

YOUR LES®**QUICK GUIDE****TO**

ENDLESS ROUND SLINGS



INTRODUCTION TO ENDLESS ROUND SLINGS

Endless round slings are a versatile and efficient lifting solution used across many rigging and material-handling applications. They are made from high-strength synthetic fibres, such as polyester, formed into a continuous loop of load-bearing yarn encased in a protective woven sleeve. This design allows them to conform easily to irregularly shaped loads, making them extremely flexible and practical in use.

Compared to wire rope or chain slings, endless round slings are lightweight and easy to handle, which helps to reduce manual handling strain for operators. The outer sleeve protects the load-bearing core from abrasion and general wear, extending the sling's lifespan. Overall, endless round slings are a cost-effective choice for many lifting environments thanks to their strength, durability, and ease of maintenance.

COMPLIANCE & CONFORMANCE

To ensure safe operation, endless round slings must meet specific industry standards and regulations. Common standards include EN 1492-2 (Europe), which covers polyester round slings for general lifting; and BS 3481 / ISO 4878, which set performance and testing criteria at the UK and international levels.

Each sling must also display a legible identification label. This label should include the manufacturer's or supplier's name, the working load limit (WLL), material type, sling length, the applicable standard reference, and a unique serial or batch number. The date of manufacture is also commonly included. A sling without a clear or complete label should never be used, as this information is essential for verifying compliance and ensuring the correct use of the equipment.

SAFETY ELEMENTS

Safe lifting depends on correct sling selection, careful inspection, and proper use. Before every lift, visually inspect the sling for any signs of cuts, abrasion, burns, chemical damage, or other visible wear. Check that the identification label is present and legible, confirming that the working load limit and length are appropriate for the job. Always ensure that the sling is compatible with the lifting hardware and the shape and type of load.

During lifting, avoid sharp edges that could damage the sling’s outer sleeve. Use protective sleeves or corner guards where necessary. Never twist, knot, or choke the sling, and always lift smoothly to prevent shock loading. The load should be balanced and secured properly, with the lifting angle kept within safe limits.

After use, inspect the sling again for any signs of damage. If it has been exposed to oil, grease, or mild chemicals, clean it with soap and water before storing. Any sling that shows visible damage or wear should be clearly marked and removed from service for professional inspection or disposal.

STORAGE & MAINTENANCE

Proper storage is key to maintaining the performance and longevity of endless round slings. They should be stored indoors in a clean, dry area, away from direct sunlight and sources of heat. Exposure to ultraviolet light, chemicals, or extreme temperatures can degrade synthetic materials over time. Slings should be kept off the floor and stored on racks or hooks to prevent contamination or crushing.

Slings must not be stored under tension or compressed beneath heavy objects. It’s also good practice to maintain inspection records and follow a regular maintenance schedule, particularly in workplaces that use multiple slings. Consistent care helps to ensure continued compliance and reduces the risk of equipment failure.

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