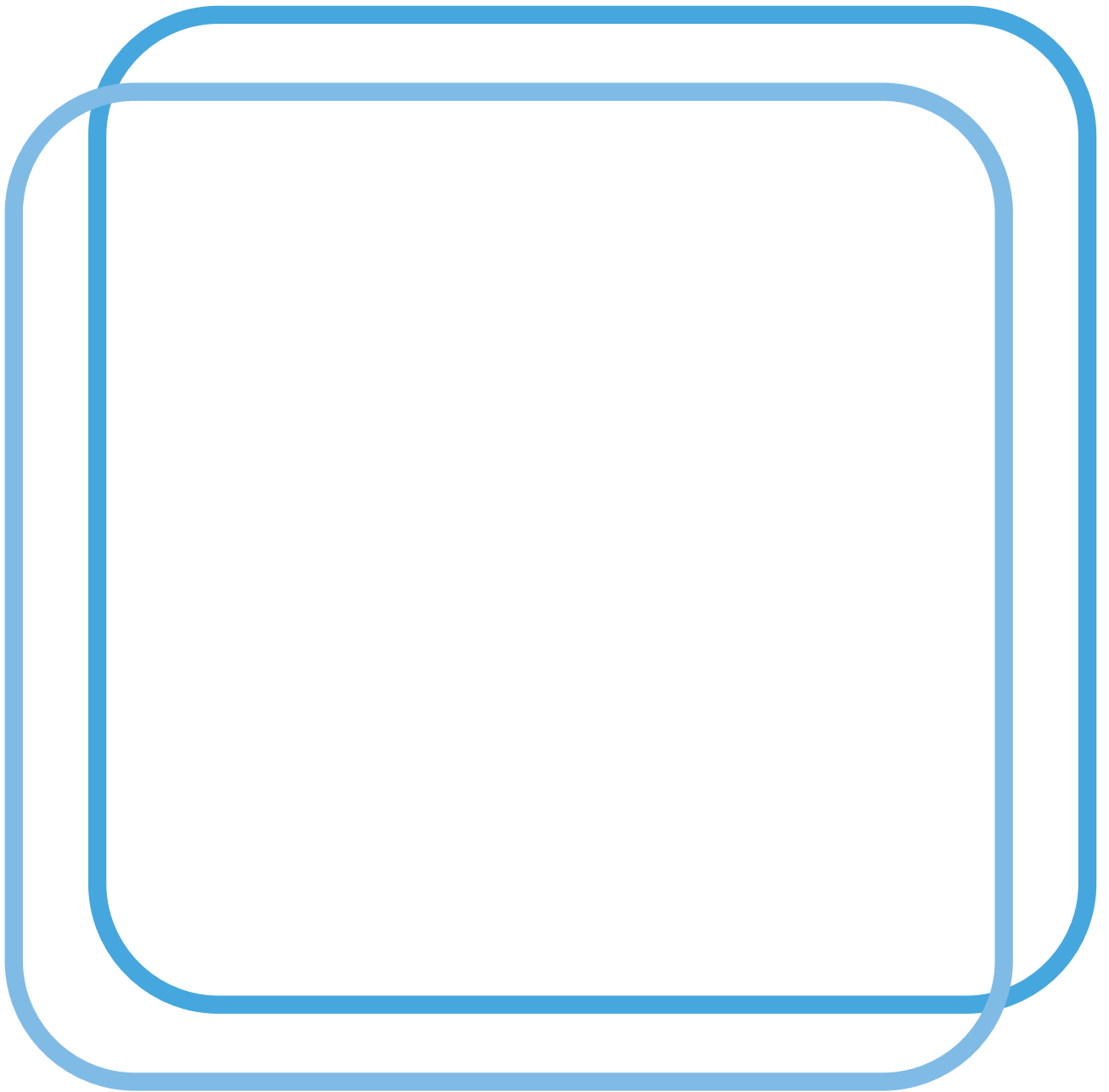


Lifting Equipment



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Safer Business - Better Health

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Introduction

<p>Introduction</p>	<p>The Lifting Operations and Lifting Equipment Regulations (LOLER) aim to reduce the risks to people's health and safety from lifting equipment provided for use at work.</p>	<p>Lifting Equipment is also subject to the requirements of the Provision and Use of Work Equipment Regulations - for further details see the work equipment section.</p>
<p>What does LOLER require?</p>	<p>The Regulations require that all lifting equipment provided for use at work is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • strong and stable enough for the particular use and marked to indicate safe working loads; • positioned and installed to minimise any risks; 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • used safely, i.e. the work is planned, organised and performed by competent people; and • subject to ongoing thorough examination and, where appropriate, inspection by competent people.
<p>What is defined as lifting equipment?</p>	<p>Lifting equipment includes any equipment used at work for lifting or lowering loads, including attachments used at work for lifting or lowering loads, and attachments used for anchoring, fixing or supporting it. The Regulations cover a wide range of equipment including, cranes, hoists, lifts and slings, etc.</p>	<p>LOLER does not apply to escalators, these are covered by other legislation.</p> <p>If you allow employees to provide their own lifting equipment, then this too is covered by the Regulations.</p>
<p>Do the Regulations apply to me?</p>	<p>If you are an employer or self-employer person providing lifting equipment for use at work, or you have control of the use of lifting equipment, then the Regulations will apply to you.</p> <p>They do not apply if you provide equipment to be used primarily by members of the public, for example lifts in a shopping centre.</p>	<p>However, such circumstances are covered by the Health and Safety at Work etc Act 1974.</p> <p>Although employees do not have specific duties under LOLER, they do have general duties under the Health & Safety at Work etc Act 1974 and the Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations.</p>

What do the Regulations say I have to do?

You need to ensure that in using any lifting equipment the requirements of LOLER are met.

For example, you should ensure that lifting equipment is:-

- visibly marked with any appropriate information to be taken into account for its safe use, e.g. safe working loads. Accessories, e.g. slings, clamps etc, should be similarly marked;
- positioned or installed to prevent the risk of injury, e.g. from the equipment itself or the load falling or striking people;
- sufficiently strong, stable and suitable for the proposed use. Similarly, the load and anything attached (e.g. timber pallets, lifting points) must be suitable.

Additionally, you must ensure that:

- lifting operations are planned, supervised and carried out in a safe manner by people who are competent;

- where equipment is used for lifting people it is marked accordingly, and it should be safe for such a purpose, e.g. all necessary precautions have been taken to eliminate or reduce any risk;
- where appropriate, before lifting equipment (including accessories) is used for the first time, it is thoroughly examined. Lifting equipment may need to be thoroughly examined in use at periods specified in the Regulations (i.e. at least six-monthly for accessories and equipment used for lifting people and, at a minimum, annually for all other equipment) or at intervals laid down in an examination scheme drawn up by a competent person. All examination work should be performed by a competent person; and
- following a thorough examination or inspection of any lifting equipment, a report is submitted by the competent person to the employer to take the appropriate action.

How do the Regulations relate to other health and safety legislation?

The requirements of the Regulations need to be considered alongside other health and safety law.

For example, section 2 of the Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974 requires all employers to ensure, so far as is reasonably practicable, the health, safety and welfare of all employees.

Similarly the Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations contain important duties which relate to the carrying out of a risk assessment to identify measures that you can take to eliminate, or reduce, the risks presented by the particular hazards in your workplace. (Further guidance can be found in the risk assessment section)