

Instructions for the use of: Safety Bonds

The information in this leaflet must be passed to the user of the equipment, who must be suitably trained in the use of this equipment

This document is issued in accordance with the requirements of Section 6 of the Health and Safety at Work etc Act 1974, amended March 1988 and the Supply of Machinery (Safety) Regulations 2008 (Machinery Directive). It provides instruction to the user with regards to the care and safe use of SAFETY BONDS. It should be read in conjunction with the requirements for general purpose slinging practice, given overleaf, which form an integral part of these instructions.

This information is of a general nature only covering the main points for the safe use of safety bonds. It may be necessary to supplement this information for specific applications.

ALWAYS:

- Ensure the operator is properly trained to use safety bonds
- Store and handle safety bonds correctly.
- Inspect safety bonds and accessories before use and before placing into storage.
- Fit the bond to the correct location point provided on the object
- Fit safety bonds carefully ensuring they are the correct WLL for the load
- Keep the bond as short as possible, the greater the fall, the greater the shock load
- Where possible, fasten the hook or karabiner through the eye of the bond to form a continuous loop
- Discard any bond that has been subjected to a shock load

NEVER:

- Attempt to shorten, knot, choke or tie safety bonds.
- Use safety bonds in acidic conditions without consulting the supplier.
- Use safety bonds at temperatures above 100 °C or below minus 40 °C without consulting the supplier.
- Use a safety bond where the load can drop more than 300mm
- Use inappropriate attachment points
- Use safety bonds as general lifting equipment

Selecting the Correct Safety Bond

Safety bonds are available in a range of sizes, select the safety bonds to be used according to the object's weight

Capacity - the sling must be both long enough and strong enough for the potential shock load

For use at temperatures exceeding 100 °C or below minus 40 °C refer to the suppliers instructions.

Where safety bonds may come into contact with acids or chemicals consult the supplier.

Due to the possibility of sparking, the use of aluminium is restricted in certain classified atmospheres, so ensure the ferrule is suitable for such conditions.

Storing and Handling Safety bonds

Never return damaged or contaminated safety bonds to storage. They should be dry, clean and protected from corrosion.

Store safety bonds on a rack and not lying on the ground. The storage area should be dry and free of any contaminants which may harm the sling.

Do not alter, modify or repair a safety bond but refer such matters to a Competent Person.

Using Safety bonds Safely

Inspect all safety bonds before use

Ensure that WLL of the bond is correct for the weight of the object.

Ensure that the drop for the shock load does NOT exceed 300mm.

Ensure that the safety bond is correctly fitted to the object using appropriate location points.

In-service Inspection and Maintenance

Maintenance requirements are minimal. Keep safety bonds clean and protect from corrosion.

Regularly inspect safety bonds and, in the event of the following defects, refer the sling to a Competent Person for thorough examination: illegible markings; distorted, worn or damaged fittings; broken or cut wires; kinks; protrusion of core; corrosion; heat damage or discolouration; signs of movement at splices and ferrules; any other visible defect to the wire rope, thimbles or fittings.

In the case of re-selling and/or hire of equipment, this information must be passed onto the end user

Further information can be obtained from:

- BS EN 13414-1:2003 + A2: 2008
- BS EN 12385 Steel Wire Ropes – Safety
- BS EN 13411 Terminations for Steel Wire Rope – Safety