Inspection, testing, and maintenance instructions for MDS breaker lifting yokes

Follow the manufacturer’s instructions. Review all warnings and labels that are on the MDS breaker lifting yoke.

Follow applicable industry standards; specifically, the current version of ASME B30.20, titled: Below-the Hook Lifting Devices. Section 20-1.2.3 of the 2010 version is titled: Inspection, Testing, and Maintenance. This section applies to the MDS breaker lifting yoke.

**WARNING**

THE FAILURE TO INSPECT, TEST, AND MAINTAIN THE MDS BREAKER LIFTING YOKE CONSISTENT WITH THE MANUFACTURER’S INSTRUCTIONS MAY RESULT IN DEATH, SERIOUS BODILY HARM, AND PROPERTY DAMAGE.

**CAUTION**

REVIEW ALL WARNINGS AND LABELS THAT ARE ON THE MDS BREAKER LIFTING YOKE.

**WARNING**

DO NOT USE OR OPERATE A LIFTING YOKE IF THERE IS ANY SIGN OR INDICATION OF DAMAGE. THE USE OF A LIFTING YOKE THAT SHOWS SIGNS OF DAMAGE MAY RESULT IN DEATH, SERIOUS BODILY INJURY, AND PROPERTY DAMAGE.

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**Instructions for inspection**

Inspections of the lifting yoke must be conducted by a designated, qualified person. Inspection records should be maintained.

**Initial inspection**

New and reinstalled lifting yokes must be inspected prior to initial use.

**Every lift inspection**

Visual examination must be conducted by the operator before and during each use of the lifting yoke. The operator must check for any indication of damage.

**Frequent inspection**

Frequent global inspections of the lifting yoke must be conducted at least monthly. However, for heavy service, inspections should be conducted weekly to monthly, and for severe service, inspections should be conducted daily to weekly.

Visually inspect for material deformation of the lifting yoke, bent lift latches, missing or bent shackle, damaged balancing bracket, missing or bent assembly hardware and other components, and excessive wear. Cracks in material, material deformation, or missing components require that the lifting yoke be tagged “out of service” until repairs are completed and the lifting yoke is re-inspected and tested, or a new lifting yoke is obtained from the supplier. Any repairs to the lifting yoke must be made using replacement parts from the supplier, or parts that are equivalent to the original manufacturer’s specifications.
Periodic inspection

Periodic global inspections of the lifting yoke must be performed by a qualified person making records of the external condition to provide the basis for continuing evaluation. Periodic inspections must be conducted at least annually. However, for heavy service, periodic inspections should be conducted at least semi-annually, and for severe service, periodic inspections should be conducted at least quarterly. The periodic inspection must, at a minimum, note whether there is any material deformation of the lifting yoke, bent breaker lift latches, missing or bent shackle, damaged balancing bracket, missing or bent assembly hardware or other components, and excessive wear. Any deficiencies that are noted during the inspection must be examined and a determination must be made whether they constitute a hazard.

Testing

New and reinstalled lifting yokes must be tested by a qualified person prior to initial use.

**WARNING**

FAILURE TO TEST THE LIFTING YOKE MAY RESULT IN DEATH, SERIOUS BODILY INJURY, AND PROPERTY DAMAGE. DO NOT USE OR OPERATE ANY LIFTING YOKE THAT IS NOT TESTED.

Maintenance

Before performing any maintenance on the lifting yoke, all sources of power must be disconnected, locked out, and tagged “Out of Service.” Only qualified persons shall perform maintenance, adjustments, and tests. Replacement parts shall be at least equal to the original manufacturer’s equipment. Any hazardous conditions identified must be corrected before normal operations are resumed. Moving parts do not require oil, but keeping the lifting yoke clean of dirt and debris will help ensure proper and safe operation.

**WARNING**

FAILURE TO PROPERLY MAINTAIN THE LIFTING YOKE MAY RESULT IN DEATH, SERIOUS BODILY INJURY, AND PROPERTY DAMAGE. DO NOT USE OR OPERATE ANY LIFTING YOKE THAT IS NOT PROPERLY MAINTAINED.

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![Figure 1. Typical lifting yoke assembly](image)