





SAFE WORKING LOADS FOR THE VARIOUS MODES (TONNES)

COLOUR CODING	SAFE WORKING LOAD			
	Straight pull	Choke hitch	Basket hitch	
				
Violet	1.0	0.8	2.0	1.4
Green	2.0	1.6	4.0	2.8
Yellow	3.0	2.4	6.0	4.2
Red	5.0	4.0	10.0	7.0

INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE SAFE USE OF ROUNDSLINGS

1 SELECTION

- 1.1 Only marked roundslings should be used
- 1.2 Roundslings are liable to wear and mechanical damage, and can be weakened by agencies such as chemicals, heat and light. Damage evident in the protective cover indicates potential damage to the load bearing core.
- 1.3 The user should consult with the supplier to ensure that the material from which the roundslings is made is suitable for the intended use.
- 1.4 If roundslings are used where contamination by chemicals is possible or are used at high temperature, the advice of the supplier should be sought.
- 1.5 Any colour coding should be carefully observed

2 USE

- 2.1 The sling should be of adequate strength and length for the load.
- 2.2 The correct mode factor should be used.
- 2.3 A sling with a damaged protective cover should not be used.
- 2.4 In a choke the angle of the choke should be allowed to form naturally.
- 2.5 When using basket hitch care should be taken to ensure that the load is secure since there is no gripping action as with the choke hitch and the sling may roll through the lifting point. Movement of the sling over the lifting point is possible if the centre of gravity of the load is not entirely below the lifting point. Slings used in pairs with a spreader bar are recommended.
- 2.6 When handling loads the following precautions should be observed:-
 - (a) Where more than one sling is used to lift a load each sling should be identical;
 - (b) When moving, the sling and load should not drag;
 - (c) Knots should not be made in roundslings
 - (d) the sling should not be used in a twisted condition;
 - (e) the sling should be protected from loads with sharp edges and from abrasion by protective sleeves and/or corner pieces;
 - (f) the sling should be protected against friction;
 - (g) the sling should not be allowed to remain under the load if this could cause damage;
 - (h) the sling should not be dragged out from under the load when the load is resting on the sling;
 - (i) snatch or shock loading should be avoided.

3 MAINTENANCE

- 3.1 In addition to the statutory thorough examination by a competent person, all slings should be the subject of frequent and regular inspection, and should be withdrawn from service in case of any doubt.
- 3.2 Slings should be stored on an incorrodible rack when not in use.
- 3.3 Roundslings should never be dried or stored near any source of heat.
- 3.4 Contact with hot surface and exposure to hot gases such as those from blow-lamps or welding torches should be avoided.
- 3.5 A damaged sling should never be repaired; the advice of the supplier should always be sought.

4 INSPECTION OF ROUNDSLINGS FOR DETECTION OF DAMAGE

- 4.1 Slings should be examined throughout their length for surface chafe, cross or longitudinal cuts, and any damage to the stitching. Cuts in the cover should raise serious doubts as to the integrity of the core. A sling so affected should be taken out of service immediately and subjected to examination by a competent person.
- 4.2 Chemical attack is indicated by local weakening or softening of the material in the cover so that surface pieces can be plucked or rubbed off, as a powder in extreme cases. Damage to the core should be assumed in these cases and the roundslings immediately withdrawn from service