Written Procedures for Complex Lifts

Question: Clarify the requirement for written procedures for complex lifts as noted in NAVFAC P-307, paragraph 10.4.1.1. What should be addressed in a written complex lift procedure?

Answer: The procedures required vary with the actual complexity of the lift. Complex lifts as defined by NAVFAC P-307, paragraph 10.4.1, are lifts that involve a moderate to high level of risk. Each activity should develop a complex lift procedures checklist. From the list, choose the items that are applicable to the lift and develop the lift procedure as necessary.

SAMPLE COMPLEX LIFT PROCEDURE CHECKLIST

Written procedures for performing complex lifts may address the following information and parameters:

- The weight of the object to be lifted.
- Special precautions for unusual shapes.
- The capacity of the crane and the hook(s) to be used. If a variable capacity crane is utilized, confirm capacity at the boom radius to be used.
- For lifts requiring two or more cranes, determine the maximum capacity for each crane and percentage of weight each crane will lift. Address coordination of lifts and communication.
- List of the rigging equipment to be used.
- The need for a portable load indicating device.
- The need for a sketch or drawing showing rigging gear configuration, capacities, and orientation with regard to the object to be lifted.
- Crane team personnel required and their responsibilities.
- Special prerequisites and precautions prior to and during the lift (e.g., half-full tanks, residual water in bilges or structure, pressure equalization prior to taking a strain, submerged objects, weather condition limitations).
- The type of communication to be employed.
- Stop points (e.g., in the event of lifting submerged material to inspect exposed rigging gear or integral attachments, allow drainage).

- The maximum allowable load, as shown on a load indicator, prior to stopping for further technical resolution (e.g., contacting the cognizant technical code or original equipment manufacturer (OEM)).
- The lift/crane path (to calculate counter weight and travel clearance).
- Technical manuals excerpts or other OEM materials pertinent to object being lifted, (e.g., HAZMAT instructions, shipboard or facility plant equipment manuals, radiological manuals).
- A remarks or notes block for special situations where instructions can be added to the complex lift procedure.