

SAFE WORK PRACTICES

USE OF PLATE CLAMPS

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

1. Refer to manufacturer's operation instructions.
2. Use correct clamp for the job. Never use large capacity clamps to lift light loads.
3. Use two or more clamps to balance a long or flexible load.
4. Use clamps within their rated capacity and flange width.
5. Inspect clamps visually before each lift.
6. Lock clamp closed before lifting load.
7. Use a sling between the clamp and the crane or hoist hook.
8. With vertical type clamps, use the locking device to prevent accidental loosening.
9. Always use horizontal type clamps in pairs.

DON'T:

- Lift over workers.
- Stand near a load. Position yourself away from and fully clear of the load.
- Lift from the side with a vertical clamp.
- Lift more than one plate at a time with vertical clamp.
- Lift plate from the bottom of a plate stack.
- Grind, weld or modify a clamp.
- Use a clamp having a minimum jaw opening larger than the thickness of the load.