

HOW OFTEN SHOULD MY SLING BE INSPECTED?

All slings require an initial inspection, a frequent inspection, and a periodic inspection.

- **Initial** inspections are performed prior to the sling being put into service to verify compliance.
- **Frequent** inspections are performed prior to each shift, unless the severity of use would require additional inspection throughout.
- **Periodic** inspections are a more thorough inspection that requires documentation while looking at all components and inspecting all sides and surfaces. These inspections shall not exceed an interval of one year.

CRITERIA FOR REMOVAL

The nylon rope sling shall be removed from service if any of the following conditions are present:

- missing or illegible sling identification
- cuts, gouges, areas of extensive fiber breakage along the length, and abraded areas on the rope
- damage that is estimated to have reduced the effective diameter of the rope by more than 10%
- uniform fiber breakage along the major part of the length of the rope in the sling such that the entire rope appears covered with fuzz or whiskers
- inside the rope, fiber breakage, fused or melted fiber (observed by prying or twisting to open the strands) involving damage estimated at 10% of the fiber in any strand or the rope as a whole
- discoloration, brittle fibers, and hard or stiff areas that may indicate chemical damage, ultraviolet damage, or heat damage
- dirt and grit in the interior of the rope structure that is deemed excessive
- foreign matter that has permeated the rope and makes it difficult to handle and may attract and hold grit
- kinks or distortion in the rope structure, particularly if caused by forcibly pulling on loops (known as hockles)
- melted, hard, or charred areas that affect more than 10% of the diameter of the rope or affect several adjacent strands along the length that affect more than 10% of strand diameters
- poor condition of thimbles or other components manifested by corrosion, cracks, distortion, sharp edges, or localized wear
- for hooks, removal criteria as stated in ASME B30.10
- for rigging hardware, removal criteria as stated in ASME B30.26
- other conditions including visible damage

IDENTIFICATION TAG REQUIREMENTS

Each sling requires an identification tag with the following information clearly shown:

- name or trademark of manufacturer, or if repaired, the entity performing repairs
- manufacturer's code or stock number
- rated load for at least one hitch type and the angle upon which it is based
- type of fiber material
- number of legs, if more than one

