



ENGINEERING LTD

To: All RRV Operators, Maintenance Staff,  
Transport Drivers, Yard Staff

NUMBER ONE FOR PLANT HIRE  
OPERATED AND SELF DRIVE HIRE

Date: 29<sup>th</sup> March 2006

# MANUAL HANDLING BRIEFING

## 4 Leg Chain Slings

A recent accident on site has highlighted the importance of manually handling loads correctly. The effort put into handling a set of 4 leg chains into an RRV toolbox resulted in the individual sustaining an injury due to the weight of the load and the location of the toolbox.

We have a variety of 4 leg chain slings in our RRVs, the heaviest are listed below:

Type	Weight/Kg	Typical location
4 leg chains, 3m of chain each leg, <b>Safe Working Load = 8.4 tonnes</b>	<b>40.0</b>	Terex Gigarailer
4 leg chains, 3m of chain each leg, <b>Safe Working Load = 6.7 tonnes</b>	<b>40.0</b>	Case 988 Megarailer
4 leg chains, 3m of chain each leg, <b>Safe Working Load = 3.15 tonnes</b>	<b>19.6</b>	Case CX135

To control the risk of personal injury, the risk should be avoided wherever possible then controlled through a safe lift where necessary, therefore you are advised to follow the procedure below:

1. When you need to move the chain sling, always engage the help of the Machine/Crane Controller if present, sharing the load ensures you minimise the potential for personal injury.
2. When stowing the chains in a lockable toolbox on the RRV, **do not** grasp the chains by the master ring at the top of the chain sling first and try to move the entire chain sling by this method. **THIS IS COMMON PRACTICE**
3. **INSTEAD**, Unclip the safety hooks and lift the individual legs of the chain sling into the tool box first, by doing this you transfer a lot of the weight of the chain sling into the toolbox before you grab hold of the master ring.
4. Then load the remaining chain and master ring into the toolbox.
5. This is the method used by our lifting tackle suppliers' staff and has the added benefit of making the chains easier to unload for the next person as the master ring will be on top of the pile of chain.



# READYPOWER

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We do not expect you to push your individual lifting capacity to the point which injury occurs and all manual handling operations should be carried out safely, remember:

## **IF ITS NOT SAFE, DON'T DO IT**

More information on safe manual handling techniques can be found in your Company Handbook in the Health & Safety section at the rear of the book.

Andy Young  
SHEQ Director