

Lifting Equipment and Lifting Operations Regulations 1998 - summary

LOLER extends the duties placed on employers for work equipment under the *Provision and Use of Work Equipment Regs 1998*, and must be read in conjunction with that Regulation. It applies to all lifting equipment designed to lift or lower loads, and includes its attachments for anchoring, fixing or supporting the load. "Load" can include a person, or persons.

Examples of Lifting Equipment and operations are:- Fork Lift Trucks, cranes, lifts & hoists, chains, slings, hooks, shackles and eyebolts, passenger lifts, vacuum lifting crane, scissors lift, vehicle inspection hoist, front-end loader on a tractor, loader crane on lorries, refuse vehicle loading arm (skip loaders), vehicle recovery equipment and vehicle tail lifts.

Reg. 4 - Strength and stability - of equipment and mountings must be adequate for each load. The load and anything attached to it and used for lifting it must be of adequate strength.

Reg. 5(1) - Lifting equipment used for lifting persons - must prevent operator of the equipment, or any person using it, being crushed, trapped or struck, or falling from the carrier; must have suitable devices to prevent the carrier falling; does not expose trapped persons to danger nor inability to be freed.

Reg. 5(2) - where the risk of a carrier falling cannot be eliminated then the carrier must have an enhanced safety coefficient suspension rope or chain that must be inspected daily by a competent person.

Reg. 6 - Positioning and installation - of lifting equipment to reduce risk of equipment or load striking a person, or of a load drifting, falling or releasing unintentionally under any conditions, including power failures.

Reg. 7 - Marking of lifting equipment - including **each** configuration of equipment, all to be clearly marked with SWL, and relevant information kept with equipment. Accessories to indicate how to be used safely, e.g. 2 leg slings. Manlift and Non-manlift equipment to be clearly marked as such.

Reg. 8 - Organisation of lifting operations - involving lifting equipment must be properly planned by a competent person, appropriately supervised and carried out in a safe manner.

Reg. 9 - Thorough examination and inspection - **Thorough Examination** of lifting equipment by a competent person must be done :-

- **9(2)(a)** - before first use where safety depends on the installation conditions,
- **9(2)(b)** - before first use after relocation to, and assembly at, a new site,
- **9(3)** - every 6 months for equipment and accessories for lifting persons,
- **9(3)** - every 12 months for all other lifting equipment,
- **9(3)** - in accordance with an examination scheme,
- **9(3)** - when the safety of the lifting equipment has been put in jeopardy,
- **9(1) New unused Lifting Equipment not needing installation, with an EC Declaration made less than 12 months previously can be used without this examination.**
- **Inspections** by competent persons should take place between Thorough Examinations.
- Lifting equipment obtained from, or given to, a third party must be accompanied by evidence that the last thorough examination was carried out.

Reg. 10 - Reports and defects - the competent persons must:

- notify employer of any defect found during **Examination** liable to be a danger to persons.
- **10(1)(b)** - make a signed, written report of the **Examination** for the employer,
- send copy of the report to HSE if there is a defect giving rise to a risk of personal injury
- **10(2)** - notify employer of any defect found during **Inspections**.

The employer must ensure lifting equipment is not used before the defect is rectified,

Reg.11 - Keeping of information - employer must retain the :-

- EC Declaration of Conformity while he operates that equipment,
- all Reg. 10(1)(b) reports on lifting equipment 9(1) & 9(2) while he operates the equipment,
- all Reg. 10(1)(b) reports on lifting accessories for 2 years,
- all Reg. 10(1)(b) reports on lifting equipment 9(3) until next report.
- all Reg. 10(2) reports on lifting equipment and accessories until next report.

