

## **Inspection, Thorough Examination and Maintenance of Construction Hoists – CPA Best Practice Guide (Reference CHIG 0301) and Associated Enforcement Guidance**

**◆SIM 2/2003/08**

**Target Audience:**

**FOD Construction Inspectors  
Mechanical Specialist Inspectors**

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## SUMMARY

To introduce the Construction Plant-Hire Association's Best Practice Guide on the Inspection, Thorough Examination and Maintenance of Construction Hoists (Reference CHIG 0301) and provide inspectors with enforcement guidance

### INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

1. The Construction Plant-Hire Association (CPA) comprises in excess of 1200 companies who jointly represent over 80% of UK Plant Hire turnover. All size of company, from owner operators, through Tool Hire Shops, and up to the market leading Multi-depot Organisations, form the membership and are represented on the various working committees.
2. The Construction Hoist Interest Group (CHIG) of the CPA has formulated a best practice guide on the inspection, thorough examination and maintenance of construction hoists. The guidance gives practical guidance for the pre-use checks, in-service inspections, thorough examinations, testing and maintenance and documentation of all construction hoists including goods only, passenger/goods, inclined and transport platforms.
3. This document is considered to represent best working practices in the industry and has been drawn up with the full involvement of Construction Division Technology Unit in consultation with the Sector. It bears the 'Working in Partnership with HSE' logo.
4. The document is reproduced as an Appendix to this SIM. It is for use **within HSE only**<sup>1</sup> and agreement has been reached with CPA that it can be copied for this purpose. Copies outside HSE can be obtained from The Construction Hoist Interest Group, The Construction Plant-Hire Association, 27/28 Newbury Street, Barbican, London, EC1A 7HU. Further information can be found on the CPA website.
5. Further information on construction hoists and transport platforms can be found in:
  - BS7212: 1989 Code of Practice for Safe use of Construction Hoists;
  - BS EN12158:2000 Builder Hoists for Goods Part 1 Hoist with accessible platforms;
  - BS EN 12159:2000 Builder Hoists for persons and materials with vertically guided cages; and
  - OC 409/04 Transport Platforms; and
  - CPA Best Practice Guide on the Installation, Use, Maintenance, Inspection, Examination and Testing of Transport Platforms (reference CHIG 0201).

## KEY RISK FACTORS

6. A construction hoist may have to endure different operational and environmental conditions of service during its lifetime; therefore consideration should be given to the possibility of a rapid deterioration of certain components, which may occur in certain circumstances. There is a significant risk of failure of safety critical parts of the hoist if maintenance regimes, pre-use checks, inspections and thorough examinations are not undertaken and they are an important element to a safe system of work.
7. The Best Practice Guide gives information on selecting competent personnel to carry out these functions, what should be covered and how to manage the process.

## ACTION BY INSPECTORS

8. Inspectors should note the content of the best practice guidance and promulgate the contents to principal contractors and those responsible for the operation, maintenance, inspection and thorough examination of construction hoists.
9. Records and reports should be examined and enquiries made as to the competence of those carrying out the pre-use checks, inspections and thorough examinations. Principal contractors should be asked how they manage the process.

## EMM GUIDANCE

10. →

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Date first issued: 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2003

## APPENDIX

### CHIG 0301

#### CONSTRUCTION PLANT HIRE ASSOCIATION

Best practice Guidance to CPA Members on the Inspection, Thorough Examination and Maintenance of Construction Hoists Document Reference CHIG 0301



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<sup>1</sup> Exemption 13 – Commercially Confidential Information  
<sup>2</sup> Exemption 4 – Law enforcement and legal proceedings  
<sup>3</sup> Exemption 13 – Commercially Confidential Information