Handling Rebar Cages

FEDERATION OF PILING SPECIALISTS

Lift Plan.

- The detailed method of handling reinforcement cages will be given in the Lift Plan in your site documentation. This will cover *what lifting equipment you will be using* , the *weight of the loads* and *how they are to be slung*. Have you been briefed on the Lift Plan?

Offloading and moving cages around site.

- When offloading a cage, ensure the chains are long enough so the angle does not exceed 90 deg.
- When lifting a cage horizontally, ensure the attachment points are strengthened to resist the tendency of the chains to pull towards the centre.
- Use a tag line.
- Generally do not stack cages higher that can be reached and slung safely.
- Don't stack cages more than two or three high where they may be unstable. Always chock against movement.

Inserting Cage into Bore.

- The method of insertion , any splicing method and the means of suspending the cage will be covered in the Method Statement or Task Sheet. Make sure you have been briefed.
- Lifting points should be examined to ensure they are secure.
- When splicing a cage; do not thread your hands inside the cage nor stand on the casing; both risk amputation if the cage falls or is lowered accidently.
- Ensure bulldogs are securely located and tightened using pneumatic gun, two bulldogs per bar per connection.
- Do not climb up cage to connect bulldogs use podium steps provided if attaching at height.

Did you know?

The most common lift on a piling site is usually rebar – so make sure you do this right.
The hook on the 'hanging chains' will not have a safety catch, so it can only be used to suspend a cage when it is within the bore.

Q. What key documents do you need to be briefed on?

Q. Why is it important that horizontal lifting points are strengthened?