



July 3 — The Small Details Hold the Biggest Loads

Cable clamps were on backwards hanging a 20inch carbon pipe	Barricaded off chain falls repicked the pipe then clamps were reinstalled properly
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Sometimes the difference between a safe lift and a serious incident is only a few inches...

...or the direction of a single cable clamp.

During a rigging inspection, employees noticed that the cable clamps on a wire rope assembly supporting a 20-inch carbon steel pipe had been installed backwards. At first glance, the rigging appeared complete, but a closer inspection revealed a critical installation error that could have compromised the integrity of the lift.

Instead of assuming everything was acceptable because the work had already been completed, the crew stopped the lift, corrected the installation, and verified the rigging before proceeding.

Rigging failures rarely happen because of one major mistake. More often, they result from small details that are overlooked, skipped, or assumed to be correct. Taking a few extra moments to inspect equipment and question something that doesn't look right can prevent dropped loads, equipment damage, and serious injuries.

Hazards

- Rigging failure
- Dropped load
- Struck by hazards
- Improper rigging practices
- Failure to verify equipment before lifting

Words of Wisdom

A successful lift begins long before the load leaves the ground. Never assume rigging is correct simply because it has already been assembled. Take the time to inspect, verify, and speak up if something doesn't look right.

Pause and Think

- What small details do you look for before making a lift?
- Have you ever stopped a job because something "just didn't look right"?
- Why is it important to inspect rigging, even if someone else assembled it?
- What could happen if a cable clamp is installed incorrectly?
- How can we encourage everyone on the crew to question something that appears unsafe?

Closing Thought

Most lifting incidents aren't caused by the load, they're caused by overlooked details. The best riggers never stop verifying.