

# TOOLBOX TALKS

## RIGGING SAFETY PRACTICES

Toolbox Talks are designed to promote safety discussions and best practices on the jobsite. To see more Toolbox Talks, please visit [cat.com/toolboxtalks](http://cat.com/toolboxtalks).

### RIGGING SAFETY PRACTICES

- Read and understand the **Operating Manual** for the lifting equipment being used. Do not overload the rated capacities
- Wear the proper Personal Protective Equipment (PPE): consider **eye protection, head protection, heavy duty leather gloves and steel-toed boots with metatarsal guards**
- Ensure **slings and chains** are in good condition and not frayed or cracked. Understand their rated capacities and verify they are appropriate for the load. If the rated load of a sling cannot be read, the sling should be placed out of service and cannot be used
- Inspect **hooks and clasps**. Verify they are not deformed in any way. All hooks should have clasps that enclose the hook completely
- If using **straps with ratchet fasteners**, ensure the ratchet is large enough to safely secure the load and will not break loose. Ensure the locking clasp is working
- Secure chains and slings underneath, or attached to, the **strongest load bearing structure** on the load
- Keep in mind that all equipment needs to support both the largest **sustained load** and the largest **impact load**. It is important that the lift equipment operator minimize sudden movements of the load
- Secure loose parts**, doors or other swinging components before lifting. Strapping or crating are common techniques
- Attach threaded **eyebolts** to the load to create lifting points. Verify the eyebolt is properly rated for the job. Secure the opposite side of the eyebolt with a nut and washer if possible
- If securing the load with **metal or nylon banding**, protect from lacerations by wearing a face shield, a long-sleeve shirt and heavy leather gloves
- Secure the load and identify latching points so the **load does not shift** during transfer. Understand the center of gravity of the load and how it may shift once lifted
- Attach **tag lines** to the load to direct where it will be placed and to mitigate risk of movement while transferring. Never stand underneath a load. Do not steady the load with your hands

### QUESTIONS TO GENERATE DISCUSSION

- Why is it important to understand the center of gravity of the load?
- Why is it important to secure lifting devices to the heaviest, strongest part of the load?
- Why is it important for hooks to have clasps?

There are a lot of moving parts on the jobsite. To find a safety topic relevant to your operation, please visit [cat.com/toolboxtalks](http://cat.com/toolboxtalks).

Discussion Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Employee Participants:

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

The material in this document is provided for informational purposes only and not as a comprehensive or exhaustive resource on this topic. This material has been compiled from a multitude of sources believed to be accurate; however, Caterpillar Inc. assumes no responsibility for the accuracy or currency of this information and encourages you to consult experts in this area for more information. In no event does the content of this document supersede any applicable local, state or federal statutes or regulations.