

NR/L2/ELP/27238/APP-L

Winches

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Appendix L Winches

L.1 Purpose and scope

This Specification applies to all manual and power operated winches and covers Certification, Commissioning, Transfer, Maintenance and Operation, excluding those on road vehicles which are covered by [CP-PM-41](#).

L.2 Legislation

Any winch, shall as a minimum comply with the Factories Act 1961 Section 27. All such parts and gear shall be thoroughly examined by a competent person at least once in every period of fourteen months. The site, or working conditions may render it subject to other legislation.

Every part of the frame work of every winch including its bearers shall be of metal.

Any anchorage provided in connection with a winch shall be adequate and secure.

Health and Safety at Work Act applies.

Where ropes or chains and associated attachments are fitted, then these shall be subject to a thorough examination at intervals not exceeding 6 months, to comply with the Factories Act 1961 Section 26. No variation from this periodicity can be allowed unless special exemption has been reached such as in the case of high mast winching mechanisms. Wire ropes shall comply with British Standard B.S.302, unless otherwise stated in the manufacturers Specification. The factor of safety for wire ropes shall not be less than 5:1.

Safety

When selecting a winch as fit for purpose particular attention shall be paid to all aspects of the following:

- a) Provision of adequate guarding of mechanisms.
- b) Protection of Operator from environmental dangers.
- c) Safe electrical installation and protection where applicable.
- d) Provision of Emergency stop.
- e) Security of fixings.
- f) Provision of audible warning for indicating impending operation/movement of the winch.
- g) Training of staff.
- h) Maintenance Standards.
- i) Neglect of attention which can cause potentially hazardous situations.
- j) If a winch, rope, chain or attachments becomes overdue for Statutory Examination they shall be withdrawn from service immediately.