

Positioning Conductor Reels on the Pay-Off Stand

Reels must be positioned in accordance with a dedicated operating procedure. The operation must be treated as critical whenever the reel weight, lifting height, equipment reach or nearby obstacles reduce stability or manoeuvring margins.

Before lifting, verify:

- the reel's actual weight, dimensions and lifting points;
- the telehandler load chart and planned configuration;
- the capacity, condition and compatibility of all lifting accessories.

The lift must not proceed unless the selected configuration provides an adequate safety margin against the equipment's rated capacity.

A clearly marked and controlled exclusion zone must be established. Access is limited to the equipment operator, one designated banksman and the rigger. Communication methods and signals must be agreed before work begins.

The reel must be secured using certified, undamaged and suitable lifting accessories. Improvised, damaged or uncertified equipment is prohibited. A low-level trial lift must be performed to confirm load balance, sling stability and the absence of problems with the machine or supporting surface.

During handling, the reel must be kept as low as practicable and moved slowly, without sudden acceleration, braking, swinging or uncontrolled rotation. Tag lines should be used when necessary, with personnel remaining outside the load path and away from crushing or trapping areas.

Standing or walking beneath a suspended load is strictly prohibited. Personnel must never position themselves between the reel and the pay-off stand, adjacent reels or any fixed object that could create crushing, trapping or shearing hazards.

The telehandler must be aligned with the pay-off stand before final placement, limiting adjustments while the load is suspended. Hands must not be used to guide the reel near supports, shafts or seating points. Final adjustments must be carried out using suitable tools, guide bars or equivalent systems.

The load may be released only after confirming:

- correct positioning of the reel;
- full insertion of the shaft;
- installation of all locking devices;
- overall stability of the assembly.

Slings may be removed only after the load has been fully transferred to the pay-off stand.

Work must be stopped in the event of strong wind, poor visibility, rain, slippery ground, unstable steel plates or any other condition that could affect equipment stability, load control or personnel safety.



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