

DALE

Instructions for the Safe Use of Hand Operated Chain Lever Hoists The information in this document should be passed to the user of the equipment

This document is issued in accordance with the requirements of Section 6 of the Health and Safety at Work etc Act 1974, amended March 1988. It outlines the care and safe use of HAND OPERATED CHAIN LEVER HOISTS and is based on Section 10 of the LEEA Code of Practice for the Safe Use of Lifting Equipment.* It should be read in conjunction with the requirements for lifting appliances for general purposes, given overleaf, which form an integral part of these instructions.

This information is of a general nature only covering the main points for the safe use of hand operated chain lever hoists. It may be necessary to supplement this information for specific applications.

ALWAYS

- Store and handle lever hoists correctly.
- Inspect lever hoists and accessories before use and before placing into storage.
- Ensure any support fits freely into the seat of the hook and does not exert a side thrust on the point.
- Check the operation of the brake.
- Check that the bottom hook will reach its lowest point without running the chain against the stop.
- Adopt safe slinging practices and follow the instructions for the safe use of the equipment used.

NEVER

- Expose lever hoists to chemicals, particularly acids, without consulting the supplier.
- Replace the load chain with a longer one without consulting the supplier.
- Extend the lever or use undue effort to force the lever hoist to operate.
- Throw, drop or drag a lever hoist.
- Allow oil or grease to come into contact with the brake.
- Expose a lever hoist directly to the elements, water spray, steam etc without consulting the supplier.

SELECTING THE CORRECT LEVER HOIST

Lever hoists are available in a range of capacities with either link chain or roller chain. Select the lever hoist to be used and plan the lift taking the following into account:

Type of chain - link or roller.

Capacity and range of lift.

Lever hoists are designed for use at any attitude and may be used both for lifting and pulling applications.

Consult the supplier if the lever hoist is to be used in areas of high risk, exposed to the elements, water, steam etc, with hazardous substances, eg acids or chemicals, or subjected to extremes of temperature.

STORING AND HANDLING LEVER HOISTS

- Never return damaged lever hoists to storage. They should be dry, clean and protected from corrosion.

- Store lever hoists hung from the suspension hook with the chains raised clear of the ground.
- Lever hoists should not be dropped, thrown or dragged across the floor.
- Never galvanise or subject the chain, or other load bearing parts, to any other plating process without the express approval of the supplier.

INSTALLING AND COMMISSIONING

- Follow any specific installation instructions issued by the supplier and the general requirements given overleaf. Try the lever hoist to ensure that it operates correctly and that the brake is effective. Ensure the chain is not twisted, it must move freely. The bottom hook must reach the lowest required position without the chain running out to the end stop.

USING LEVER HOISTS SAFELY

- Do not attempt lifting operations unless you understand the use of the equipment and the slinging procedures.
- Do not use defective lever hoists or accessories.
- Check the slinging arrangement ensuring that the lever hoist is safely rigged and that chains are not twisted. Do not use the load chain as a sling.
- Check the load is free to move before commencing and that the landing area has been prepared.
- Raise the load just clear, then halt the lift to check the integrity of the lever hoist, slinging method etc.
- Do not extend the operating lever, eg with a tube, to force the hoist to operate.
- Do not allow loads to swing out of control.
- 1Keep fingers, toes etc clear when lowering loads.

IN-SERVICE INSPECTION AND MAINTENANCE

- Follow any specific maintenance instructions issued by the supplier but in particular keep load chains lubricated and free of debris. Check the operation of the brake. Brakes must be kept free of oil, grease etc. Never replace the load chain with a longer one without consulting the supplier.
- Regularly inspect the lever hoist and, in the event of the following defects, refer the hoist to a Competent Person for thorough examination: wear; damage to hooks and fittings; damage or distortion to slack end stop; chains worn, bent, notched, stretched, cracked, corroded, do not hang freely, twisted or jump; load slips or will not lift; damaged hoist casing; bent or cracked operating lever; illegible markings.

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