Safety Alert – Gin Wheel Near Miss



A bucket load of scaffold fittings recently fell to the street below whilst being lifted with a gin wheel and rope.

Fortunately the bucket and fittings remained within the fenced-off safe-zone.

Only the correct, properly designed lifting equipment and accessories for lifting should be used.

Ropes should be provided with an integral swivel and hook with a safety catch to prevent the load coming off the hook.

Lifting equipment and accessories must have markings or tags showing a unique identification number and the SWL (Safe working load) and they must be provided with appropriate in-date certification and a recorded inspection carried out at least once a week.



The company discourages the use of traditional gin wheels and safer alternatives should be considered such as powered hoists or winches.

For further information talk to your Health and Safety Advisor.

Figure 1 Lifting bag showing SWL

If you have any health and safety issues that you wish to discuss contact your supervisor, line manager or Safety Advisor.

Remember there must be NO COMPROMISE where health and safety is concerned.