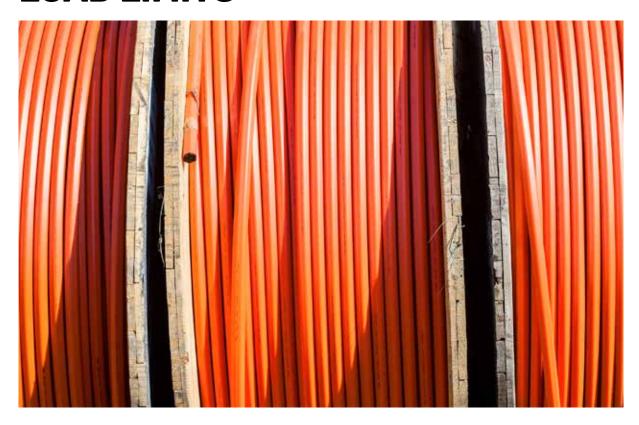


No. 5 22 June 2000

## OH&S SAFETY ALERT

## **WORKING LOAD LIMITS**



## In a number of recent incidents, wrong assumptions about loading of equipment have resulted in workplace accidents.

As a result, a recent meeting of OH&S Representatives have unanimously supported the following requirements for load shifting equipment.

- 1. That the load that is intended to be lifted, has its weight marked on the load (eg cable drums, large switchboards). If the weight is not marked, then it should not be accepted at the workplace.
- 2. That all load shifting equipment has been designed and manufactured to the relevant Australian Standard.

- 3. That a working load (either SWL-safe working load, or WLL-working load limits) be permanently displayed on any equipment used to support loads. This would include such things as cable stands/jacks and associated bars.
- 4. The weight must not exceed the SWL/ WLL for the load bearing equipment. If it is exceeded, the it is not to be lifted.
- 5. That load shifting equipment is regularly inspected, (as per manufacturer requirements by a competent person) and a readily accessible log kept of such inspection.