



Lifting Standards Worldwide





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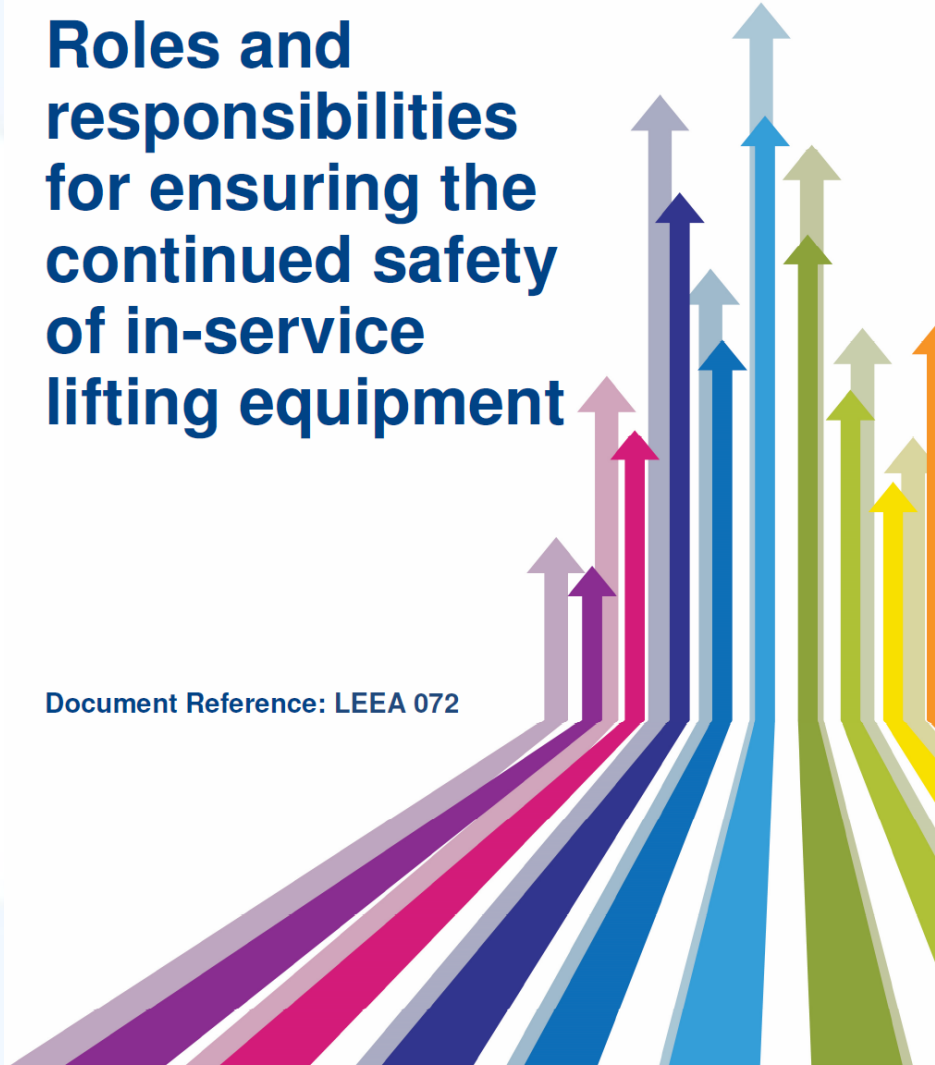


Lifting
Standards
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Roles and responsibilities for ensuring the continued safety of in-service lifting equipment

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LEEA Stance

LEEA takes the position that within the UK and Europe the Machinery Directive is the overarching legislation and both LOLER & PUWER are the mandatory instruments that implement them

Where no legislation exists or it is considered to be inadequate LEEA expects all of its members to use LOLER as “best practise” and this is incorporated into our Technical Audit process

This presentation is made on that premise





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Introduction

Reason for this Guidance

LEEA Technical Committee has raised concerns at the lack of understanding of legal obligations with regards to lifting equipment in respect to:

- Pre-use Checks
- Inspection
- Maintenance
- Thorough Examination





Legislation





PUWER 1998

Lifting Equipment **must** be:

- Suitable for the intended use and met the essential health and safety requirements of EU Machinery Directive 2006/42/EC;
- Maintained and inspected at regular intervals to ensure it is kept in a safe condition;
- Used by people who have received adequate information, instruction and training





LOLER 1998

This requires that **All** Lifting Equipment is **Thoroughly Examined**;

- Before putting into service unless supplied with an EC Declaration of Conformity issued not more than 12 months before the equipment is put into service, or;
- Every 6 months for people carrying equipment and lifting accessories, or;
- Every 12 months for lifting machines, or;
- After exceptional circumstances, or;
- In accordance with a written examination scheme





3 Levels of Checking

1. Pre-use Checks (Daily) - Operator
2. Routine inspection and maintenance – Determined by the owner of the equipment
3. Thorough Examination – Competent Person





Pre-use Checks

Generally carried out by the operator of the equipment before each use:

- Signs of damage:
 - Dents,
 - Cuts,
 - Tears.
 - Permanent deformations, abnormal noises, changes in function, etc.
- Any such findings, **must** be reported to the inspection/maintenance personnel, and if necessary, remove the equipment from service





Routine inspection and maintenance

- Often completed at the same time
- Usually by inspection and maintenance personnel
- The periods between planned inspection and maintenance would depend upon a risk assessment based on the use of the equipment, taking into account:
 - Environmental conditions.
 - Hazards
 - Cyclic rate of use
- Inspections can be limited to critical components that have been identified in the risk assessment
- Corrective action **must** be carried out where defects are reported





Thorough Examination

- **Must** only be carried out by a **Competent Person**, who:
 - Must have sufficient theoretical and practical knowledge of the equipment that they are examining
 - Identify defects and assess their importance in terms of the continued safety of the equipment.

NOTE: If pre-use checks and routine inspection/ maintenance are carried out properly, thorough examinations should not find any defects.





Competent Person

The term has never been fully defined in law although the LEEA definition has been interpreted by many courts to be acceptable

For the purpose of **thoroughly examining lifting equipment**, the LEEA definition of a **Competent Person** is a person having such practical and theoretical knowledge and experience of the equipment which is to be thoroughly examined that will enable them to detect defects or weaknesses which it is the purpose of the examination to discover and assess their importance to the safety of the equipment





The Competent Person should have the maturity to seek such specialist advice and assistance as may be required to enable them to make necessary judgements and be a sound judge of the extent to which they can accept the supporting opinions of other specialists

They **must** be able to certify with confidence whether it is free from patent defect and suitable in every way for the duty for which the equipment is required





If defects are found it may highlight;

- Possible issues with the inspection/maintenance regime
- The competency of the inspectors or maintainers i.e. a lack of product knowledge and its limitations.
- The product fitness for purpose, etc





Thorough examinations can:

- Be used as a Safety net and also used to identify potential problems within any inspection or maintenance regime
- Provide a means of improvement and prevention of recurrence.





Duty Holder





Who is the duty holder?

- Usually an employer or self-employed person
- Building owner, person in charge of the equipment or a hire company.





The duty holder **must** comply with LOLER & PUWER, however, they may not possess the necessary skills or knowledge required

They may delegate to qualified personnel or organisations.

NOTE: This does not absolve them of responsibility, it simply changes the nature of their accountability.





The Duty Holder **must** ensure that those undertaking the tasks are:

- suitably qualified
- experienced
- trained
- Properly equipped

In short **Competent** for the task they are being asked to perform

Ensure that employees are

- assessed,
- properly trained
- provided with the necessary equipment for their role





In terms of external organisations, the duty holder must have procedures in place for vetting their competency.

How can this be achieved?

- Make enquiries about the competence of the contractor (including their employees and subcontractors)
- Ensure they have the right combination of skills, experience and knowledge to carry out the work required.
- Similarly, the level of enquiries you make should be determined by the level of risks and the complexity of the job





Procurement Personnel





Responsible for selecting equipment that is best suited to the intended application.

- Full understanding of the equipment:
 - Environmental conditions of use,
 - Required duty,
 - Applicable legislation and relevant standards.
 - Aware of changes. For example, remote control systems for cranes and hoists (RED)

Who is going to use the equipment?

- Is any additional training required? (MHSAWR 1999)





Must be able to order equipment accurately and it must be fit for purpose

- Minimum performance requirements
- Environment of use
- Frequency of use
- Reference the correct product standard.
- Correct Supporting Documentation
- If in doubt they must know who to contact for relevant advice (Not just the salesman!)

The Equipment should be selected by suitability and not just price.





Regulation 10 of PUWER

The person(s) responsible for taking on new equipment, must ensure that it meets all applicable essential health and safety requirements.

- Ensure that they correct paperwork is received and
- Equipment is marked with required information by the appropriate standards and legislation.
- This includes the year of manufacture

LEEA has produced a series of guidance notes LEEA-059 to cover documentation and marking





Lifting Equipment Examiner





Must be deemed as competent by their employer or have supporting evidence if self employed.

They must be able to show:-

- Practical and theoretical knowledge
- Experience of the lifting equipment which is to be thoroughly examined

This will enable them to detect defects or weaknesses in the equipment.





- Responsible for ensuring that any defects found are properly reported to the Duty Holder with recommendations as to the required corrective actions.
- The Duty Holder is responsible for ensuring that appropriate action is taken to remedy the defect as instructed by the Lifting Equipment Examiner.
- They are also required to investigate the root cause of the problem and implement corrective measures to prevent reoccurrence.





Inspectors





Responsible for the interim inspections between thorough examinations, as determined by the risk assessment.

The risk assessment must take into account:

- The manufacturer's details,
- What the equipment is to be used for,
- The environmental conditions of use, etc.,

This will enable them to identify critical components and assemblies to be inspected and the intervals between their inspections.





Also responsible for:

- Identifying critical components
- Monitoring them
- Ensuring replacement before they become a danger to persons.

The duty holder is responsible for ensuring that appropriate corrective action is taken.





Must have a detailed knowledge of the equipment and its application

- Maintain records of each inspection
- Any findings, recommendations or urgent actions are reported to the duty holder
- Information is made available to the Lifting Equipment Examiner.





Maintenance Personnel





Responsible for repairing faults:

- as and when they occur
- as requested by the inspector or duty holder
- as required by the manufacturer's literature
- or in accordance with a planned maintenance regime defined by the risk assessment





They **must** have a thorough understanding of the equipment and its components, and an ability to select and use appropriate tools.

- Ensure repairs are done effectively using suitable components
- Keep records in the form of a maintenance log
- Make them available to the inspector and competent person.





Operators





Responsibility :

- Only use lifting equipment for which they have received training
- Operated in accordance with this training and the manufacturer's literature.
- Pre-use checking,
 - reporting to the inspection/maintenance personnel
 - damage or any changes in the operation of the equipment that may indicate a defect.





Thank you for listening

Any Questions?

