



SUSPENDED LOADS

POTENTIAL HAZARDS

Working with suspended loads can be dangerous and should be done with great care and attention to safety. Suspended loads are objects lifted or held in place by a crane, hoist, or other lifting equipment. These loads can be heavy and unstable; if they fall or shift unexpectedly, they can cause serious injuries or even fatalities. Because of this, employees working with or around suspended loads must understand the hazards and how to prevent potential accidents or injuries.

BEFORE Moving Suspended Loads

- 1 Ensure the area around the load is clear of people and other obstacles, such as power lines.
- 2 Make sure the load is within the capability of the lifting equipment. Never exceed the weight capacity.
- 3 Make sure the equipment is adequately maintained and inspected before each use.
- 4 Determine the swing radius and ensure that the area is secured correctly and that no unauthorized personnel is in that zone. Always ensure no one is under the path of the suspended load.
- 5 Make sure the load is properly secured before lifting. Check that all slings, chains, or ropes are correctly positioned, and the load is balanced.
- 6 Ensure that only trained and certified personnel are operating the lifting equipment.
- 7 Always take weather conditions into consideration before moving a load.

DURING Moving Suspended Loads

- 1 Always use hand signals or a standardized communication system to coordinate the movements of the lifting equipment and the load.
- 2 If the load starts to shift or become unstable, immediately stop the lift and lower the load to a safe position.
- 3 The load should be watched the entire time it is in motion.
- 4 Don't raise the load higher than is necessary or leave a suspended load in the air.

CONCLUSION

Working with suspended loads can be dangerous and should be performed with great care and attention. Adhering to these safety guidelines can help prevent accidents and injuries in the workplace.

