YOUR LES® QUICK GUIDE TO

WELD-ON LIFTING POINTS

Weld-on lifting points are essential components used to safely lift, position, and transport heavy loads. Commonly found in manufacturing, construction, fabrication, and industrial environments, they provide a permanent or semi-permanent lifting solution when bolted alternatives are impractical. This guide covers the fundamentals of weld-on lifting points, how to select the right product, best practices for installation, and ongoing maintenance considerations.

WHAT ARE WELD-ON LIFTING POINTS?

Weld-on lifting points are load-rated lifting attachments designed to be welded directly onto machinery, frames, beams, or fabricated structures. Unlike bolted lifting points, they do not rely on threaded connections and are ideal where access is limited or where vibration could loosen fasteners.

They are available in various designs, including fixed eyes, swivel lifting points, and pad eyes, and are manufactured from high-strength steel to handle demanding lifting applications. When correctly selected and installed, weld-on lifting points provide a durable and reliable lifting solution.

loosening during use. This makes them particularly suitable for applications involving repeated lifting, dynamic loads, or environments where routine removal is not practical. Their fixed nature also allows designers and fabricators to integrate lifting points into a structure from the outset, improving load distribution and ensuring consistent, predictable lifting performance over the lifetime of the equipment.

PURCHASING ADVICE: CHOOSING THE RIGHT LIFTING POINT

Selecting the correct weld-on lifting point is critical for safety and performance. When purchasing, consider the following factors:

- **Working Load Limit (WLL):** Always choose a lifting point with a WLL that exceeds the maximum load it will lift. Never exceed the rated capacity.
- **Load Direction:** Some lifting points are rated for vertical lifts only, while others allow for angled or multi-directional loading. Ensure the product suits your intended application.
- **Material Compatibility:** The base material of the structure must be compatible with the lifting point and welding process.
- **Standards and Certification:** Look for lifting points manufactured and tested in accordance with relevant standards and supplied with clear load markings.
- **Application Environment:** Consider exposure to corrosion, high temperatures, or harsh conditions, which may require specific materials or protective coatings.

INSTALLATION ADVICE

Correct installation is essential to ensure the lifting point performs as intended.

- **Qualified Welders Only:** Welding must be carried out by a competent and qualified welder using an approved welding procedure.
- **Surface Preparation:** Ensure the welding surface is clean, free from paint, oil, rust, or contaminants before welding.
- **Weld Size and Quality:** Follow the manufacturer's welding recommendations precisely. Inadequate weld size or penetration can significantly reduce load capacity.
- **Correct Positioning:** Align the lifting point with the expected load direction to avoid unintended side loading.
- **Inspection After Welding:** All welds should be visually inspected and, where required, non-destructively tested before the lifting point is put into service.

MAINTENANCE & INSPECTION TIPS

Weld-on lifting points require regular inspection to maintain lifting safety:

- **Visual Inspections:** Check for cracks, deformation, corrosion, or damage to the lifting point and welds before each use.
- **Periodic Thorough Inspections:** Schedule formal inspections in line with your lifting equipment maintenance program and local regulations.
- **Corrosion Protection:** Reapply coatings or carry out repairs if corrosion is evident.
- **Remove from Service:** Any lifting point showing signs of damage, excessive wear, or compromised welds should be removed from service immediately.

KEY CONSIDERATIONS & SAFETY NOTES

Weld-on lifting points require regular inspection to maintain lifting safety and long-term reliability:

- **Visual Inspections:** Check for cracks, deformation, corrosion, or damage to the lifting point and surrounding welds before each use. Pay particular attention to high-stress areas and any signs of distortion.
- **Periodic Thorough Inspections:** Schedule formal inspections in line with your lifting equipment maintenance program and applicable local regulations. These inspections should be carried out by a competent person and documented for traceability.
- **Corrosion Protection:** Reapply protective coatings or carry out surface repairs if corrosion is evident. Marine, outdoor, or chemically aggressive environments may require more frequent checks.
- **Remove from Service:** Any lifting point showing signs of damage, excessive wear, compromised welds, or loss of load markings should be removed from service immediately and replaced.
- **Check Weld Integrity:** Inspect welds for undercutting, porosity, cracking, or fatigue that could weaken the attachment over time.
- **Monitor Load History:** Be aware of any overload incidents, shock loading, or misuse, as these may have caused hidden damage even if no visible defects are present.
- **Verify Load Markings:** Ensure Working Load Limit (WLL) markings remain clear and legible. Re-mark or replace lifting points where identification has become unreadable.
- **Environmental Exposure Checks:** Inspect more frequently if the lifting point is exposed to temperature extremes, chemicals, moisture, or abrasive conditions.
- **Compatibility with Accessories:** Regularly confirm that hooks, shackles, or lifting slings used with the lifting point are compatible in size and rating, and are not causing unintended side loading or wear

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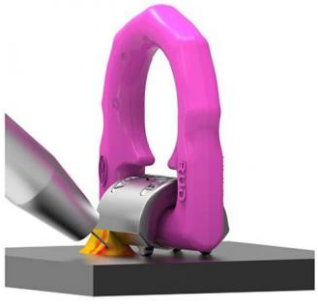

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