



Information Flash

Equipment/ Tool *Procedure* *Other/General*

Date: 3/6/13

Topic: Rigging Use

Description:

Sling softeners are used where the sling could come in contact with sharp edges or corners of an object. Without softeners, wire rope slings that are bent sharply at edges or corners have their **strength reduced** and the sling can be **permanently kinked or damaged**. Synthetic slings in both the nylon web and the fiber round sling styles are flexible enough to accommodate sharp bends but are **easily cut by sharp edges** or corners which could **result in the load falling**.

Softeners for lighter loads can be made from padding using such items as sections of air hose or tires or from appropriate arrangement of wood blocking. For heavier loads, softeners can be made from lengths of split pipe or from commercially available products such as the Cornermax pad by Slingmax for synthetic round slings.

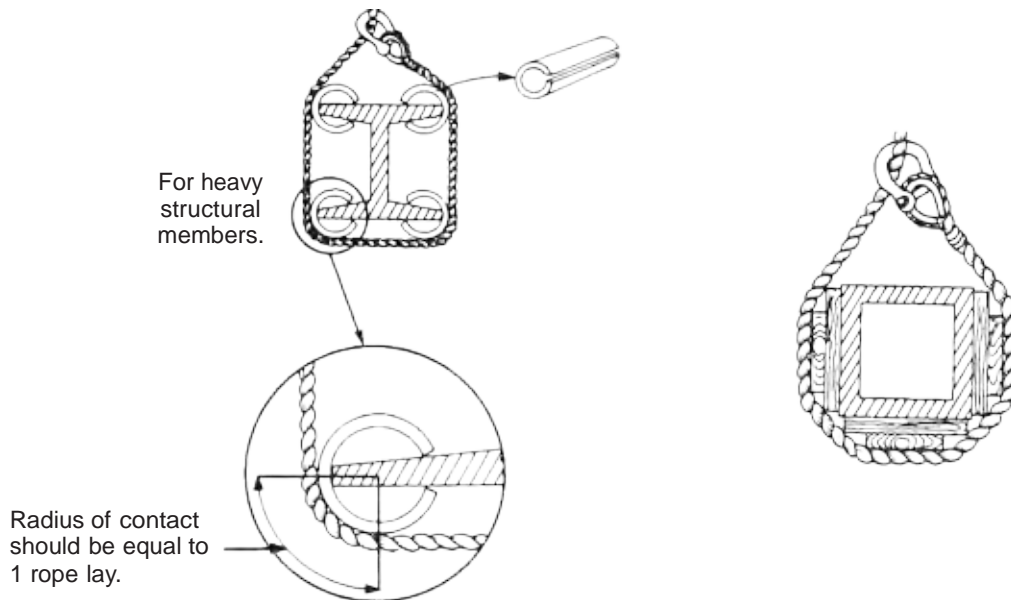
Regardless of the arrangement chosen, the goal is to protect the sling from damage without compromising its strength. Attached are some examples that show good softener practices.



Wire Rope Slings

- Avoid sharp bends, pinching, and crushing. Corner pads that prevent the sling from being sharply bent or cut can be made from split sections of large-diameter pipe, corner saddles, padding, or blocking.

Ensure that Slings are Protected at All Sharp Corners on Heavy Items



- Never allow wire rope slings, or any wire rope, to lie on the ground for long periods of time or on damp or wet surfaces, rusty steel, or near corrosive substances.
- Avoid dragging slings out from underneath loads.
- Keep wire rope slings away from flame cutting and electric welding.
- Never make slings from discarded hoist rope.
- Avoid using single-leg wire rope slings with hand-spliced eyes. The load can spin, causing the rope to unlay and the splice to pull out. Use slings with Flemish Spliced Eyes.
- Never wrap a wire rope completely around a hook. The sharp radius will damage the sling.

YOUR SOURCE FOR SLINGS & SLING PROTECTION!

Most synthetic sling accidents are caused by cutting. There are many kinds of protective sleeves and pads available, but only two synthetic protectors provide adequate cut protection: CornerMax® pads and CornerMax® sleeves. They have been engineered and tested to provide 25,000 lbs. of protection per inch of sling width (4464 kg per centimeter of sling width). CornerMax® pads are designed for 90° straight edges. CornerMax® sleeves are for other edges – curved, rough, or irregular – and are the protection of choice for I-beams. For synthetic slings, the most critical decision is whether cut protection is needed.

Cut Protection – Engineered Softeners

CornerMax® pads are shown in the right two photos.

The pad creates a “tunnel” of cut protection – a no-touch zone. Therefore, the edge does not come in contact with the pad or sling. Note that the sides of the pads must be completely supported in order to create and maintain the “tunnel”.



CornerMax® sleeves may look like traditional protection sleeves, but ours are made of Dyneema® fiber that is specially woven to provide cut

protection for a variety of edges and surfaces. Most commonly used sleeve material cannot stop an edge from cutting the sleeve and possibly the sling too. For test results, see the chart on the reverse side.

Call your Hanes Supply Representative for Rigging Solutions in making the right choice for protecting your rigging.



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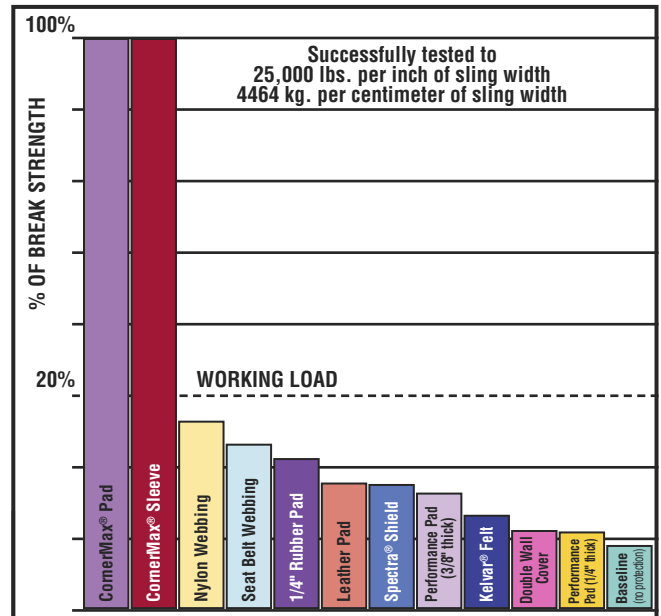
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YOUR SOURCE FOR SLINGS & SLING PROTECTION!

This chart shows the results of testing slings protected by 12 different synthetic materials that are often used for sling protection. In our tests, ten of the most commonly used materials do not allow a sling to reach its working load before the sling is cut and fails. The CornerMax® pad and sleeve allow the synthetic sling to meet its working load with no damage to the sling or the protection.



Other Sling Protection...

Sometimes cut protection is not needed. We have a full line of engineered softeners that are excellent for abrasion protection or for protecting a load surface. The Shackle Pin pad is designed to prevent a synthetic sling from damage when a sling is seated on the pin side of a shackle.



Your Hanes Supply Representative can help you make the right choice for protecting your rigging.

CALL TODAY!



⚠️ WARNING

Damaged or misused protection can result in sling damage or failure. Inspect before each use for cuts, tears, or damage that may prevent protection of the sling. Ensure that protection is the correct size and type to protect the sling. Prevent the sling and its protection from sliding across the load edge. DEATH or INJURY can occur from improper use, maintenance, or inspection.

MAXIMUM LOADING: 25,000 lb. per inch of sling width (4464 kg/cm of sling width).

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