

Revision history

Date	Reason	Revision
October 2024	Addition of IMCA D023 and D037 to list of documents updated with lifting terminology	Rev. 0.2
May 2024	Notification that lifting terminology in IMCA D018 has been updated	Rev. 0.1
April 2024	Initial publication	

Lifting Terminology – Appropriate Marking on Diving Equipment

IMCA’s Lifting and Rigging Committee received and reviewed comments regarding the terminology used in IMCA’s Diving Documents and on diving equipment that is being lifted.

The Committee noted that IMCA D018 *Code of Practice for the Initial and Periodic Examination, Testing and Certification of Diving Plant and Equipment* and IMCA’s DESIGN suite of documents should be reviewed and updated to reflect current lifting terminology.

Modification of the lifting terminology in the supporting DESIGN documents has now been initiated. These modifications will influence the Planned Maintenance System (PMS), along with related procedures and processes. It should be noted that implementation of these changes will require some time, a factor that should be taken into account by third-party auditors.

In addition, we have also included the following in supporting documentation:

- ◆ **Maximum Rated Capacity (MRC)** – The maximum gross load which may be applied to the crane or hoist or lifting attachment while in a particular working configuration and under a particular condition of use.
- ◆ **Working Load Limit (WLL)** – The maximum load that lifting equipment is certified to withstand under normal use.

There is a difference between **mechanical lifting equipment** and **lifted equipment** (i.e. which is below the hook) that will be addressed in revisions to IMCA’s diving documents. The terms involved are:

- ◆ NET weight
- ◆ TARE weight, and
- ◆ GROSS weight.

For example, the current revision of IMCA D018 *Code of Practice for the Initial and Periodic Examination, Testing and Certification of Diving Plant and Equipment*, Detail Sheet 3, states:

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Examination/Test

In accordance with manufacturer's specification and fit for the purpose it will be used for. For any system manufactured after 1 January 2014, documentation should be available showing clearly the designed SWL.

This will be amended as follows to reflect that the examination/test should focus on the lifted equipment's GROSS weight, i.e. the TARE weight (empty weight of the lifted equipment) plus the NET weight (maximum load the lifted equipment is designed to carry):

Examination/Test

In accordance with the manufacturer's specification and fit for the purpose for which it will be used. For any system manufactured after 1 January 2014, documentation should be available clearly showing the designed Maximum GROSS Weight of the Man-Riding Basket/Bell, i.e. TARE weight plus the maximum load it is designed to carry (NET weight).

Example

- ◆ Man-riding basket empty weight = TARE weight
- ◆ Man-riding basket maximum carrying capacity, which includes the weight of diver(s) and equipment = NET weight (for the purpose of this calculation the weight of a fully kitted diver is considered to be 150 kg)
- ◆ GROSS weight = TARE weight + NET weight.

All lifting points on the man-riding basket should be tested to 1.25 times the GROSS weight.

Updated Documents

The following documents have been updated with this information:

- ◆ IMCA D018 *Code of Practice for the Initial and Periodic Examination, Testing and Certification of Diving Plant and Equipment*
- ◆ IMCA D023 *DESIGN for surface-orientated (air) diving systems*
- ◆ IMCA D024 *DESIGN for saturation (bell) diving systems*
- ◆ IMCA D037 *DESIGN for surface supplied mixed gas diving systems*

Other documents that this relates to are currently being updated.

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