

STANDARD PRACTICE INSTRUCTION**DATE:** _____**SUBJECT:** Sling Safety Program**REGULATORY STANDARD:** OSHA - 29 CFR 1910.184
ANSI - B30.9-1971

BASIS: Serious injury or death can be the result of improper use, or use of defective slings. The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) estimates that most of these types of accidents can be prevented if proper safety precautions at job sites are initiated. This poses a serious problem for exposed workers and their employer. The OSHA sling safety standard establishes uniform requirements to ensure that the hazards associated with the use of slings in U.S. workplaces are evaluated, safety procedures implemented, and that the proper hazard information is transmitted to all affected workers.

GENERAL: ABC Corporation will ensure that all slings used within our facility(s) are evaluated. This standard practice instruction is intended to address comprehensively the issues of; evaluating and identifying serviceable and unserviceable slings, evaluating the associated potential hazards, communicating information concerning these hazards, and establishing appropriate procedures, and protective measures for employees.

RESPONSIBILITY: The company Safety Officer is _____. He/she is solely responsible for all facets of this program and has full authority to make necessary decisions to ensure success of the program. The Safety Officer is the sole person authorized to amend these instructions and is authorized to halt any operation of the company where there is danger of serious personal injury.

Contents of the Sling Safety Program

1. **Written program.**
2. **General requirements.**
3. **Initial training requirements.**
4. **Refresher training requirements.**
5. **Safe operating practices.**
6. **Sling inspections.**
7. **Sling inventory.**
8. **Requirements for specific types of slings.**
9. **Definitions.**

ABC Corporation Sling Safety Program

1. Written program. ABC Corporation will review and evaluate this standard practice instruction on an annual basis, or when changes occur to 29 CFR 1910.184, that prompt revision of this document, or when facility operational changes occur that require a revision of this document. Effective implementation of this program requires support from all levels of management within this company. This written program will be communicated to all personnel that are affected by it. It encompasses the total workplace, regardless of number of workers employed or the number of work shifts. It is designed to establish clear goals, and objectives.

2. General requirements. ABC Corporation will establish sling safety operational procedures through the use of this document.

This standard practice instruction applies to slings used in conjunction with other material handling equipment for the movement of material by hoisting. The types of slings covered are those made from alloy steel chain, wire rope, metal mesh, natural or synthetic fiber rope (conventional three strand construction), and synthetic web (nylon, polyester, and polypropylene).

3. Initial training. Training shall be conducted prior to job assignment. This employer shall provide training to ensure that the purpose, function, and proper use of slings is understood by employees and that the knowledge and skills required for the safe application, and usage is acquired by employees. This standard practice instruction shall be provided to, and read by all employees receiving training. The training shall include, as a minimum the following:

3.1 Types of slings appropriate for use.

3.2 Recognition of applicable hazards associated with the work to be completed.

3.3 Load determination and balancing requirements.

3.4 Procedures for removal of a sling from service.

3.5 All other employees whose work operations are or may be in an area where slings may be utilized, shall be instructed to an awareness level concerning hazards associated with slings.

3.6 Sling identification. Slings having identification numbers will be checked for legibility. Slings having illegible identification will be turned in to _____ for load testing and remarking.

3.7 Certification. This employer shall certify that employee training has been accomplished and is being kept up to date. The certification shall contain each employee's name and dates of training.

3.8 Sling trainers. The following employees or position titles will receive training and as required, serve as sling trainers. Company qualified trainers will consist of the following:

SLING TRAINERS

<u>Title</u>	<u>Member</u>
Sling Trainer	Department Manager
Sling Trainer	Safety Officer
Sling Trainer	First Line Supervisors
Sling Trainer	_____
Sling Trainer	_____
Sling Trainer	_____
Sling Trainer	_____

4. Refresher training. This standard practice instruction shall be provided to, and read by all employees receiving refresher training. The training content shall be identical to initial training. Refresher training will be conducted on a(n) _____ basis or when the following conditions are met, which ever event occurs sooner.

4.1 Retraining shall be provided for all authorized and affected employees whenever (and prior to) there being a change in their job assignments, a change in the type of sling used, equipment being loaded, loading procedures, or when a known hazard is added to the loading environment.

4.2 Additional retraining shall also be conducted whenever a periodic inspection reveals, or whenever this employer has reason to believe, that there are deviations from or inadequacies in the employee's knowledge or use of sling procedures.

4.3 The retraining shall reestablish employee proficiency and introduce new or revised methods and procedures, as necessary.

4.4 Certification. This employer shall certify that employee training has been accomplished and is being kept up to date. The certification shall contain each employee's name and dates of training.

5. Safe operating practices. Whenever any sling is used, the following practices shall be observed:

5.1 Slings that are damaged or defective shall not be used.

5.2 Slings shall not be shortened with knots or bolts or other makeshift devices.

5.3 Sling legs shall not be kinked.

- 5.4 Slings shall not be loaded in excess of their rated capacities.
- 5.5 Slings used in a basket hitch shall have the loads balanced to prevent slippage.
- 5.6 Slings shall be securely attached to their loads.
- 5.7 Slings shall be padded or protected from the sharp edges of their loads.
- 5.8 Suspended loads shall be kept clear of all obstructions.
- 5.9 All employees shall be kept clear of loads about to be lifted and of suspended loads.
- 5.10 Hands or fingers shall not be placed between the sling and its load while the sling is being tightened around the load.
- 5.11 Shock loading is prohibited.
- 5.12 A sling shall not be pulled from under a load when the load is resting on the sling.
- 5.13 Before being lifted completely from its resting loads will be checked for proper balance.
- 5.14 Unapproved makeshift slings such as fan belts will never be used at this company.

6. Sling inspections. Where not otherwise delineated, sling inspections will be conducted in accordance with this section.

6.1 Sling inspectors. The following employees or position titles will receive training and as required, serve as sling inspectors. Company qualified inspectors will consist of the following:

END OF SAMPLE

**Order this OSHA Safety Plan online at
<http://www.SafetyInstruction.com>
or call toll free 866-598-2128.**

**This plan can be downloaded after you place your
order or sent via UPS hard disk.**