

Safety Theme - Tool Box

SEC&E - 029

SAFETY THEME

Inspecting Round Slings

Compared to other lifting equipment, Round Slings have a very stringent inspection regime and discard criteria.

All slings must be inspected before each use, and all slings must have a periodic and documented visual inspection. While many clients do have annual inspection and testing regimes in place for their general lifting gear, this is inadequate for Round Slings. Inspections by a competent person no less than every 3 months are required under AS 4497.2

Round Slings are not as tough as wire rope or chain, and there are many forms of damage that can occur that require them to be removed from service. Some of them include:

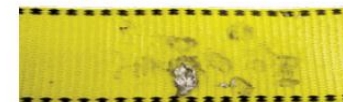
- Any cuts or holes in the cover which expose the internal yarns of the round sling
- If any identification tags have been removed/damaged or are not legible
- If a round sling has been tied into one or more knots
- Any melting, charring or weld spatter of any part of the sling
- Acid or alkali burns
- Broken or worn stitching in the cover which exposes the core fibres
- Any other conditions which cause doubt as to the strength and integrity of the Round Sling.



SLING KNOT



SLING WELD SPLATTERS



SLING CUTS



SLING ABRASION



SLING FRAYS AND PULLS



SLING ACID BURN



One common thing overlooked is the marking of Round Slings with permanent marker pen or texta. This is only allowed if it can be proved that the marker used was xylene free, as xylene can damage the synthetic fibres.

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