

# SAFE WORK PRACTICES

## SLING ONTO OVERHEAD CRANE HOOKS

*\*This information does not take precedence over OH&S. All employees should be familiar with the Saskatchewan Employment Act and the OH&S Regulations.*

**General:** A slinger or rigger hooks loads onto crane hooks using various types of slings.

### DO:

- Make clear signals (see "Crane & Hoist Hand Signals").
- Signal from only one slinger in charge of lift, except for stop signal.
- determine the weight of the load to be lifted.
- Select the right sling for each job using the manufacturers' tables.
- inspect each item of lifting equipment before and after lifts.
- Protect slings from damage by sharp edges with corner saddles, padding or wooden blocks.
- Warn all people out of the load area before starting the lift.
- Keep hands and fingers from being trapped when slack is being taken out of a sling – step away before the lift is made.
- Make sure a load is high enough to clear all objects before signaling for the crane to move.
- walk ahead of the moving load and warn people to keep clear.
- Use guide ropes to prevent rotation or other uncontrolled motion.
- Hook unused sling legs to the sling ring.

### DON'T:

- Exceed the capacities of slings, fixtures and cranes.
- Twist or tie knots in slings or use bolts, nails or pieces of wire to shorten slings.
- Splice broken slings.
- Ride on hooks or loads.
- Allow workers under a load.
- Attempt to pull or push loads to a spot not under the hoist.
- Drag slings. Avoid pulling slings from under loads by crane – set down loads on blocking, never on a sling.
- Leave unused slings, accessories or blocking lying on the floor. Hang on racks or store in proper place.
- Carry a load on the hook point or insert the point of the hook in a link of the chain.
- Hammer a sling into place.
- Leave loose materials on a load.
- Use slings that are stretched, broken or defective.