

# Tools for Life – Weekly Health & Safety Meeting

The logo for Apollo Mechanical Contractors, featuring the word "Apollo" in a white, cursive script font inside a dark blue oval.

— MECHANICAL CONTRACTORS —  
Building People Who Build Great Things

## Home Healthy - Home Safe

Date: October 2022

### Rigging and Signaling

Rigging and Signal persons are some of the most important members of a lifting team. Before rigging or signaling for a lifting operation, ensure that you are competent or being guided by a competent person to do so. Qualified Rigging and Signaling personnel must have completed and passed a written test and practical test within the past 5 years. Follow the subsequent procedures while working with cranes. For complete requirements review the Apollo Industrial Safety and Health Program 35 “Rigging and Signaling”:

#### Qualified Rigger:

- Understand the requirements for slings, rigging hardware, below the hook lifting devices including their limitations, rigging practices, associated hazards and inspection criteria
- Inspect your loads thoroughly
- Understand weight estimation, center of gravity, effect of angles on rigging components, load turning, chain hoisting and basic hand signals
- Knowledge and understanding of the rigging angles and load stress associated with such
- Be aware of the maximum lifting capacity
- Lift the load slow, and have a strategy if the load doesn't lift as planned
- All rigging equipment shall be inspected prior to each use, remove unsatisfactory rigging from the jobsite

#### Signaling:

- Standard communication such as hand, voice, and audible shall be discussed and understood by both the signal person and operator prior to the lifting operation
- Use barricades and spotter to keep your lifting path clear of personnel
- Identify overhead powerlines and use AISH Overhead Power Checklist if applicable
- Inspect the site: Remove any obstacles that can be removed, and have a plan for the ones that cannot be removed
- Review the signals with the operator you are working with and use radios if visual signals cannot be maintained as a form of constant communication
- Only one signal person giving signals at a time

Please follow your training, and these best practices. Remember, everyone has the right to stop work if it is unsafe. Don't pick anything unless it is deemed safe.

**HEALTHY OR SAFETY REMINDER:** Tag lines must be used when rotation or swinging of the load is hazardous or if the load needs guidance and to avoid unnecessary pinch points

#### Discussion Points:

1. What are some things to look for during a jobsite inspection before lifting operations begin?
2. True or false. Signals are 100% universal and therefore you do not need to review them with your operator before the lifting operation begins.