

## Toolbox talk - Rigging Hardware Safety Inspections (Part 1)

Rigging hardware such as shackles, eyebolts, hooks and wire rope clips will wear over time no matter how well you take care of it. Conduct regular inspections of the hardware you will be using and remove it from service if it is not in good condition.

- Get in the habit of inspecting rigging hardware each time before you use it. The inspections can be done quickly and still be effective.
- Learn how to identify defective rigging hardware. Be sure you know what to look for in the different types of hardware.
- When you conduct your inspection, be thorough. Look for every conceivable type of damage.
- If you come across a piece of hardware that you are not sure about, check with your supervisor before you use it.
- When you identify defective rigging hardware, take it out of service immediately. Follow your company's procedure for taking defective equipment out of service.
- If your company does not have a policy for handling defective equipment, be sure to tag it as defective so that no one else will use it. Make the tag large and conspicuous. It is also a good idea to take it out of the lift operations area so that it is not inadvertently used by someone else.
- Be sure to inform your supervisor about the defective sling. Let him know where you stored it and that you tagged it out of service.