



Do these regulations apply to your venue?

Yes, if your venue includes any of the following equipment:

A pit lift, electrical chain hoists, fly bars, motorised or hand cranked pile winds, anything with counter weights, ropes or pulleys.

Why is it important to carry out at least a yearly inspection of your equipment?

The 'Health & Safety Commission' have a code of practice for safe operation of equipment, this is called, 'Lifting Operations and Lifting Equipment Regulations 1998' or LOLER for short.

This code has been approved by the health and safety commission, with the consent of the secretary of state. It gives practical advice on how to comply with the law. If you follow the advice you will be doing enough to comply with the law in respect of those specific matters on which the code gives advice. You may use alternate methods to those set out in the Code in order to comply with the law.

However, the Code has special legal status. If you are prosecuted for breach of the health and safety law, and it is proved that you did not follow the relevant provisions of the Code, you will need to show that you have complied with the law in some other way or a court will find you at fault.

Ref. Lifting operations and lifting equipment regulations 1998, page ii

Regulation 9 of the code relates to testing and examination of equipment (a full copy of this regulation can be provided if required). Within this regulation it confirms that every employer shall ensure that lifting equipment which is exposed to conditions causing deterioration and is liable to result in dangerous situations is:

a) thoroughly examined -

- i) in the case of lifting equipment for lifting persons or an accessory for lifting, at least every six months.
- ii) in the case of lifting equipment, at least every 12 months; or
- iii) in either case, in accordance with an examination scheme; and
- iv) each time that exceptional circumstances which are liable to jeopardise the safety of the lifting equipment have occurred; and,

b) if appropriate for the purpose, is inspected by a competent person at suitable intervals between through examinations. Ref. Lifting operations and lifting equipment regulations 1998, page 44.

Where can you get more info?

You can download the "Simple guide to the Lifting Operations and Lifting Equipment Regulations 1998" from here:

<http://www.hse.gov.uk/pubns/indg290.pdf>