TOOLBOX TALK

GIN WHEEL AND ROPE

Background

Unsafe lifting practices result in many accidents and injuries.

This briefing will cover the procedures for inspection, use and maintenance of Gin Wheels and Ropes to ensure the safety of those operating the equipment and those that may be affected by its use.

Hazards

- Untrained operatives attempting to use gin wheel and rope
- Poorly segregated work areas.
- Untidy layout of work areas (poor housekeeping).
- Falling material due to unsecured knots.
- Excessive or lack of length of rope.
- Obstructions interfering with the lift (protruding transoms).
- Poor condition of rope and wheel.
- Lack of inspections of both gin wheel and rope.

What you should do

When working in weather conditions that impair vision while wearing safety glasses, your immediate action is to contact the site management and raise your concerns. Where agreed you may be asked to carry out a job specific risk assessment that allows the temporary removal of light eye protection only until the rain subsides and then re-adorn your glasses immediately.

When utilising power tools and other impact operations, eye protection is to be worn at all times, regardless of the weather, postpone operations accordingly.

LOLER inspection requirements

- Scaffolders must carry out a DAILY pre-use inspection before work begins.
- Lead Scaffolder must carry out a WEEKLY inspection.
- Competent person will carry out a Thorough Inspection of the Gin Wheel every 12 months (6 months for the rope).
- Certificates to be held in the Site Safety File on site and in Alltask Office.

Materials must be securely fastened so that no items can slide loose during lifting, lowering or stacking (i.e.: double toe boarding). The following knots are generally used to secure material to the rope.

Half Hitch

Timber Hitch
For Boards

Rolling Hitch
For Tubes

Points for discussion

Lifting equipment must only be used by people who have been trained to do so.

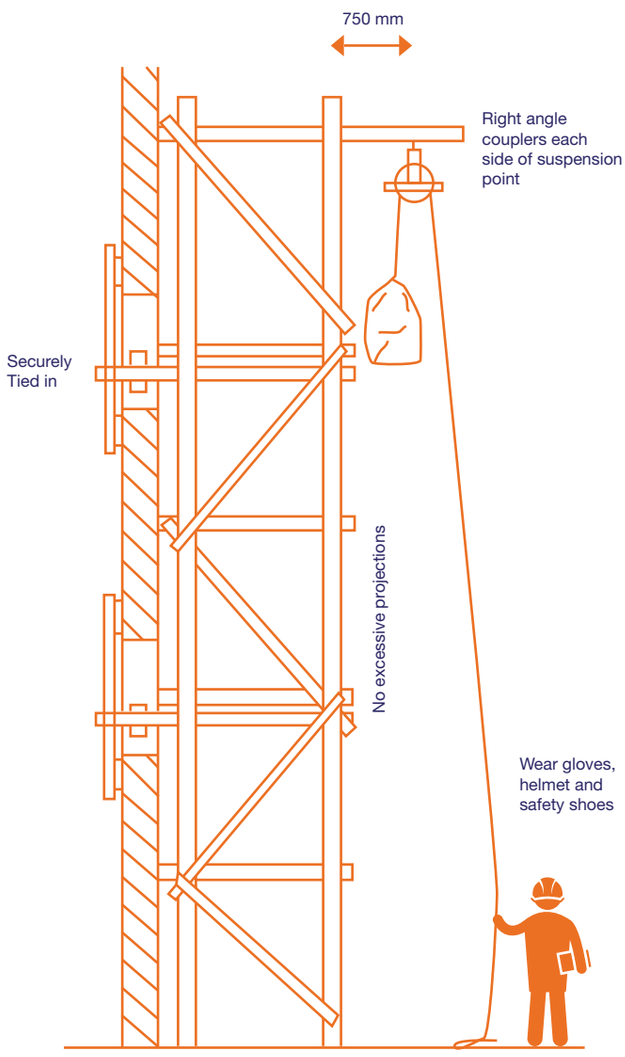
- Ensure the gin wheel is in good condition, and able to run freely with no corrosion.
- Ropes should be in good condition and fit snugly into the rim of the wheel. (18mm diameter) with a working load limit of 50kg.
- The tube supporting the gin wheel should be fixed on the two standards with load bearing fittings on the line of standards of bracing and ties generally occurring in every second bay.
- Where a joint occurs on the inside standard between the supporting tube and the working platform level a sleeve coupler not a spigot should be used.
- The suspension point of the gin wheel should be no more than 750mm from the outside standard or a supporting brace will need to be fixed.
- At the place the gin wheel is erected, the scaffold should be free from any projections that the rope could snag.
- Barriers and warning signs to be used to segregate the immediate area.

Remember

The maximum load that can be hoisted on a gin wheel is 50kg. Note that this 50kg also includes the weight of the rope. It is therefore critical that the weight of the rope is taken into consideration when hoisting materials (this should read materials not material) at very high levels.

Further Considerations

- SG9:21 Use, Inspection and Maintenance of Lifting Equipment and Accessories for Lifting in Scaffolding.
- Lifting Operations and Lifting Equipment Regulations 1998 (LOLER).



BRIEFING ATTENDANCE
GIN WHEEL & ROPE

Given by		***Signature***	
Site Location		***Date***	
Start Time		***Finish Time***	

I HAVE READ OR HAVE BEEN BRIEFED AND UNDERSTAND THE BRIEFING THAT HAS BEEN GIVEN TO ME

Name	***Position***	***Date***	***Signature***

Return to Training Dept.
Training Department Action

Recorded ☐ Training Matrix ☐ Documents Filed Date: .....

FEEDBACK ON SUBJECT

NOTE TO SUPERVISOR: PLEASE GIVE ANY FEEDBACK FROM TOOLBOX TALK TO THE SAFETY DEPARTMENT; THANKS.