

## Safe Care & Inspections for Lifting Gear



We operate a system to protect the lifting equipment at all points in order to minimize damage and unwarranted wear. These are some of the pointers that we have applied both on the job and in the workshops. Slings should always be kept in a tidy, dry location, off the ground, and hanging on racks. Depending on the location and type of work being done, transportable racks (below) or permanent hanging points (below) can be used.

Never drag a sling over the ground or out from beneath a load, and never use knots, bolts, or other improvised tools to shorten a sling. Avoid coming into touch with sharp edges that could gouge the surface of the sling or produce abnormal stress and wear. Nylon slings (below, left) and packing over sharp corners are two ways to use packing (below right).

Establish a good inspection and upkeep schedule for each facility. Make careful to address wear and tear early on and identify the causes so that stronger controls may be introduced.

Maintaining your lifting equipment will not only help you avoid dropped loads, damage, and potential injuries, but it will also lengthen the life of the slings and other accessories, saving you money on the project's costs. Tags for slings that are color-coded to reflect the current inspection cycle. If you work on a three-month cycle, you're certain to be safe and you'll catch degradation in condition before it becomes a problem because DMR requires inspection every six months

### Relevant Legislation:

- Driven Machinery Regulation 18 – “Lifting machines and lifting tackle” – sub-section (10) – inspection of lifting tackle..

**Ask your line manager or supervisor about any concerns you have if you have any questions regarding safety procedures, believe that equipment or systems are broken or not functioning properly, or if you have any other worries.**

