footprint. The nature of manual handling also reduces the need for carbon producing powered equipment to move loads.

Availability

Safety Handles are currently available from www.SafetyHandles.co.uk . They are supplied individually and in bulk trade packs of various multiples. Please contact us on 0333 800 5000 for an account. The commercial products are provided in high visibility colours to enhance the safety capability. Individual high visibility commercial sets of iTip or ezTip Handles are available at £25 (+VAT). For exports, please call Paul on 0333 800 5000.

iRoll Safety Handles are currently in testing phase. For details contact [Hello@SafetyHandles.co.uk](mailto>Hello@SafetyHandles.co.uk) or ring 0333 800 5000. For further information visit www.SafetyHandles.co.uk.

Safety Handles are an inexpensive control measure designed to improve safety and comfort.

