

Railcar Tow Rope System

This tow rope system is used to tow trailing cars when a coupler has been pulled from the car. Instructions on tow system use is covered here.



Each tow rope kit contains:
2 – 20 foot tow ropes, 2 metal spools, 4 rope sleeves



Slide a protective sleeve on each end of the tow rope.

Thread the tow rope with the sleeve through the slot at the end of the side frame on one of the railcars.





Ensure that the protective sleeve on the tow rope is properly positioned in the side frame.

Thread the other end of the rope with a sleeve through the opposite railcar side frame slot.





The following will show you how to tie the two loose ends of the rope together onto the metal spool so that it looks like the photograph.

The rope is first inserted into a channel on one side of the spool leaving an 8" or more tail.





Now rotate the spool so that the other end of the tow rope can easily be threaded through the other side of the spool.



Thread the rope through the channels on the spool as shown, leaving an 8 inch or more tail. Both tails on the spool should be about equal in length.



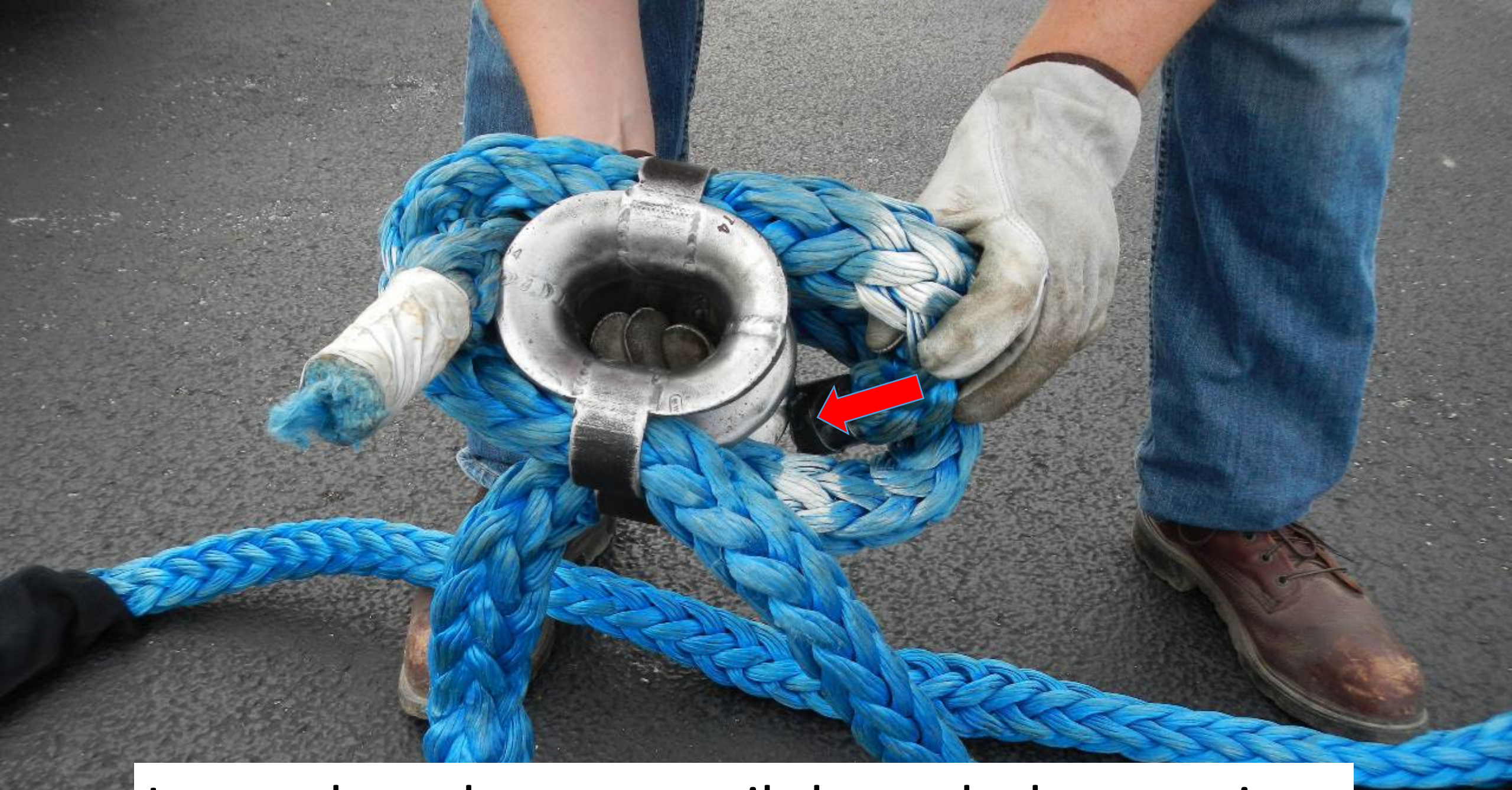
Pull on the rope to create an opening between the rope and spool.



Insert the tail of the other rope through the opening.



Pull the rope on the other side of the spool to create an opening.



Insert the other rope tail through the opening.



Now pull on the ropes to tighten them onto the spool.

The picture below shows how the rope and tails look when properly threaded through the spool.





Before pulling the car, be sure that the drape of the tow ropes on both sides of the railcars is about the same. Unequal tow rope lengths can cause a derailment.



Here both tow ropes are stretched before actual towing begins. Notice that the rope on each side looks equal in tightness.