

# Regular inspections of overhead lifts

Under the Occupational Health and Safety Regulation, employers must carry out inspections of overhead lifts.

In addition to annual inspections, regular inspections (for example, on a daily and monthly basis) are part of maintaining a healthy and safe work environment.

When inspecting overhead lifts, examples of things to confirm include the following:

- The motor moves smoothly along tracks or rails.
- The motor housing is labelled with the motor's rated capacity and is free of damage.
- Tracks or rails are labelled with their rated capacity. The rated capacity of the motor must not be higher than that of the tracks or rails.
- Stoppers are present at the ends of tracks or rails.
- Tracks or rails are free of damage, rust, cracks, dents, or bending.
- Lifting straps are free of damage and excessive wear (e.g., tears, fraying, and loose stitching).
- Spreader bar clips and latches are present, intact, and working properly.

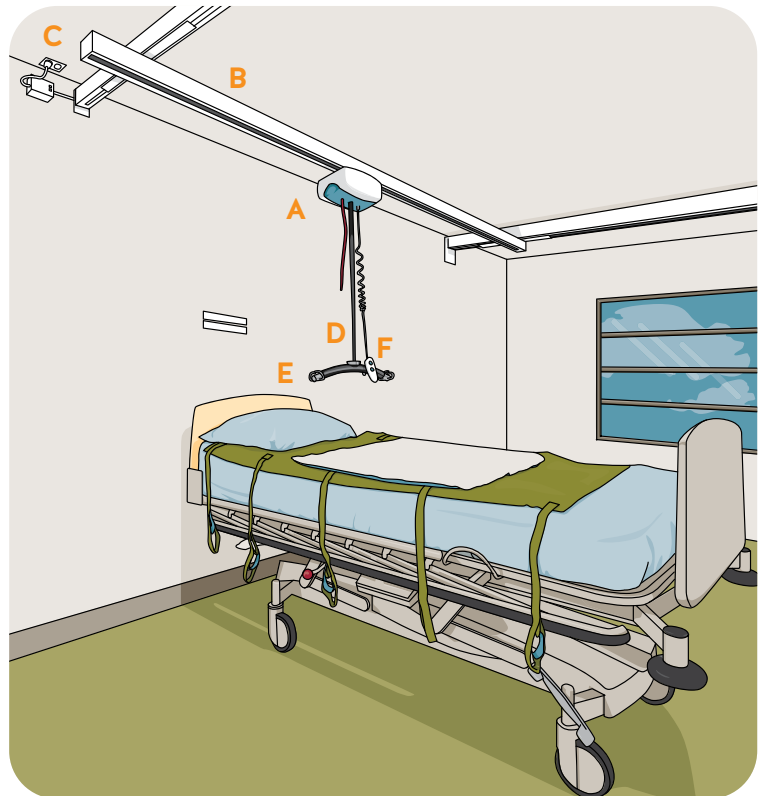
In addition, confirm the following:

- Emergency lowering works properly.
- Hand controls are labelled, working correctly, and free of damage.
- All parts are present, working properly, and in good condition.
- The lift is labelled with the manufacturer's name, the model, and the serial number.
- Equipment manuals are easily available to workers.
- Slings are inspected as per the manufacturer's instructions.

The points above are meant as a starting point for employers to develop their own custom checklists for conducting regular inspections of their overhead lifts. The employer must follow procedures for conducting inspections as set out by the manufacturer or a professional engineer. You should consult with the lift manufacturer and/or your service provider as you develop your checklist.

A lift must not be used until any hazards it presents have been corrected.

For related information and resources, visit our [Patient handling](#) webpage.



Key parts of an overhead lift. (A) Motor. (B) Track or rail. (C) Stopper. (D) Lifting strap. (E) Spreader bar. (F) Controls.

## Regulation requirements

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The most relevant sections of the Regulation for inspecting overhead lifts are as follows:

- Part 4, General Conditions, [Section 4.3, Safe machinery and equipment](#)
- Part 14, Cranes and Hoists
  - [Section 14.2\(1\) and \(14\), Standards](#)
  - [Section 14.3\(1\), Identification](#)
  - [Section 14.5\(1\), Rated capacity indication](#)
  - [Section 14.11\(1\), Support structure](#)
  - [Section 14.12, Manual and instructions](#)
  - [Section 14.13\(1\) and \(2\), Inspection, maintenance and repair](#)
  - [Section 14.15\(1\), Modifications](#)
  - [Section 14.28\(1\), Controls](#)

## Applicable standards

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For more information and guidance on developing inspection checklists, refer to the following CSA standards:

- CSA Z10535.2, Lifts for the transfer of persons — Installation, use, and maintenance
- CSA Standard CAN/CSA Z10535-03, Hoists for the transfer of disabled persons — requirements and test methods