

MAY SAFETY BULLETIN



Stevedore loading steel coil in barge

Applicable OSHA compliance information:

- 1910.184 - Slings.
- 1915.112 - Ropes, chains and slings.
- 1917.42 - Miscellaneous auxiliary gear.
- 1918.62- Miscellaneous auxiliary gear.
- 1918.81- Slings.
- 1926.251 - Rigging equipment for material handling.

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Safety / Compliance Tips

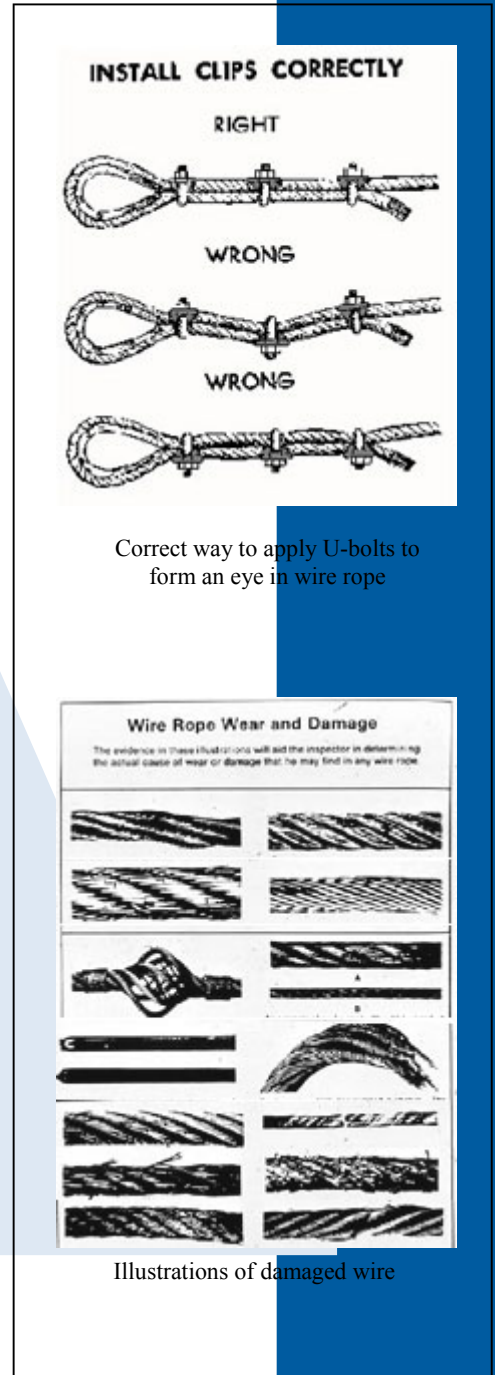
Wire Rope Slings

- The safe working load of wire rope and wire rope slings must not be exceeded.
 - Wire-rope slings do not require identification tags.
 - To determine the rating, the size and type of rope must be known.
- Protruding ends of strands in splices on slings and bridles must be covered or blunted.
- Where U-bolt wire rope clips are used to form eyes:
 - Number and spacing of clips must be in accordance with Table G-6 of [1915.118](#). [[1915.112\(b\)\(3\)](#)]
 - The U-bolt must be applied so that the "U" section is in contact with the dead end of the rope. "Never saddle a dead horse." -- Rigging Industry common phrase.
- Wire rope must not be secured by knots.
- Safe operating temperatures must not be exceeded.
- Wire rope slings must be immediately removed from service if any of the following conditions are present:
 - Ten randomly distributed broken wires in one rope lay, or five broken wires in one strand in one rope lay.
 - Wear or scraping of one-third the original diameter of outside individual wires.
 - Kinking, crushing, bird caging, or any other damage resulting in distortion of the wire rope structure.
 - Evidence of heat damage.
 - End attachments that are cracked, deformed, or worn.
 - Hooks that have been opened more than 15 percent of the normal throat opening measured at the narrowest point or twisted more than 10 degrees from the plane of the unbent hook.
 - Corrosion of the rope or end attachments.

Synthetic material slings

- Slings must be marked with rating capacity.
- Fittings must be:
 - Minimum breaking strength, equal to that of the sling.
 - Free of sharp edges.
- Stitching must be used to attach end fittings to webbing and to form eyes
- The safe working load of synthetic web slings must not be exceeded.
- Precautions should be taken when selecting and using web slings around chemicals and in extreme temperatures.
- If repaired, slings must be in accordance with manufacturer's specifications and proof tested.
- Synthetic-web slings must be immediately removed from service if any of the following conditions are present:
 - Acid or caustic
 - Melting or charring of any part of the sling surface
 - Snags, punctures, tears or cuts
 - Broken or worn stitches
 - Distortion of fittings

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THIS TOPIC OR IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS PLEASE CONTACT YOUR AEU LOSS CONTROL REPRESENTATIVE
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