

POLYSTROP

POLYSTROP LIMITED

INFORMATION FOR THE USE AND MAINTENANCE OF WEB LASHINGS MADE FROM MAN MADE FIBRES

In selecting and using web lashings, consideration shall be given to the required lashing capacity, taking into account the mode of use and the load to be secured. The size, shape and weight of the load, together with the intended method of use, transport environment and the nature of the load will affect the correct selection. For stability reasons free-standing units of load have to be secured with a minimum of one pair of web lashings for frictional lashing and two pairs of web lashing for diagonal lashing.

The selected web lashings shall both be strong enough and of the correct length for the mode of use. Basic lashing rules:

- Plan the fitting and removal operations of lashing before starting a journey.
- Keep in mind that during journeys parts of the load may have to be unloaded.
- Calculate the number of web lashings needed.
- Check the tension force periodically, especially shortly after starting the journey.

Because of different behaviour and elongation under load conditions, different lashing equipment (e.g. lashing chain and web lashings) shall not be used to lash the same load. Also consider whether ancillary fittings and lashing devices in the load restraint assembly are compatible with the web lashing.

During use flat hooks shall engage over the complete width of the bearing surface of the hook.

Release of the web lashing: Care should be taken to ensure that the stability of the load is independent of the lashing equipment and that the release of the web lashing shall not cause the load to fall off the vehicle, thus endangering the personnel. If necessary attach lifting equipment for further transport to the load before releasing the tensioning device in order to prevent accidental falling/or tilting of the load. This applies as well when using tensioning devices which allow controlled removal.

Before attempting to unload a unit of load its web lashings shall be released so that it can be lifted freely from the load platform.

During loading and unloading attention has to be paid to the proximity of any low overhead power lines.

The materials from which web lashings are manufactured have a selective resistance to chemical attack.

Seek the advice of the manufacturer or supplier if exposure to chemicals is anticipated. It should be noted that the effects of chemicals may increase with rising temperature. The resistance of man-made fibres to chemicals is summarized below.

Polyamides are virtually immune to the effects of alkalis. However, they are attacked by mineral acids.

Polyester is resistant to mineral acids but is attacked by alkalis.

Polypropylene is little affected by acids and alkalis and is suitable for applications where high resistance to chemicals (other than certain organic solvents) is required.

Solutions of acids or alkalis which are harmless may become sufficiently concentrated by evaporation to cause damage.

Take contaminated webbings out of service at once, thoroughly soak them in cold water and dry naturally.

Web lashings are suitable for use in the following temperature ranges:

-40 degrees C to +80 degrees C for polypropylene (PP)

-40 degrees C to +100 degrees C for polyamide (PA)

-40 degrees C to +120 degrees C for polyester (PES)

These ranges may vary in chemical environment. In that case the advice of the manufacturer or supplier shall be sought. Changing the environmental temperature during transport may affect the forces in the web lashing. Check the tension force after entering warm areas.

Web lashings shall be taken out of use immediately if they show any signs of damage.

The following criteria are considered to be signs of damage:

- Only web lashings bearing identification labels shall be repaired.
- If there is any accidental contact with chemical products, a web lashing shall be removed from service.
- For web lashings (to be rejected): tears, cuts, nicks and breaks in load bearing fibres and retaining stitches; deformations resulting from exposure to heat.
- For end fittings and tensioning devices: deformations, splits, pronounced signs of wear and signs of corrosion.

Care should be taken that the web lashing is not damaged by sharp edges of the load on which it is used.

A visual inspection before and after each use is recommended.

Only legibly marked and labelled web lashings shall be used.

Web lashings shall not be overloaded: Mechanical aids such as levers, bars etc. as extensions are not to be used unless they are part of the tensioning device.

Web lashings shall never be used when knotted.

Damage to labels shall be prevented by keeping them away from sharp edges of the load and, if possible, from the load.

The webbing shall be protected against friction, abrasion and damage from loads with sharp edges by using protective sleeves and/or corner protectors.

