

USE OF MASTING DERRICK

POSITION HOOK OVER CENTRE LINE.

This derrick cannot jib-up or down so it is necessary to move the boat so that the crane hook falls on the centre line of the boat at the mast step .If this basic requirement is neglected it will result in the upper part of the mast being pulled to one side once the hook nears the sheave at the top of the jib. This will make it difficult to connect or, to a lesser degree, disconnect standing rigging as the mast will not be hanging vertically.

POSITION HOOK ABOVE THE MAST'S CENTRE OF GRAVITY.

Failure to attach the hook above the mast's balance point will result in a top-heavy lift which will increase as the mast is brought into the horizontal. This is particularly dangerous as an inexperienced person may very easily misjudge the degree of imbalance he might hope to counter by holding onto the mast foot & an accident can happen. It must be understood that the spreaders of a mast are not situated on or above it's balance-point in all cases; in the instance of 7/8 or 3/4 rigs the spreaders will be set well below the centre of gravity. Make sure that you understand this before unstepping a mast.

DO NOT TRY TO LOWER A MAST WHILST IT'S FOOT IS SECURED IN A TABERNACLE

There is no advantage to be gained by not disconnecting the foot of the mast. The derrick wire must hang vertically at all times lowering a mast in a tabernacle means that it must be pulled out at an angle sideways which can lead to all kinds of problems as everything is trying to return to the vertical.

USE THE JIB'S GUY ROPES (WANGS)

After swinging the jib into position over the boat be sure to secure it in place with a guy rope on either side; there are cleats provided for this on the staircase and opposite on the wall

KEEP OUT FROM UNDER.

Basic common sense dictates that you do not stand directly under anything that is being lifted, however secure you may think it to be.

USE ONLY SOUND LIFT ROPES AND STROPS.

Be sure to use only sound rope or strops for lifting: the down-rope should be well secured to a cleat or the gooseneck fitting.

PREPARATION.

Much time will be saved (your own and the people who are helping you) if you spend a while before going under the derrick: removing sails and boom, through-deck electrics, easing off rigging screws making sure their threads are free and any split-pins have been straightened and are easily removed; apply easing oil to any mast-heel bolts.

DO NOT OVERLOAD.

This derrick has been tested and designated a Safe Working Load of "200 lbs."(90 Kilos.) This is about the weight of two bags of cement .It is unlikely that the mast of any boat we are going to handle will weigh this much. However, please behave responsibly. Don't try lifting out engines (outboards excepted) as we have the use of an A-frame and a 1 ton. chain-block to achieve this

LEAVE ALL SECURE.

Please be sure to leave the derrick crane secure after use with the hook hooked under the winch frame, the handle removed to it's storage bin and the cover over the winch to keep out the wet. The guy ropes to be coiled-up and secured with the jib by chain and padlock to the hand-rail of the fire escape. This should keep all in safe working order and prevent any small boys playing Tarzan or worse, public Hangman.

Management team November 2000.

Amended March 2006 from the original by Ted Reddish Nov. 2000.

Reviewed by Lifting Group Chairman February 2024.