

INCIDENT TYPE:

POOR CONDITIONED WEB SLINGS



What happened

During QSE Audits and Senior Management Safety Tours, carried out at Biwater Leslie, it has been identified that some web slings were in poor condition regarding cuts and tears, stitching broken or worn, contaminated with fuels and oils etc. This safety bulletin is being sent out to maintain awareness on the key points of web slings.

Web slings are less robust and more easily damaged than equivalent capacity wire rope and chain slings.

Inspection and Maintenance

Maintenance requirements are minimal. Web slings may be cleaned with clear water and allowed to dry naturally. Regularly inspect rope slings and, in the event of the above defects, remove from service by cutting the sling in half and putting it in the general waste skip.

Do's & Don'ts for Safe use of Flat Web Slings and Round Slings

Do's

- Use only identified sling
- Avoid chemical contact
- Always ensure that lifting hooks have smooth edges that will not damage the eyes of the sling
- Always observe the certified capacity of a sling i.e. SWL
- Always inspect a sling before use
- When inspecting sling examine the full length for chafe/cuts/seam damage
- Any sling with cuts at the edge or damage to the stitched seams must be taken out of service immediately
- Store web slings hung from non-rusting pegs which allow the free circulation of air
- Do not store sling in ultraviolet light or direct sunlight or near direct heat

Don'ts

- Never use a damaged sling
- Never make knots in a sling
- Never drag a sling from underneath a load that is resting on it
- Never use a sling with unprotected sharp edges
- Never use a round sling that has a damaged outer sheath

