



What you need to know

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Introduction

Lloyds British Testing Ltd has produced a comprehensive handy guide to the Lifting Operation and Lifting Equipment Regulations (LOLER) and the Provision and Use of Work Equipment Regulations (PUWER)

Lloyds British are dedicated to providing all your lifting requirements, putting health and safety first

We would be pleased to provide you with full training courses on the regulations

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What is Power?

PUWER – what does the employer need to ensure?

- 1) The work equipment you provide must be suitable for the job it is intended.
- 2) You need to consider the Health and Safety of personnel, the working environment, and the way the work equipment is to be used.
- 3) Equipment must be maintained and a record of its maintenance kept up-to-date.
- 4) Equipment should undergo inspections on a regular basis (reference LOLER).
- 5) Inspection/Examination records must be maintained (reference LOLER).
- 6) Personnel using equipment must have essential information as to its use. (Guides to Safe Use & Operating Manuals) etc provided.
- 7) You must ensure personnel who use the equipment are suitably trained and competent.
- 8) The work equipment used needs to be designed and conforms with specific EC Directives i.e. appropriately marked and safe for use e.g. CE. The supply of Machinery (Safety) Regulations 1992 (revised 2005)
- 9) Dangerous parts must be suitably guarded, where necessary.
- 10) Assessments of the Risks involved with the use of the work equipment should have been completed.
- 11) Where hazards exist the work equipment must be suitable for the task.
- 12) Mobile work equipment is stable and cannot be overturned.

What is Puwer?

PUWER is:	The provision and Use of Work Equipment Regulations.
Effective from:	5 December 1998 (originally implemented 1992).
Applicable to:	Every area of industry within Great Britain including Offshore Installations.
To include:	Current, second hand, leased and new equipment across all areas of industry.

Definition of terms

Work Equipment:	Any machine, appliance, apparatus or tool and any construction of components which, in order to achieve a common end function as a whole.
PUWER:	Will implement the non-lifting requirements of the Work Equipment Directive.
NOTE:	All hired or leased equipment must fall in line with the regulations as from the 5.12.98.

So what's new?

PUWER provides a change in emphasis from prescriptive to a goal setting approach, relying on management, planning and competence to achieve safe operations

There are four main areas to consider: -

People	Regulation 6,7,8,9,13,25
Equipment	Regulations 4,5,20,21,22,23,28,30
Controls	Regulations 14,15,16,17,18, 29
Protection	Regulations 11,12,13,19, 26, 27

What is Loler?

- LOLER:** The Lifting Operations Lifting Equipment Regulations.
- Issued:** 5 December 1998.
- Who does it effect:** All areas of industry within Great Britain including Offshore Installations.
- Equipment included:** Existing, second hand, leased and new equipment.

Definition of terms:

- Lifting Equipment:** Means work equipment for lifting or lowering loads and includes its attachments used for anchoring, fixing or supporting it.
- Lifting Operation:** Means an operation related to the lifting or lowering of a load. A load in this context also includes people.
- Lifting Accessory:** Accessories for lifting include a single item (such as a shackle) or an assembly of items (such as lifting beam and sling), which may be used to secure the load to the piece of lifting equipment. Other examples are slings, eyebolts, swivels, clamps and lifting magnets.
- NOTE:** The regulations do not define but give examples of 'lifting equipment'. However typical examples are Cranes, Chain Blocks, Fork Trucks, and Access Platforms etc.

What is Loler?

- Equipment Marking:** Items must be distinctly marked with a unique identification number and the Safe Working Load (SWL)/Working Load Limit (WLL).
- Inspection Criteria:**
- (i) LOLER insists that all employers must have lifting equipment examined when it is first put into service.
 - (ii) Where the safety of the equipment depends upon the installation conditions: After installation and before being put into use for the first time and after reassembly at a new site or in a new location.
 - (iii) During its exposure to conditions which cause deterioration.
- Inspection Frequency**
- (i) In the case of
Lifting equipment used for lifting persons or accessories for lifting
Every six months
 - (ii) In the case of other lifting equipment at least every 12 months
 - (iii) In either case at a specified time (longer or shorter than 6 / 12 months) between the competent person and the duty holder (owner of equipment) within a written scheme and subject to re-assessment if the situation of use changes. Lifting equipment - **Annually**
- NOTE:** Where the SWL/WLL varies, dependent on the configuration, then it must be marked to indicate its SWL/WLL at each configuration.

What is Loler?

LOLER calls for employers to guarantee that:

- 1) Lifting equipment is of adequate strength and stability for each load particularly when stress may be induced at mounting or fixing points.
- 2) A load including anything attached to it and used in lifting is of adequate strength.
- 3) Every lifting operation is properly planned by a competent person
- 4) It is appropriately supervised and above all safe.

LOLER - what duties are placed on the user of the equipment?

- 1) Ascertain the centre of gravity and to arrange each lifting operation.
- 2) Identify the weight of the loads to be lifted.
- 3) Only use the correct rated equipment for the lift(s).
- 4) For routine daily lifts e.g. Fork lift trucks there must be Generic Risk Assessments and Method Statements in place.

NOTE: The operators involved with the lift or any other task are responsible for the preparation of the Risk Assessment and Method Statement (Management of Health & Safety Regulations 1999).

What is Loler?

When is the equipment inspected or thoroughly examined?

- i) The user should have enough knowledge to examine the equipment being used for obvious defect each time it is used.
- ii) The competent person undertakes a thorough examination within the 6 / 12 month period or as set out within the written scheme.
- iii) Thorough examinations are also required following any significant changes in use such as:-
 - a. involvement in an accident or incident
 - b. any significant change in conditions
 - c. following long periods out of use

NOTE. Certain types of thorough examinations may require access to internal workings of the equipment.

Competent Person

Competent Person

The person(s) undertaking a thorough examination must be **COMPETENT**. A competent person is someone who has received appropriate academic and practical knowledge and has sufficient experience to enable them to discover imperfections or weaknesses in the equipment. This is likely to be a combination of experience, training and appropriate qualifications.

Testing

Proof load testing:

Any relevant information provided by the manufacturer on such items is subject to the interpretation of the **Competent Person(s)** and must be taken account of. A Proof Load must not be applied without reference to the manufacturer or relevant British Standard.

NB: In the case of a reference to a standard and the standard calls for proof load then it must be applied.

As the need for a test now lies with the **Competent Person** they must be happy with the Documentation provided and/or the condition of the equipment whilst being examined prior to the test being carried out. The testing criteria also applies to accessories as well as lifting machines.

The **Competent Person** must also assess Installation and re-configuration of equipment. A thorough examination must be completed to ensure the equipment has sufficient strength and stability for the use it is intended for.

NOTE: If the **Competent Person** thinks a Proof Load Test necessary it must be done in accordance with the legal overload stated by the manufacturer or within the relevant British Standard.

- In the absence of such information the following guidelines are recommended.
- Lifting machines must be light load tested to 5% of the SWL/WLL.
- Equipment must be tested up to the rated SWL/WLL
- Any overload testing thought necessary must be applied in increments of 5% until the required proof load is reached (or if outside a standard or manufacturers recommendation up to a maximum of SWL + 10%).

Documentation

In order to undertake the thorough examinations the **Competent Person(s)** must have sight of either:-

- i) the Declaration of Conformity or,
- ii) the Original Test Certificate or,
- iii) the last Thorough Examination report

If paperwork is not in existence it is the responsibility of the **Competent Person** to set out suitable action, i.e. it is the Competent Person(s) final decision if a test is required or not, or if a thorough examination may be sufficient.

KEEPING RECORDS

Declaration of Conformity:

Birth certificate of the equipment should remain on file for the life of the equipment – introduced with the supply of Machinery Regulations 1992 (revised 2005).

Original Test Certificate

Should be kept on file for the lifetime of the equipment unless more recent tests have been undertaken.

Thorough Examinations: Lifting Accessories – two years after the report was first made.

Lifting Equipment (In normal use) until the next report is made or two years have elapsed, whichever is the latest.

NOTE: Should assembled lifting equipment be relocated and reassembled, an examination will be required. This would possibly involve a test subject to the **Competent Person(s)** inspection.

Reporting of Defects

The Competent Person must:-

- i) Advise an employer immediately if a severe defect is found. This should be put in writing and contain relevant information about the faulty equipment: this should also include equipment on hire if inspected by the **Competent Person**. Reports made must also be copied to the owner of the hire equipment.
- ii) Within a 28 day timetable (or as soon as practical) a copy of the defect reports should be sent to the relevant enforcing authority .
- iii) The equipment must not be used until the defect has been rectified and re-examined. This must be enforced by the employer.

NOTE: The notification to the relevant enforcing authority is limited to cases where there would be a risk of **SERIOUS** personal injury arising from failure of the equipment should anyone attempt to use it.

- iv) All defects are to be reported immediately to the owner(s) of the equipment, by the **Competent Person(s)**, so that appropriate action can be taken.

Information to be contained in a thorough examination report

- 1) Name and address of employer for whom the examination was made.
- 2) Premises address where the examination was undertaken.
- 3) Identification marks or number of the equipment examined.
- 4) Date of the last thorough examination.
- 5) The rated capacity of the equipment i.e. SWL or WLL.
- 6) The date of the next Thorough Examination in accordance with the interval period i.e. 6 month, 12 month or at the prescribed period agreed in the Written Scheme.
- 7) Any parts that are found to be defective or in need of attention.
- 8) Details of test required or undertaken.
- 9) Name of competent person making the report and address of their employers.
- 10) Report date.

Information can be stored in the following formats:-

- 1) Hard paper copy
- 2) Computer Disk that is “read-only” but can be reproduced if required.

NB: All information relating to the equipment being inspected should be held where the equipment is being used. If this is not practical the Competent Person must view relevant paperwork before leaving the site, following possible examination and/or test.

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