

# RES Inspection Services

CERTIFIED PLANT INSPECTIONS OF LIFTS, ESCALATORS, VEHICLE HOISTS, ELEVATED WORK  
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## Vehicle Hoists

The following document outlines the requirements for vehicle hoists as defined in AS/NZS 1418.9 - 1996, AS/NZS 2550.9 - 1996 and NT WorkSafe OH&S Regulations - Safety requirements for the operation, maintenance and inspection of vehicle hoists.

### **Operation of Hoists**

1. Owners of the hoist must ensure that operators of vehicle hoists are instructed in the safe use and operation of the hoist using the manufacturers and / or the **competent** persons provided instructions.
2. Operators shall use all the applicable safety features provided on the vehicle hoist and operate the hoist in accordance with the instruction decals located on the vehicle hoist.
3. Operators shall be responsible for maintaining the cleanliness and orderliness of the vehicle hoist and its surroundings so that the hoist can be safely operated.
4. Operators shall conduct inspections of the hoist prior to use. (see inspection check sheet)
5. Operators shall become familiar with the vehicle manufacturer's recommended lifting points as described in the manufacturer's manual. Operators should notify their supervisor if there are questions regarding the lifting points.
6. Operators are required to report any unsafe or changed operating conditions observed before, during or after operation of the hoist. The hoist must be locked and / or tagged out of service until the problem has been determined and qualified vehicle hoist service personnel have made appropriate inspections or repairs.
7. Persons shall not ride on the vehicle hoist unless:
  - (i) They are fully seated in the vehicle and the work cannot be carried out without the person seated in the elevated vehicle.
  - (ii) The hoist is raised to the minimum height necessary to perform the work.
8. Any accessories used by the operator of a vehicle hoist must be engineered to comply with AS/NZS 1418.9 – 1996 and the manufacturer's approval. (eg: no blocks of wood or self-made devices for extra lifting height)

9. The motion of the hoist **is not** to be used for the removal or fitting of motors, gearboxes or any other components to or from the vehicle.

Pre operational assessment - Before attempting to lift a vehicle an assessment of all relevant factors shall be made, including;

- (i) Safe working load of the hoist.
- (ii) The total mass distribution of the vehicle, taking into account additional items such as extra fuel tanks, bull bars, winches, tool boxes and the likes.
- (iii) The centre of gravity of the vehicle, including loads such as motors, gearboxes and other heavy components which are removed or added to the vehicle – this is especially important for 2 post vehicle hoists.

### **Maintenance of hoists**

1. Preventative maintenance procedure – owners shall establish a periodic preventative maintenance procedure in accordance with the recommendations of the vehicle hoist manufacturer, or no more than 3 months apart in accordance to AS 2550.9.
2. Preventative maintenance personnel qualifications – vehicle hoist maintenance technicians shall meet the qualifications of a **competent** person as defined in the NT WorkSafe Regulations, and have in place an appropriate safe working procedures pertaining to the work to be carried out.
3. Preventative maintenance frequency – preventative maintenance shall be in accordance to the recommendations of the vehicle hoist manufacturer, also due to the environment or location of the hoist - a competent person may instruct further maintenance to be applied to the hoist.

### **Certification Inspection**

1. Selection of a competent person - The owner of the vehicle hoist is responsible for the selection of a **competent** person to inspect their vehicle hoist. A **competent** person shall as a minimum have the following qualifications:
  - a) knowledge of personal safety practices necessary to perform routine and periodic inspections;
  - b) familiarity with industry terminology;
  - c) ability to read and understand manuals, drawings and parts lists;

- d) knowledge of purpose and function of all components, devices and accessories commonly employed on vehicle hoists;
  - e) working knowledge of electrical and electronic control circuit principles as applied to the operation of pumps, motors, valves and switches;
  - f) working knowledge of mechanical principles as applied to structures, machines, mechanisms and the effects of traction on ropes, chains, sheaves and screws;
  - g) working knowledge of hydraulic principles as applied to the operation of valves, pumps, cylinders and piping;
  - h) working knowledge of pneumatic principles as applied to the operation of valves, compressors, cylinders, pressure vessels and piping;
  - i) knowledge of the many and varied types and styles of vehicle hoists, their uses, and any limitations or restricted applications.
2. Documentation - A record of each inspection shall be provided to the owner, noting all observations and findings.
3. Frequency – Owners shall follow the recommendations of the manufacturer, Australian Standards and Local Statutory Regulations as to frequency. As a minimum, certification inspections must be performed and documented at least **annually**.

Note - The points listed above summarise and interpret documentation from AS/NZS 1418.9 – 1996, AS/NZS 2550.9 – 1996 and NT WorkSafe OH&S Regulations relevant to the operation, maintenance and inspection of vehicle hoists, full versions of the documents should be obtained for any further clarification.

The inspection is not intended as a guarantee against failure or malfunction. Its purpose is to verify that the vehicle hoist has been maintained in a reasonable and safe manner to assist in the safe operation of the vehicle hoist and to call attention to repairs that may be needed to correct existing or potential malfunctions where such can be determined by visual and ordinary examination methods. No liability for the use, operation, management or control of the inspected vehicle hoist is assumed by the inspector or the inspector's company.

### **Repairs**

Repairs should only be conducted by **competent** service technicians.

### **Modifications**

There shall be no modifications or reconstruction made to any vehicle hoist without the express written permission of the manufacturer and subsequently inspected by a **competent** person.

## Operator Pre Operational Inspection Checklist

Operator: Review all items prior to use of the vehicle hoist, tick the pass / fail boxes or place N/A if that item is not relevant to the hoist. Make comments where necessary.

No.	Item	PASS	FAIL	Comments
1	Hoist foundations and footings, including the hold down bolts and any cracking or loose concrete			
2	Any structural damage or rust of the hoist components and fittings, including the electrical supply			
3	The hoist is clear of any slip hazards, obstructions, housekeeping			
4	Instruction decals and rated load capacities are displayed and legible			
5	Lifting cables, chains or screw condition, including lubrication, their sheaves, fittings and covers			
6	Operation of the vehicle hoist safety and locking devices.			
7	Condition of hydraulic and pneumatic hoses, including any oil or air leaks and oil levels			
8	Damage or excessive wear on any of the lifting points which engage the vehicle during lifting			
9	Hoist lifting arms or runways, including lifting jacks, beams, entry ramps, end stops and arm locks			
10	lifting and lowering of the hoist, including stopping limits and any noises or excessive movement			

Hoist Make/ model:

Serial number:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Operator Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Supervisor Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date