

F 001
(Rev 02/18)

This notice is not to be communicated to anyone outside Waldon Telecom without the prior authorisation of Management

Title: SAFETY ALERT – SELECTION OF LIFTING EQUIPMENT
Audience: MBNL, 3UK, & City Fibre Project Teams, & Supply Chain
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Positive acknowledgement of Bulletin receipt, understanding and subsequent implementation must be returned via e-mail to Waldon Telecom

SAFETY ALERT

Selection of Lifting Equipment

Introduction

1. Further to a recent incident it has been identified that there were some failings in the selection and deployment of items for the lifting operations being undertaken, both utilising standard rigging techniques as well as being combined with more advanced lifting techniques such as use of Capstan Winch and fixed derrick.
2. This Safety Alert IBN is issued to provide initial notification to all of those who work on Waldon Telecom regarding the incident and to provide some of the information that has been identified in the initial stages of the investigation so that we can prevent a recurrence whilst the investigation process follows its due course.

Lifting Equipment

3. It was found during the investigation process that the items selected for were not appropriately product certified for lifting operations these items were as follows;
 - a. Rope – The rope selected was only suitable for access and fall arrest.
 - b. Carabiners – Were only certified for use as PPE in terms of access and climbing
 - c. Strops - Were only certified for use as PPE in terms of access and climbing.
 - d. Capstan Winch – Was not product approved for lifting operations only for pulling.
 - e. Fixed Derrick Lifting Pole – Was not CE marked as a lifting accessory
4. When writing the lift plan consideration should be given to the loads imposed on the setup and how strength can be lost with knots being tied into ropes. Also, appropriate consideration should be given to the potential for friction being induced into the rope and therefore causing the rope to fail. Cut edge rope protection devices should be used.

Competence

5. Those undertaking lifting operations with the use of specialist equipment must be competent to do so. All personnel who are undertaking lifting operations with the use of fixed derrick lifting poles must be trained in accordance with the MATS Group Guidance note 19 and have the appropriate demonstrable experience to support the training and level they have achieved.

6. If this has not been met as a minimum standard then the use of fixed derrick poles are not to be used.

Note: the completion of the 2-day rigging and lifting course does not confer sufficient competence to meet the MATS Group standard on the use of Derricks.

Planning

7. All lifting operations no matter how minor must be appropriately planned and supported by a detailed lifting plan which is suitable and sufficient and developed specifically for the structure that the works will be undertaken on considering all of the risk factors necessary.

8. The lift plan must be deployed practically on site and should a deviation be required this must be approved by the competent person planning the works.

9. Therefore, there may well be the requirement for more than one configuration of the lift plan to be produced to ensure that the full scope of the works can be achieved.

Summary

10. The investigation into the incident is still ongoing and therefore there will be further communications once the learning points out of this incident have been identified. This information should be cascaded to your teams and to those who are in control of putting people to work and undertaking lifting operations.

