Life Saving Rules: Suspended Loads

Why?

Lifting operation rules ensure that lifting and lowering activities can be done safely without causing harm to people or damage to equipment.

What?

- ✓ Inspect the lifting equipment before usage.
- ✓ Visually verify that the load is secure before lifting check that hooks correctly positioned.
- ✓ Stop the lifting equipment if defects are identified and report them.
- ✓ Only operate lifting equipment that I'm qualified to use.
- ✓ Select equipment according to maximum lifting capacity and center of gravity.
- ✓ Establish and obey barriers and exclusion zones.
- ✓ Never stand or work under a suspended load.
- ✓ Never transport a load above people.
- ✓ If I am unsure of the requirements I will stop work immediately and contact my supervisor.

Questions

Open-ended questions

- What is an example of when to stop a lifting operation?
- Why do you not stand under a suspended load?
- What precautions should you take before starting a lifting operation to ensure safety?



Experience-based questions

- Have you ever witnessed a lifting operation that felt unsafe? What happened, and what actions were taken?
- Have you ever had to stop a lifting operation because something didn't seem right? What led you to make that decision?
- Can you recall a time when an exclusion zone was ignored? What were the consequences?



What would you do?-questions

- If you noticed that the lifting equipment had visible damage but was still being used, how would you handle the situation?
- You see someone standing inside an exclusion zone while a load is being lifted. What is the safest way to respond?
- If you realize mid-lift that the load is heavier than expected or off-balance, what steps should you take to prevent an accident?

Spot the improvement-questions

- What are some common challenges we face when securing loads before lifting, and how can we address them?
- Are there any improvements we could make in the way we inspect lifting equipment before use?
- How could we better communicate the dangers of standing under a suspended load to new employees?





