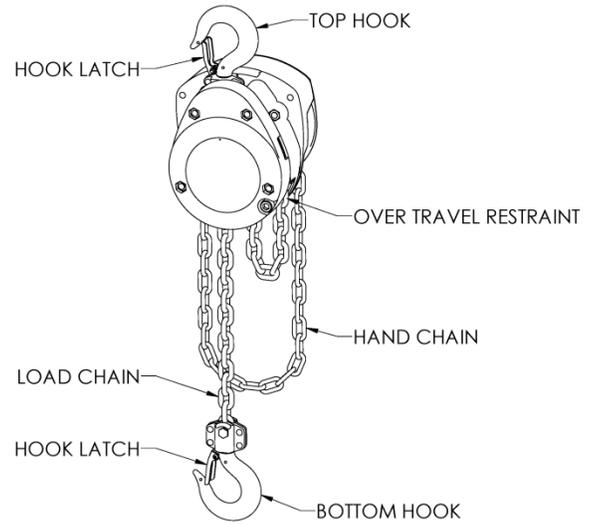


Safety Sheet No. 15: Overhead Manual Chain Hoist

Fatalities or injuries can occur if overhead manual chain hoists are not inspected and properly used. Fatalities or injuries may occur when workers use an overhead manual chain hoist

- (a) in a way for which it was not intended,
- (b) that is damaged or malfunctioning, and
- (c) to lift more than the hoist's rated capacity.

Employers are responsible for training operators and ensuring the safe use of this equipment.



The following is some general safety guidance for operators of overhead manual chain hoists.

- Use your experience, knowledge, and training to assess risks and follow procedures.
- Before operating an overhead manual chain hoist, read the manual and understand how to safely and properly use the overhead manual chain hoist.
- Inspect the overhead manual chain hoist before use.
- Do not operate an overhead manual chain hoist that is damaged or has any actual or suspected malfunction.
- Do not attempt to lengthen or repair the lifting chain.
- Do not wrap the lifting chain around the load.
- Do not use an overhead manual chain hoist to lift or support people.
- Do not operate if the overhead manual chain hoist, its lifting chain, and its hooks are restricted from forming a straight line from hook to hook in the direction of loading.
- Do not use an overhead manual chain hoist in a way that causes its hooks to be side loaded.
- Do not use the lifting chain, or the hooks, or any other part of the overhead manual chain hoist as a ground for welding.
- Do not allow a welding electrode to be touched to the lifting chain, or the hooks, or any other part of the overhead manual chain hoist.
- Do not remove or obscure any warning labels on the overhead manual chain hoist.
- Do not allow anyone under a suspended load.

For further information, consult ASME B30.16 Overhead Hoists (Underhung).

Under the Occupational Safety and Health Act, [employers are responsible](#) for providing a safe and healthy workplace and [workers have rights](#). OSHA can help answer questions or concerns from employers and workers. OSHA's [On-site Consultation Program](#) offers free and confidential advice to small and medium-sized businesses, with priority given to high-hazard worksites. For more information, contact your [regional or area OSHA office](#), call 1-800-321-OSHA (6742), or visit www.osha.gov.

Through the OSHA and Crane, Hoist and Monorail Alliance, the Alliance participants developed this Tip Sheet for informational purposes only. It does not necessarily reflect the official views of OSHA or the U.S. Department of Labor.