



CONSTRUCTION HOIST LOADING TOOLBOX TALK

WHY IS CONTROL OF LOADING IMPORTANT?

The loading of people and materials is critical to the safe operation of hoists. Unsecured loading could have an adverse effect and lead to serious injury or death of personnel. This TBT provides information on loading hoists correctly.

WHEN LOADING A CONSTRUCTION HOIST, YOU NEED TO:

- Remember the Safe Working Load (SWL) and the number of people allowed to be transported.
- Understand that SWL consists of people, tools and equipment in the hoist and this load must never be exceeded.
- Ensure any restriction regarding load position and point loading as indicated by the manufacturer must be adhered to.
- Ensure nothing protrudes outside the confines of the platform.
- Ensure load chart signs must be legible and maintained in a good condition.

The work area and loading platform must be kept clean. Precautions must be taken in the event of wet or uneven surfaces to prevent slips, trips, and falls.

LOAD SECURITY

- Secure the load to anchorage points on the platform or cage to prevent movement during travel and to ensure the load remains within the confines of the cage.
- For loads that may have a heavy point load the hoist supplier should be consulted.
- Stacked goods on a pallet or similar that may slide or collapse must always be properly secured in a safe manner as there could be a risk of crushing.
- The platform guardrails must not support loads in anyway.
- Goods that may have become dislodged must be properly secured before any further movements.

WHO NEEDS TO KNOW?

This toolbox talk applies to:

- User (who has control of the use of the HOIST on site);
- Site managers and supervisors where HOISTS are in use;
- HOIST operators/occupants;

TRANSPORTING LOADS WITH A HOIST

- The hoist should not be used or modified for the transportation of loads which are not confined within the platform or cage.
- For loads with a large surface area, consider the effect of wind speed on the load and consult with the supplier regarding safe operating wind speeds for your equipment.
- Be sure you have a method of removing the load at the destination safely.
- Be sure the pathway of the hoist is clear and there have been no hazards/obstructions introduced.
- Occupants of the hoist should be able to stand and travel safely with the load.

WHAT TO DO NEXT

Brief all applicable personnel on the principles of loading the hoist and practice transporting loads to different levels.

Anyone involved in the operation of hoists must:

- Understand the SWL information provided by the manufacturer.
- Know how to secure the loads.
- Be familiarised with the hoist's controls and safety functions of the hoist to be used.

REMEMBER

**Check load chart signs
Never overload the hoist
Secure the loads
as necessary**



USEFUL REFERENCES

- IPAF Construction Hoist Safety Guide (available on the ePAL app www.ipaf.org/ePAL)
- Andy Access 'Don't Overload the Hoist' poster (available at www.ipaf.org/andyaccess)
- BS7212:2016 Code of practice for the safe use of construction hoists