



## SAFETY FLASH: WINCHES

### GOOD PRACTICE

- ✔ Frequent checks and maintenance on the state of the winches;
- ✔ Let others around you know what you are going to do and inform them about the dangers;
- ✔ Ensure that you and others are in a safe place, there is always a possibility that the rope breaks;
- ✔ Wear PPE: wear safety gloves when working with ropes;
- ✔ Have enough turns of the ropes next to each other in order to have a good power distribution on the tension drum;
- ✔ Decouple the winch after usage;
- ✔ Execute a LMRA.



Be alert when winches are rotating. A finger between a rope that is being pulled tight can cause for permanent injury.



### BAD PRACTICE

- ✘ Not giving instructions about the activation of the winches;
- ✘ Quickly readjusting the rope;
- ✘ With your hand or fingers near the rotating ropes;
- ✘ Laying the rope over each other;
- ✘ Not having your attention focused on the work;
- ✘ Bad or no communication;
- ✘ Not wearing PPE.

### ACTION QUESTIONS:

- How does the winch work?
- What is a safe 'way' for the rope?
- How does the winch work onboard? What are the dangers? For example with an automatic winch.

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