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To: Stevedoring Companies

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Safe Lifting Operations

1. This circular serves as a safety reminder to all stevedores carrying out lifting operations.
2. During lifting operations, the communication between lifting members is important to prevent accidents. The appointed/qualified signalman must be visible to the crane operator at all times. For better visibility, signal light baton and/or walkie-talkie must be used to maintain visual /audio communication with the crane operator throughout the lifting operations.
3. A rule of thumb, suspended load must be prevented from swinging when hoisted up. Careful considerations of the method statement, center of gravity, and/or lifting method must be taken to ensure that the load can be hoisted up safely with minimum swing movement.
4. A tagline shall be attached to the load to minimize the movement and/or swaying of the suspended load. However, in situation whereby the use of tagline is not feasible, the risk must be re-assess and additional control measures must be implemented to mitigate the risk.
5. It is a requirement to conduct a thorough Risk Assessment (RA) for all work activities including non-routine work activities prior to work commencement. Any deviations from the original planned activities must be notified to Lifting Supervisor so that he can re-assess the risks and put in place control measures to ensure safe lifting operations.
6. We seek your compliance on the above requirements.

Thank you.

Ng Kok Wee
Workplace Safety & Health
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For updates on safety-related news and information, please visit www.wshc.sg