

## Safety Fact Sheet



1. In the majority of countries proof load testing of lifting equipment is a mandatory requirement. Such requirements are legal minimums and many companies or industries choose to set more rigorous standards.
2. Proof load testing is an essential part of any inspection, repair and maintenance programme for lifting equipment. In situations where live load testing is not specifically mandated, it is still an essential element of safe maintenance and advisable for liability purposes.
3. A successful proof load test instills confidence in customer, operator and owner.
4. The use of Water Weights water filled proof load bags for load testing all kinds of lifting equipment is recognised worldwide as a safe, efficient and cost effective system.
5. Water Weights bags have been specifically designed and physically proof load tested to verify that their operational integrity exceeds UK Health and Safety Executive safety standards for lifting equipment.
6. Water Weights have, in line with UK HSE Requirements, a physical load test programme. All equipment has a proven and certified factor of safety in excess of 6:1 and each bag is physically proof load tested to a minimum of twice its rated capacity.
7. Gradual application of load under test conditions is essential. This is more easily achieved using Water Weights bags than traditional solid weights.
8. In the event of failure of the equipment under test, consequential loss or damage is usually limited and often prevented when using Water Weights.
9. There have been several serious accidents throughout the world during proof load testing involving sub-standard water containers which were simply not designed for the physical demands of proof load testing. Water Weights strongly advise potential users of 'water containers' to request evidence of physical proof load test certificates from a recognised Government body or testing authority proving that the equipment meets with the minimum factor of safety legally required.
10. Water Weights bags are certified in line with the UK HSE Requirements and the America Bureau of Shipping. Water Weights is approved to ISO 9001:2008.

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