



INCORRECT USE OF ROPES CAN BE FATAL

- Avoid overloading rope
- Shock loading ropes should be avoided as much as possible
- Avoid applying excess heat beyond the rope's designated rating
- Ensure to make use of the accurate rope size for the job
- Areas around the liner length of the rope should be avoided
- Ensure that ropes are kept away from chemicals to prolong working life
- Using your rope in a safe manner is the user's responsibility

VITAL INSTRUCTIONS ON ROPE USAGE:

The overall capacity of a rope, its continuous usage, exposure to the elements and other factors known to affect its general behaviour, are varying determinants of a rope's potential load capacity. As a result of these and the potential risks to life and property, making precise recommendations as to the exact loads any given rope can handle is not realistic.

Thus, putting a rope into service for any specific or general task and the safe operation of it thereof is the absolute responsibility of the user. The user needs to be mindful of all loads, environmental, and any other variable factors, which may affect rope efficiency and safe use.

Failure to put these into cognisance can and may result in severe personal injury and/or death, as well as damage to property or the environment. The user assumes all such risks.

Furthermore, the user is solely responsible for any safety or skill training required in the safe handling of a rope in any capacity.

To avoid frayed and torn ropes which can be dangerous to the user, climbing ropes must be attached to smooth, round surfaces. If they must be anchored to non-round surfaces, the use of a sheath or other forms of rope protector is highly advised.

ROPE STRENGTHS:

Every rope has a rating known as a "tensile strength" or "average break strength." These define the measure of weight the rope should be able to support in ideal conditions, basically; new ropes, with no knots or splices, at room temperature. These ratings are based on substantial data obtained from destructive break testing by the producer or other authorised third party testing facilities over a period. The tensile strength is recorded and applied to the product.

Recording lower break strengths as opposed to the stated tensile strength can be an outcome of several factors including, rope wears, knots, extreme temperatures, chemicals, the load application and so on. It is also highly advised to refer to the safe WORKING LOAD for each specific rope for other information, as a rope might not safely hold the same amount of load, as the break strength that is stated or advertised.

WORKING LOADS:

Most working loads are generally anywhere from ratios 1/10, such as ropes used in life support or fall protection application, to 1/4 of the average break strength of the rope. Make use of a working load factor that affords a greater margin of safety when in doubt, or move up to a larger diameter rope.

KNOTS & SPLICES:

Proper splices on ropes can maintain up to 80-100% of the new rope average break strength, as such wherever possible, make use of splices constructed to safe specifications, and qualified personnel should perform splicing at all times. If knots are required on a rope, be aware that they can reduce the rope strength by up to 50%; therefore be sure to select the exact knot for the job.

STORAGE OF ROPE:

To maximise their safe working lives, all fibre optic, as well as synthetic ropes, should be stored long term in a cool, dry place. Braided ropes can be flaked or coiled in bags or boxes if necessary, and 3 strand ropes should be coiled or spooled up.