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## RIGGING WITH RIGGIT TONY

### Synthetics Sling Inspection

As the new construction season approaches we thought it would be a good idea to help you get ready. One of the things that gets overlooked is the requirement to inspect your slings periodically. Periodically is defined by OSHA as at least but not limited to annually.

We have seen a movement to the use of synthetic slings and away from wire rope and chain. So lets just review what the inspection criteria is for synthetic slings.

#### FLAT WEB

Starting with flat web slings, the inspection should include looking for the following;

- Acid or caustic burns
- Melting or charring of any part of the sling
- Holes, tears, cuts or snags.
- Broken or worn stitching in load bearing splices (stitch pattern)
- Excessive abrasive wear
- Discoloration and brittle or stiff areas on any part of the sling, which may mean chemical or ultraviolet/sunlight damage.

While nylon and polyester flat web slings, in most cases are woven with red warning yarns in the middle, these warning yarns are not the only means of determining if the sling should be removed from service. Yes, red does mean stop and remove the sling from service, but just because you do not see red does not mean the sling is ok to be left in service

#### ROUND SLINGS

Round sling inspection criteria is similar with some minor differences;

- Acid or Caustic Burns
- Melting or charring of any part of the sling
- Holes, tears, cuts or snags, that

expose the core load bearing yarns.

- Weld splatter that exposes core yarns
- Excessive abrasive wear
- Discoloration and brittle or stiff areas on any part of the sling, which may mean chemical or ultraviolet/sunlight damage.
- If you can see the core yarns the sling is to be removed from service.

Other rigging considerations;

- Folding, bunching, or pinching of synthetic slings, which occurs when used with shackles, hooks or other application will reduce the rated capacity.
- A choker hitch has 80% of the capacity of a single leg sling only if the angle of choke is 120 degrees or greater. A choke less than 120 degrees result in a capacity as low as 40% of the single leg.
- Triple leg slings have 50% more capacity than double leg slings (at the same angle) only if the center of gravity is in the center of the connection points and legs are adjusted properly (they must have an equal share of the load)
- Quad (4leg) slings offer improved stability but provide increased capacity only if all legs share an equal share of the load.
- Never place a synthetic sling eye over a fitting with a diameter or width greater than 1/3 the length of the eye.
- A true basket hitch has twice the capacity of a single leg only if the legs are vertical

Now that spring is coming, if you are planning on having safety days for your employees. We will come in and help train your employees in proper rigging practices. Contact you representative for more information.

If you want to add some one to this mailer contact me at [riggit.tony@all-lifts.com](mailto:riggit.tony@all-lifts.com)

OR

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