

Definitions



Definitions

- **Lifting Equipment**
 - Work equipment for lifting or lowering loads and including its attachments used for anchoring, fixing or supporting it.(includes suspension if a lifting operation is involved)
- **Lifting Accessory (Lifting Gear)**
 - work equipment used for attaching loads to machinery for lifting.



Definitions

- **Operative**

- An operative is a trained person actually using the equipment his train will consist of correct use and 'pre use' inspection.

- **Responsible Person**

- A Responsible Person is a person who has sufficient knowledge and training to enable him/her to recognise obvious defects and is responsible to his/her employer for the 'in-service' inspection of equipment.



Definitions

- **Competent Person**

- **A Competent Person is the person concerned with the testing, examination and certification of lifting equipment.**
- **He/she should have such practical and theoretical knowledge and experience of the equipment which is to be tested, examined and certified that will enable him/her to detect defects or weaknesses which it is the purpose of the examination to discover and to assess their importance to the safety of the equipment.**

Definitions

- **Competent Person (Continued)**
 - The Competent Person should have the maturity to seek such specialist advice and assistance as may be required to enable him/her to make necessary judgements and be a sound judge of the extent to which he/she can accept the supporting opinions of other specialists.
 - He/she must be able to certify with confidence whether it is free from patent defect and suitable in every way for the duty for which the equipment is required.
 - Competency may be a corporate responsibility.



Definitions

- **In-service Inspection**
 - **In-service inspection** is a an inspection carried out by a **Responsible Person** to check for obvious signs of damage or wear which might affect the equipment's fitness for use. These can be daily, weekly or monthly depending on the use of the equipment



Definitions

- **Thorough Examination**
 - A Thorough Examination is an examination carried out by a Competent Person carefully and critically, and where necessary supplemented by other means such as measurement and non-destructive testing, in order to detect damage or deterioration.
 - The period between thorough examinations shall be established by management on the basis of statutory requirements for the equipment, severity of service conditions, nature of the lifts, prior experience and the **recommendation of the Competent Person.**
 - In no case shall the period between thorough examinations exceed the statutory period.

Definitions

- **Proof or Test Load**
 - A load (mass or force) applied by the manufacturer or Competent Person for the purpose of a test. This load appears on Reports of Thorough Examination and Reports of a Load Test (test certificates).
- **Minimum Breaking (or Failure) Load (MBL)**
 - The guaranteed strength (mass or force) below which the item of equipment does not fail.
- **Mass Units are usually tonnes (t)**
- **Force units are usually Newtons (N)**



Definitions

- **Working Load Limit (WLL)**
 - The maximum load (mass) that an item of lifting equipment is designed to raise, lower or suspend. **In some standards and documents the WLL is referred to as the 'maximum safe working load'.**
- **Factor of Safety**
 - The ratio between MBL and WLL identified on the test certificate as the **Coefficient of Utilisation.**
 - E.G. MBL = 5t, F.O.S. = 5:1, WLL = 1t



Definitions

- **Safe Working Load (SWL)**
- The maximum load (mass), as assessed by a Competent Person, which an item of lifting equipment may raise, lower or suspend **under the particular service conditions**. The SWL will normally be the same as the working load limit or the maximum safe working load, where the term is used but it may be less. The SWL appears in statutory records.

Definitions

- **Report of a Load Test (Test Certificate)**
 - A certificate issued by the **Competent Person** giving **details of tests**, conducted on an item of lifting equipment.

Definitions

- **Report of Thorough Examination**
 - A certificate issued by a Competent Person giving the results of the thorough examination including testing if appropriate. This will detail the defects found or include a statement that the item is safe to operate. (or not)

Definitions

- **Statement of Conformity or Manufactures Certificate**
 - A Certificate issued by the manufacturer confirming that any necessary manufacturing tests have been carried out and confirming the safe working load.
 - Where equipment is unsuitable for proof load testing due to the nature of the materials used, e.g. textile slings, a statement of conformity is issued.
 - **THIS IS NOT THE SAME THING AS AN EC DECLARATION OF CONFORMITY**



Definitions

- **E C Declaration of Conformity**
- **States the product has been manufactured in accordance with the Machinery Safety Regulations.**
- **All machinery used at work must comply and to confirm this be marked with a CE mark**