OH&S Safety Matters

November 2026



Riggers and Load Rigging

Riggers are the workers who do the calculating, staging, lifting, and initial movement of a load. Rigging refers to the wire ropes, chains, slings, attachments, connecting fittings and associated components that riggers use to secure loads to a crane or hoist. Riggers work in a variety of industries that range from Mining, to Manufacturing, Steel, Oil and Gas, Concrete and Construction.

Riggers are responsible to assemble, install, position and secure the rigging required to undertake heavy lifting projects. They determine the most effective manner in which to lift the object by examining it, determining its size and weight and deciding on the right equipment to be used to accomplish the work task. They install and secure cables, pulleys and winches, as well as inspect, repair and maintain rigging equipment.

Regulations and industry health and safety codes obligate rigging and slinging work to be done by or under the direct supervision of qualified workers. A qualified rigger must be familiar with the rigging to be used and he or she must be familiar with the standardized hand signals used for controlling hoisting operations. A spotter is required when the point of operation is not in full view of the crane or hoist operator or the operator's view is obstructed in the direction the equipment is traveling. Proper communication between the spotter and the crane operator is required at all times to ensure the safe hoisting and movement of material.

The rigger must also be able to accurately calculate the weight of the load and rigging hardware, select and attach the right size and type of slinging and then control the load as it is lifted by a crane or hoist. Balanced lifts are inherently more stable in flight and thats why a competent rigger will focus on executing a balanced lift.

OH&S has designed rigger training for those who undertake work activities that involve the safe rigging of loads.

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Workplace Inspections



Every employer must ensure that regular inspections are made of all workplaces, including buildings, structures, grounds, excavations, tools, equipment, machinery and work methods and practices, at intervals that will prevent the development of unsafe working conditions.

Routine Inspections

Workplace inspections are a critical component of a good accident prevention and occupational disease prevention program. They help to ensure workplaces compliance with the requirements of the Occupational Health and Safety Regulations.

Special / Major Inspections

In addition to regularly scheduled routine inspections, you need to conduct a special inspection of your workplace after an incident or when you have added a new work process, new equipment or when inexperienced new or young workers start work,

A routine inspection or a major inspection must include the participation of members of the joint health and safety committee.

Inspections are used to identify hazards and to assess the risks that are posed by the hazards that are identified before an incident or other loss occurs. The workplace inspection program consists of;

1. Planning the Inspection,
2. Conducting the Inspection,
3. Documenting and Reporting the Inspection, and
4. Following up on JOHSC recommendations.

Workplace inspection programs provide guidance with;

- The comparison of conditions with standards,
- The determination of any gaps that may exist,
- The identification of the causes for any gaps,
- The recommendations for corrective actions to be proposed for implementation.

An inspection is a planned walk through of a workplace, selected work areas, particular hazards, machinery, tools, equipment and work practices.

Inspections should review all operations while giving special attention to areas of concern as well as high hazard activities and jobs .

Comprehensive Workplace Inspection Programs

may include;

- daily routine inspections of equipment,
- initial start-up inspections,
- walk-arounds of mobile equipment before use,
- pre-operational inspections of specialized equipment,
- daily and/or weekly supervisor inspections, and
- weekly and/or monthly departmental inspections.

Daily Routine Inspections

These inspections are carried out on a regular scheduled basis in a given work area. They cover all working conditions, including work hazards, processes and practices.

Initial Start-up Inspections

Inspections of new equipment involve a series of specific tests and checks that are carried out before starting up any new piece of equipment. The manufacturer or installer checks to ensure that all the parts are in the right place and are working properly prior to conducting worker orientation.

Walk Around Inspections

These inspections are regular pre-shift inspections of the critical parts of a machine, piece of equipment or a system that has a high potential for serious accidents and are components of a **Preventive Maintenance Program**. Inspection check lists can be used for walk around inspections of machinery such as

forklifts, telehandlers, skid steer loaders, elevated work platforms, UTVs, boom trucks and more.

Pre-operation Inspections

These inspections are of special equipment and are often required as part of a safe work procedure such as a hot work or confined space permit system used prior to a hot work operation, or entry into a confined space.

Supervisors Spot Inspections

These inspections are carried out on occasion and focus on a specific hazard associated with a specific work station or work area; for example the potential exposure to the hazards created by a hot work operation.

Supervisors are to constantly monitor conditions in their work areas such as weather or not inexperienced, new or young workers have received proper training before starting work.

Departmental Inspections

These inspections provide a means for the managers of a department to measure safety performance against standards such as a company safety policy, an industry safety procedure or the recommendations of the manufacturer for inspection and maintenance of a tool, machine, or piece of equipment.

Departmental policy statements set out the basic requirements of the inspection and provide generic check lists. Regular departmental inspections are an important part of a health and safety program and provide an opportunity to ensure that other, more specific, checks and tests have been made at the required intervals such as the inspection of portable fire extinguishers.

Pre-Season Plans and Training



Worker Training

As part of this years pre-season planning process, areas where snow removal will be required, snow removal methods and, snow removal crews must all be determined and trained.

Workers required to perform snow removal activities, by manual or by mechanical means, should be trained and deemed competent prior to preforming their tasks. To ensure crews are prepared for the winter season, training and competency checks should occur.

Also, spotter training should be completed at this time for any workers that will be required to assist with spotting snow removal equipment activities.

Worker training requires theory, hands-on practice, knowledge verification and practical skills evaluation. All four components of training are required to ensure that operators understand how to maintain their safety and the safety of their co-workers.

Stay Safe This Winter
If you have more questions call the OH&S Registry Today !

www.ohsregistry.com

Puzzle Answers

Here are the answers to the **October** Issue of the Safety Matters Crossword Puzzle.

Scaffolding Terminology

Across

4 - Guardrail
6 - Standards
8 - Stairs
9 – Netting
11 - Putlogs
13 – Boards

Down

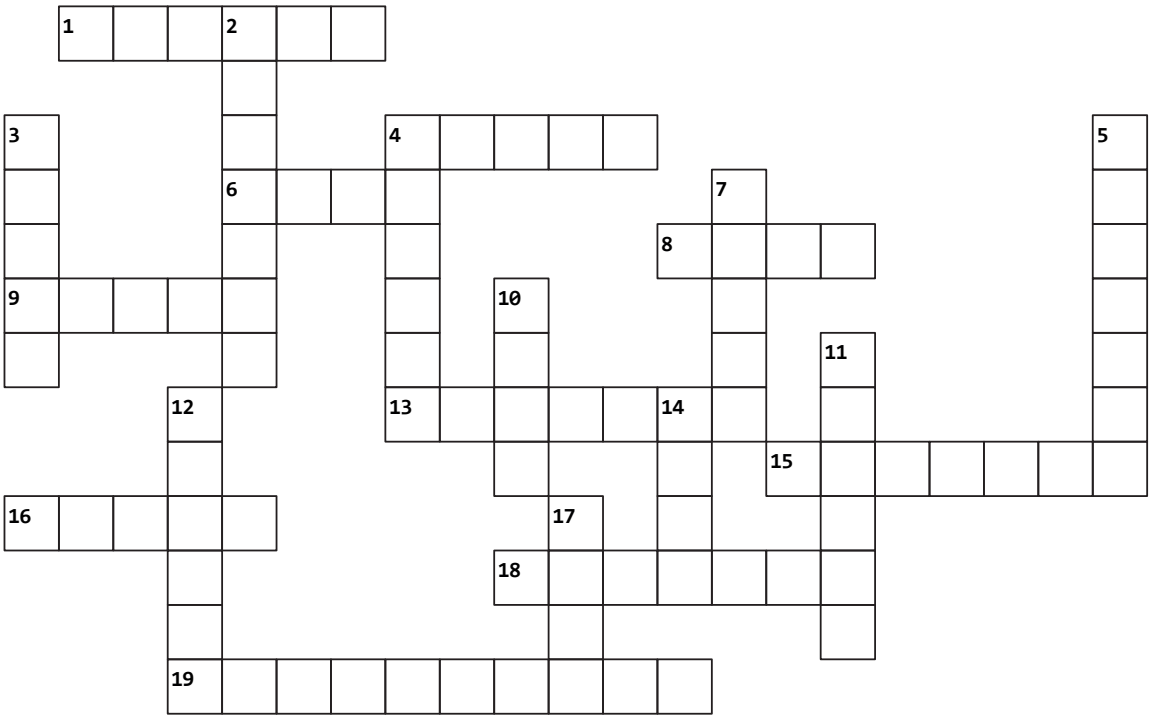
1 – Brackets
2 – Couplers
3 – Diagonals
5 - Ledgers
7 - Transoms
10 – Toeboards
12 - Horizontals

Upcoming challenge solve the Crossword Puzzle on the next page Play Now!

Rigging Terminology Crossword

The OHS Registry ***Safety Matters*** crossword puzzles are ideal for people who love words, general knowledge, and testing their problem solving skills. So, what are you waiting for?

Print the puzzle to play now !



Rigging Terminology Crossword

Clues for the Crossword Puzzle

Select a clue from the 'across' or 'down' lists. Think up possible answers to the clue. Each across and down clue is assigned a unique number. This number corresponds to the number for its answer in the grid. Words in the crossword puzzle will cross each other, this is the source of inspiration for the name of the game, crossword!

Who can complete the crossword challenge. Save your progress, the correct answers to the crossword challenge will be revealed in the next issue of ***Safety Matters***

Across

1. The lagging or body part of a rope drum in a drum hoist.
4. A machine for lifting and lowering a load vertically and moving it horizontally.
6. Circular bundle of wire or fiber rope not packed on a reel.
8. One circumferential turn of wire rope around a rope drum barrel.
9. A term loosely applied to wire ropes, wire strand, and electrical conductors.
13. A type of clevis normally used for lifting.
15. The act of attaching hoisting equipment to the load.
16. A sling configuration (choker or basket) fastened directly to a load or around it.
18. Any accessory used as an attachment for wire rope.
19. Device attached to wire rope, chain or rods, that has a barrel and right-hand or left-hand threaded bolts.

Down

2. A toothed member, attached to or a part of the drum, that engages the pawl.
3. A term applied to a wire rope pulley and fitted with a hook or shackle.
4. A U-shaped fitting with holes in each end through which a pin or bolt is run.
5. A rope system that travels around drums and sheaves in a prescribed manner.
7. A device used for retarding or stopping motion by friction or power means.
10. The total weight imposed or force to be lifted by the hoisting and rigging equipment.
11. Wire ropes, chains, or synthetic fabric used with or without fittings, to handle loads.
12. A wedge socket type wire rope end termination.
14. Any hoisting operation that raises an object and places it a vertical distance away.
17. Permanent distortion of wires and strands resulting from sharp bends.

New Worker Job Training

This responsibility is most often delegated to the supervisor. Changing technology, legislation and industry standards all require workers to have up-to-date information, relevant knowledge and skills.

New and inexperienced workers tend to have more incidents than other workers. Orientation and induction programs are valuable assets in preventing incidents. Orientation sessions explain the job, the supervisory structure, the function of the work unit and various policies and rules. Keep records for the training that each worker receives.

Don't expect new workers to remember everything they are told at orientation. Partnering the new worker with an experienced, safety conscious worker will help to reinforce the orientation.



Supervise the new worker closer than experienced workers until you are assured the worker can work alone safely. Training is needed to build safety into daily activities, update correct work practices and to keep ahead of new technology and standards changes. Regulations obligate employers to ensure supervisors, and workers are all trained.

Get Instructor Certification so that you can deliver the Safety Training you need on your job site !



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We appreciate your business, and look forward to working with you to achieve your safety training goals. Thank you for being a subscriber!

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