

## ***Examination and Testing***

### **SUMMARY OF REQUIREMENTS FOR TAKING INTO USE**

There is no distinction between Lifting Accessories and Lifting Equipment. The manufacturer, or importer into the EEA, will issue the EC Declaration and affix the CE Mark. If the user holds the Declaration, the Declaration is less than 12 months old and the equipment is new and unused he may take the item into use for the first time. In all other cases he must have it thoroughly examined and the examination report must comply with the requirements given in Schedule 1 of LOLER.

### **SUMMARY OF REQUIREMENTS FOR PERIODIC EXAMINATION**

Once in use the equipment must be either examined periodically or in accordance with a written scheme of examination drawn up by a competent person. For lifting accessories the period is no greater than 6 months and for lifting equipment it is no greater than 12 months. For lifting equipment intended for lifting persons the period is no greater than 6 months.

### **SUMMARY OF REQUIREMENTS FOR LOAD TESTING**

There are no legal requirements for periodic load testing. Testing is a matter for the manufacturer when producing a new item or at the discretion of the competent person once the item is in service. In this respect British Standards have no legal status, a Harmonised European Standard on the other hand has a quasi-legal status and a manufacturer can use this as his way of demonstrating compliance with the Machinery Directive. A user has a legal obligation to ensure equipment he introduces into the work place complies with the Directive.

Manufacturers, including users who produce an item for their own use, must comply fully with the Supply of Machinery (Safety) Regulations (please refer to paragraph 1 above). Users must comply fully with both PUWER and LOLER. PUWER applies to ALL equipment and LOLER then gives the specific additional requirements necessary for lifting equipment. Please refer to the full legislation to ensure all obligations are met.

### **DESIGN LOADS FOR LIFTING BEAMS AND SPREADERS**

Safe Working Load	Proof Load at Least Equal to
Up to and including 10 tonnes	S.W.L. plus 100%
Over 10 tonnes	S.W.L. x 1.04 plus 9.6 tonnes

Please note that these are the currently accepted loads if a load test is to be made to a new or repaired beam.