

INFORMATION FOR SAFE USE OF THE LASHING EQUIPMENT

- The selected lashing chains shall both be strong enough and of the correct length for the mode of use. Plan the fitting and removal operations before starting a journey. Remove lifting equipment before lashing the load. Keep in mind that during longer journeys parts of the load may have to be unloaded.
- Due to different behavior and elongation under load conditions, different lashing equipment (e.g. lashing chain, web lashings) shall not be used to lash the same load. Consideration shall also be given to ancillary components and lashing devices in the lashing, which shall be compatible with the lashing chain. Usage of equal combined lashings is admissible.
- Release of the lashing: It shall be ensured that the stability of the load is independent of the lashing chain and that the release of the lashing chain shall not cause the load to fall off the vehicle, thus endangering the personnel. If necessary, attach lifting equipment for further transport to the load before releasing the tensioning device in order to prevent accidental falling.
- Before attempting unloading the lashing chains have to be released such that the load is unhampered.
- During loading and lashing, unlash and unloading attention has to be paid to low overhead power lines.
- Lashing chains shall be taken out of service or returned to the manufacturer for repair if they show any signs of damage. The following are considered to be signs of damage:
 - For chains: Superficial fissures, elongation exceeding 3%, wear exceeding 10% of the nominal diameter, visible deformations.
 - For connecting components and tensioning devices: Deformations, splits, pronounced signs of wear, signs of corrosion.
- Care should be taken that the lashing chain is not damaged by sharp edges of the load on which it is used.
- Only legibly marked and labelled lashing chains shall be used.
- Lashing chains shall not be overloaded: Only the maximum hand force of 500 N shall be applied. Mechanical aids such as levers, bars etc. are not to be used, unless they are part of the tensioning device.
- Lashing chains shall never be used when knotted or connected with screws.
- The lashing chain and the edges of the load shall be protected against abrasion and damage by using protective sleeves and/or corner protectors.
- Damage to tags shall be prevented by keeping them away from the corners of the load and, if possible, from the load.