

RECOMMENDED PRACTICES ELECTRIC AND AIR POWERED HOISTS

The owner, the user and the operating personnel are responsible for ensuring that good safety practices are followed because the manufacturer has no direct control over the hoist and its operation. ANSI/ASME B30.16 has been used as a guide in preparing this list of SHALL'S and SHALL NOT'S. Ask your supervisor for a copy. Signal words, CAUTION and WARNING indicate the degree of seriousness and are identified according to ANSI/NEMA Z535.4. The following information does not constitute a comprehensive safety program, cannot guard against pitfalls in operating, selecting and purchasing such equipment, and should not be relied upon as such. For additional information on electric or air powered hoist operation, inspection and maintenance, visit the Hoist Manufacturers Institute at <http://www.mhi.org/hmi>.

WARNING

Improper operation of a hoist can create a potentially hazardous situation which, if not avoided, could result in death or serious injury. To avoid such a potentially hazardous situation, **the operator**:

1. Shall NOT operate a damaged, malfunctioning or unusually performing hoist.
2. Shall NOT operate the hoist until you have thoroughly read and understood the manufacturer's Operating and Maintenance Instructions.
3. Shall NOT Operate a hoist which has been modified without the manufacturer's approval or without certification that it is in conformity with applicable ANSI/ASME B30 standard(s).
4. Shall NOT lift more than rated load for the hoist.
5. Shall NOT use hoist with twisted, kinked, damaged, or worn load chain or wire rope.
6. Shall NOT use the hoist to lift, support, or transport people.
7. Shall NOT lift or move loads over people.
8. Shall NOT operate a hoist unless all persons are and remain clear of the supported load.
9. Shall NOT operate unless load is centered under hoist.
10. Shall NOT attempt to lengthen the load wire rope or chain or repair damaged load wire rope or chain.
11. Shall protect the hoist's load wire rope or chain from weld spatter or other damaging contaminants.
12. Shall NOT operate a hoist when it is restricted from forming a straight line from suspension to hook in the direction of loading.
13. Shall NOT use load wire rope or chain as a sling, or wrap load wire rope or chain around load.
14. Shall NOT apply the load to the tip of the hook.
15. Shall NOT apply load unless load chain is properly seated in the chain wheel(s) or sprocket(s) or wire rope is properly seated in its groove(s).
16. Shall NOT apply load unless all load supporting chains, ropes, or web straps are equally loaded.
17. Shall NOT operate beyond the travel limits of the load wire rope or chain.
18. Shall NOT leave load supported by the hoist unattended unless specific precautions have been taken.
19. Shall NOT allow the load wire rope, chain or hook to be used as an electrical or welding ground.
20. Shall NOT allow the load wire rope, chain or hook to be touched by a live welding electrode.
21. Shall NOT remove or obscure the warnings on the hoist.
22. Shall NOT operate a hoist on which the safety placards or decals are missing or illegible.
23. Shall NOT operate a hoist unless it has been securely attached to a suitable support with adequate capacity to support the load imposed by the hoist.
24. Shall NOT operate a hoist unless load slings or other approved attachments are properly sized and seated in the bowl of the hook.
25. Shall take up slack carefully – make sure load is balanced and stable, and load holding action is secure before continuing.
26. Shall shut down and remove from service a hoist that malfunctions or performs unusually and report such malfunction.
27. Shall make sure hoist limit switches function properly.
28. Shall warn personnel of an approaching load.

CAUTION

Improper operation of a hoist can create a potentially hazardous situation which, if not avoided, could result in minor or moderate injury. To avoid such a potentially hazardous situation, **the operator**:

1. Shall maintain a firm footing or be otherwise secured when operating the hoist.
2. Shall check brake function by tensioning the hoist prior to each lift operation.
3. Shall use hook latches, unless use of a latch creates a hazardous condition. Latches are to retain slings, chains, etc. under slack conditions only.
4. Shall make sure the hook latches are closed and not supporting any parts of the load.
5. Shall make sure the load is free to move and will clear all obstructions.
6. Shall avoid swinging the load or hook.
7. Shall make sure hook travel is in the same direction as shown on the controls.
8. Shall inspect the hoist regularly, replace damaged or worn parts, and keep appropriate records of maintenance.
9. Shall use the hoist manufacturer's recommended parts when repairing the unit.
10. Shall lubricate load wire rope or chain per hoist manufacturer's recommendations.
11. Shall NOT use the hoist load limiting or warning device to measure load.
12. Shall NOT use limit switches as routine operating stops unless allowed by manufacturer. They are emergency devices only.
13. Shall NOT allow your attention to be diverted from operating the hoist.
14. Shall NOT allow the hoist to be subjected to sharp contact with other hoists, structures, or other objects.
15. Shall NOT adjust or repair the hoist unless qualified to perform such adjustments or repairs.

DISCLAIMER

Hoist Manufacturers Institute (HMI) and the Material Handling Industry (MHI) assume no responsibility and disclaim all liability of any kind, however arising, as a result of acceptance or use of these recommendations. Anyone using this information understands and agrees that HMI and MHI shall not be liable under any legal theory of any kind with respect to information or other activity covered by these contents. HMI and MHI make **NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, in connection with the information and SPECIFICALLY DISCLAIM ALL IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND OF FITNESS FOR PARTICULAR PURPOSE.** These recommendations do not take precedence over existing plant safety rules and regulations, OSHA regulations or instructions issued by the hoist manufacturer. By referring to or otherwise employing this information, the user agrees to indemnify and hold HMI and MHI harmless from all claims or damages from its use.