GRAVITY
ELEVATING SOLUTIONS

THE IMPORTANCE OF PROPER LIFT PLANNING

NOVEMBER 2023 - STAY SAFE

1. INTRODUCTION

Lifting operations are a common part of many industries, but they come with inherent risks that can lead to accidents, property damage and even loss of life. In this safety bulletin, we will outline the critical aspects of conducting safe lifting operations, emphasizing the need for competent personnel, proper equipment and meticulous planning.

2. DETAILED OUTLINE:

i. **Competency and Responsibility:**
When it comes to lifting operations, the responsibility lies with the rigging supervisor to ensure the safe and efficient execution of the lift. Competency in working at heights, rigging and supervising a team is the foundation of safe lifting and is non-negotiable.

ii. **Lifting Planning:**
Before any lifting operation, the supervisor must create a comprehensive lifting plan that addresses identified risks. The lifting plan is a document specifying how and by whom the lift will be completed, and it is essential for ensuring the lift is done safely. This plan must be developed on-site by the site supervisor before the work begins, and the entire lifting team should be briefed on the procedures of the plan.

iii. **Preventing Dropped Loads:**
The primary focus of any lifting operation is the safe lifting of loads while mitigating risks. Major contributors to dropped objects are untrained personnel and the use of improper equipment. In lifting systems, it's crucial to have a "braking mechanism" to prevent accidental drops. The installation of this mechanism should be verified on-site through a pre-lift of 10 cm. Only after ensuring the absence of weak points can the lifting process proceed.

Below are examples of devices which all act as braking mechanisms when using rope rigging (manual lifting) techniques. *(Each device has its own lifting design specifications.)*

		
Camp Turbolock *(lifting only)*	**Camp Giant** *(lifting and lowering)*	**Anthron Lory** *(lifting and lowering)*

iv. **Lifting Plan Components:**
Proper planning of lifting operations is a combination of two parts, namely initial planning and individual lift planning. The balance between the two parts of the planning process will vary depending on the lifting equipment and the particular lifting operation.

- **Initial Planning:**
This part is conducted before arriving at the site. It ensures that the right equipment, human resources, time frame, procedures and administrative documents are available to complete the job safely.

- **Individual Lifting Plan:**
This part of the plan is created on-site before work begins and consists of two components: site specifications and lift specifications. Site specifications answer important questions about the team, communication and administrative requirements for the lift. The lift specifications cover the technical details of the lifting operation.

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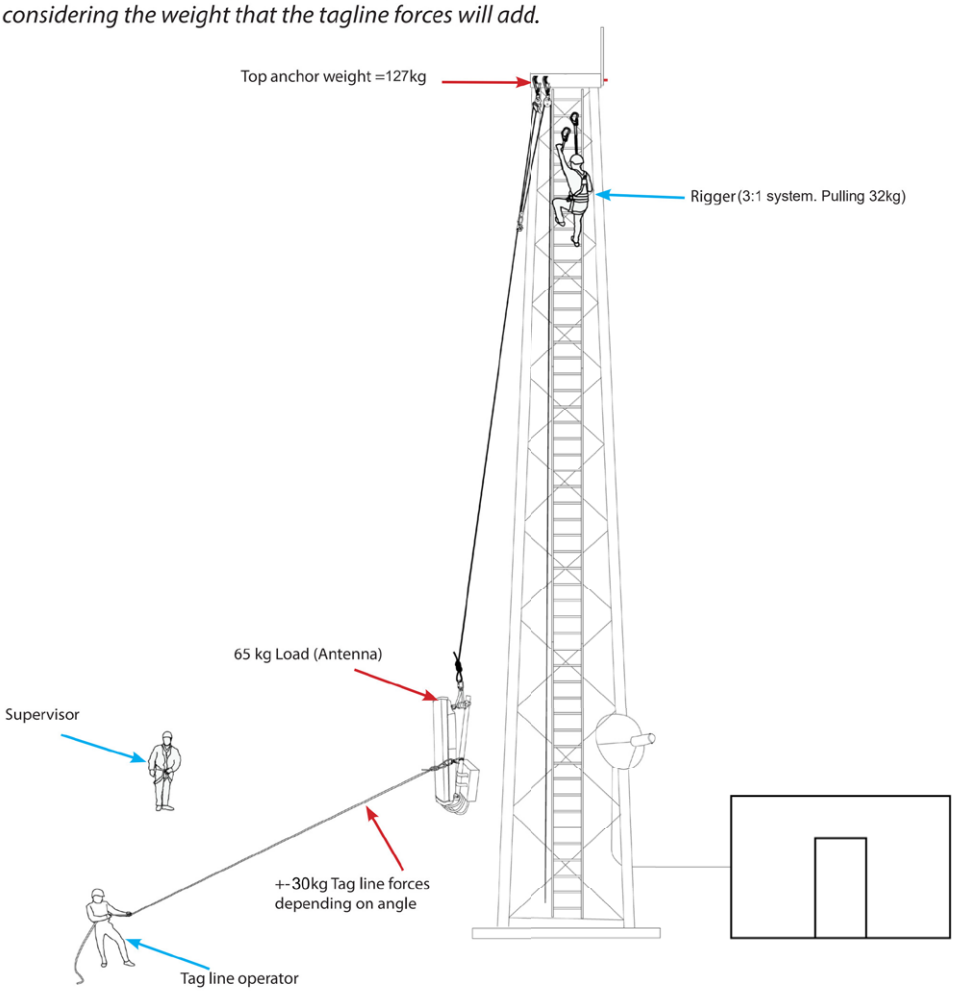
Following is an example of a lift specification:

LIFT 2 LOAD DESCRIPTION : *Lifting 5G antenna*

Weight of the load in Kg : 65 Kg *Shape of the load :* Elongated
Pulley System to be used : 3:1 Pulley system from top *Estimate tag line weight* +- 30Kg
All up weight : 95Kg *Top anchor load in Kg* 127 Kg
Height of the lift in meters : +-30 meters *Lift* ☐ *or Lift & lower* [x]
Team composition for lift 2: 3 = Supervisor x 1, Rigger x 1, Tag line operator x 1

Draw a detailed plan with the type of system that will be used for the lifting of the load. Indicate the weight of the load and the weight that will be placed on the top and bottom anchor once the lift starts while considering the weight that the tagline forces will add.



LIFT2 SIGN OFF:

Lift planner and supervisor: I confirm that I have planned this lift in accordance with IBP procedures and accept the responsibilities of my position.

Initials and Surname	Signature	Date

3. CONCLUSION

Any lifting operation carries the potential for danger when not performed correctly. The consequences can range from property damage to severe injuries or fatalities. It is incumbent upon companies to provide their lifting teams with the necessary training and equipment to ensure the safe execution of lifting tasks. A pre-lift check of 10 cm must always be conducted, and a reliable braking mechanism must always be in place within the lifting configuration to prevent loads from falling.

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