

Safety Alert

Subject: Flat Webbing Slings – two layer sling with reinforced eyes (Duplex)

As a result of conducting tests on flat (duplex) webbing slings, we have become aware that some slings have been incorrectly fabricated. A duplex sling has a “short tail” and a “long tail”. The correct fabrication method is to have the short tail captured between the long tail and what would be the single layer of a Simplex sling. See sketches at the bottom of this page and photographs on following page. However, a number of slings (quantity currently unknown) have been fabricated with the short tail uppermost.

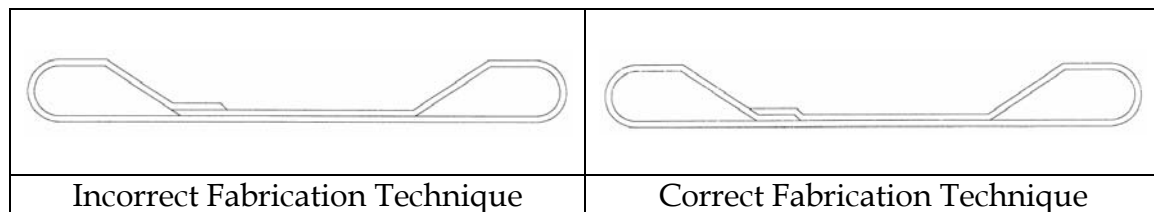
Prior to destruction, the following points were noted about the slings:

- The construction of the slings does not comply with BS EN1492-1 Table 2 (see diagrams below)
- The seams were irregular (rucked) along portions of their length.
- The reinforcement material applied to the eyes covers only 15% of the eye.

Destruction testing was conducted, under Lloyd’s Register EMEA witness, on three slings from two manufacturers with results as shown below:

Manufacturer	WLL	Minimum Breaking Load (as per BS EN1492-1)	Actual Breaking Load	Material Colour (as per BS EN1492-1 Table 3)	Fabrication Technique
A	6,000 kgs	42 tonnes	20.29 tonnes	Brown	Incorrect
A	5,000 kgs	35 tonnes	19.37 tonnes	Red	Incorrect
B	5,000 kgs	35 tonnes	23.24 tonnes	Red	Correct

After having conducted the tests on slings fabricated by Manufacturer A, we conducted another test on a sling from a different Manufacturer (B). Despite the tails being correctly ordered, the sling from the second manufacturer also failed below the required MBL.



Recommendations:

- Check the fabrication method and if incorrect manufacturing technique is found, return immediately to the supplier (and inform one of the undernoted personnel).
- If manufacturing method appears to be correct, quarantine until further information is available.

Note: we have informed the HSE and they are involved in further investigation into this matter in conjunction with a number of manufacturers of webbing slings.

Contact Details:	Bob Punton	01224-267822
	Elaine Percival	01224-267811
	Jim Young	01224-267804

Lloyd’s Register EMEA
Denburn House, 25 Union Terrace
Aberdeen AB10 1NN

Photographs below show the tail overlap portions of an incorrectly manufactured sling and a correctly manufactured sling.

