

## RECOMMENDED PRACTICES HAND CHAIN MANUALLY OPERATED CHAIN HOISTS

The owner, the user and the operating personnel are responsible for ensuring that good safety practices are followed because the manufacturer has no direct control over the hoist and its operation. ANSI/ASME B30.16 has been used as a guide in preparing this list of SHALL'S and SHALL NOT'S. Ask your supervisor for a copy. Signal words, CAUTION and WARNING indicate the degree of seriousness and are identified according to ANSI/NEMA Z535.6. The following information does not constitute a comprehensive safety program, cannot guard against pitfalls in operating, selecting and purchasing such equipment, and should not be relied upon as such. For additional information on manually operated lever hoist operation, inspection and maintenance visit the Hoist Manufacturers Institute at <http://www.mhi.org/hmi>.



Improper operation of a system can create a potentially hazardous situation which, if not avoided, could result in death or serious injury. To avoid such a potentially hazardous situation, **the operator**:

- Shall **NOT** operate the hoist until you have thoroughly read and understood the manufacturer's Operating and Maintenance Instructions or Manuals.
- Shall **NOT** operate a damaged, malfunctioning or unusually performing hoist.
- Shall **NOT** Operate a hoist which has been modified without the manufacturer's approval or without certification that it is in conformity with applicable ANSI/ASME B30 standard(s).
- Shall **NOT** operate a hoist unless all persons have been warned of the load and remain clear of the supported load.
- Shall **NOT** use the hoist to lift, support, or transport people.
- Shall **NOT** lift or move loads over people.
- Shall **NOT** lift or pull more than rated load for the hoist.
- Shall **NOT** use damaged hoist or hoist that is not working properly.
- Shall **NOT** use hoist with twisted, kinked, damaged, or worn load chain.
- Shall **NOT** attempt to lengthen the load chain or repair damaged load chain.
- Shall **NOT** use load chain as a sling or wrap load chain around load.
- Shall **NOT** apply the load to the tip of the hook or to the hook latch.
- Shall **NOT** apply load unless load chain is properly seated in the chain wheel(s) or sprocket(s).
- Shall **NOT** apply load if bearing prevents equal loading on all load supporting chains.
- Shall **NOT** operate beyond the limits of the load chain travel.
- Shall **NOT** leave load supported by the hoist unattended unless specific precautions have been taken.
- Shall **NOT** allow the chain or hook to be used as an electrical or welding ground.
- Shall **NOT** allow the chain or hook to be touched by a live welding electrode.
- Shall **NOT** remove or obscure the warnings on the hoist.
- Shall **NOT** operate a hoist which has not been securely attached to a suitable support.
- Shall **NOT** operate a hoist unless load slings or other approved single attachments are properly sized and seated in the hook saddle.
- Shall **NOT** operate a hoist on which the safety placards or decals are missing or illegible.
- Shall **NOT** operate a hoist when it is restricted from forming a straight line from hook to hook in the direction of loading.
- Shall **NOT** lift loads that are not balanced and that the holding action is not secure, taking up slack carefully.
- Shall be used to lift loads vertically without side pull except when specifically authorized by the manufacture to do so.
- Shall protect the hoist's load chain from weld splatter or other damaging contaminants.
- Shall minimize applying shock load to the hoist.
- Shall remove from service a hoist that malfunctions or performs unusually and report such malfunction.
- Shall be familiar with operating controls, procedures and warnings



Improper operation of a system can create a potentially hazardous situation which, if not avoided, could result in minor or moderate injury. To avoid such a potentially hazardous situation, **the operator**:

- Shall maintain a firm footing or be otherwise secured when operating the hoist.
- Shall check brake function by tensioning the hoist prior to each lift operation.
- Shall use hook latches. Latches are to retain slings, chains, etc. under slack conditions only.
- Shall make sure the hook latches are closed and not supporting any part of the load.
- Shall make sure the load is free to move and will clear all obstructions.
- Shall avoid swinging the load or hook.
- Shall inspect the hoist regularly, replace damaged or worn parts, and keep appropriate records of maintenance.
- Shall use the hoist manufacturer's recommended parts when repairing the unit.
- Shall lubricate load wire rope or chain per hoist manufacturer's recommendations.
- Shall **NOT** use the hoist load limiting or warning device to measure load.
- Shall **NOT** operate except with manual power.
- Shall **NOT** permit more than one operator to pull on a single hand chain at the same time. More than one operator is likely to cause hoist overload.
- Shall **NOT** allow your attention to be diverted from operating the hoist.
- Shall **NOT** allow the hoist to be subjected to sharp contact with other hoists, structures, or objects through misuse.
- Shall **NOT** adjust or repair the hoist unless qualified to perform such adjustments or repairs.

### DISCLAIMER

Hoist Manufacturers Institute (HMI) and the Material Handling Industry (MHI) assume no responsibility and disclaim all liability of any kind, however arising, as a result of acceptance or use of these recommendations. Anyone using this information understands and agrees that HMI and MHI shall not be liable under any legal theory of any kind with respect to information or other activity covered by these contents. HMI and MHI make **NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, in connection with the information and SPECIFICALLY DISCLAIM ALL IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND OF FITNESS FOR PARTICULAR PURPOSE.** These recommendations do not take precedence over existing plant safety rules and regulations, OSHA regulations or instructions issued by the hoist manufacturer. By referring to or otherwise employing this information, the user agrees to indemnify and hold HMI and MHI harmless from all claims or damages from its use.