



Oregon
Theodore R. Kulongoski, Governor

Department of Consumer and Business Services
Oregon Occupational Safety & Health Division (OR-OSHA)
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July 3, 1997

Reviewed: January 23, 2008

Ed Albers, Vice President Sales & Marketing
GTS
12725 SW 66th. Ave., Suite 104
Portland, Oregon 97223

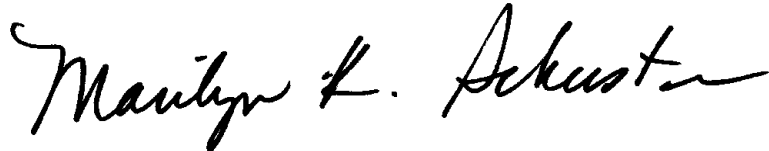
Dear Mr. Albers:

Thank you for inviting me to Portland on June 16, 1997 to examine and comment on the hoisting device that your company has interest in. As I told you on the day of my visit, I certainly agree that there is a need for a device such as the one that I looked at. I have some concerns, though, which I have listed, about the safety of the hoisting device as it is presently designed.

1. The ladder to which the hoisting device was attached had a 250 pounds maximum rated load capacity. The hoisting device weighed approximately 63 pounds. The intended load will weigh approximately 120 pounds. That leaves approximately only 67 pounds of unused weight capacity. That means that only workers who weigh less than 67 pounds will be able to climb and work from the ladder. Solutions might include written permission from the ladder manufacturer to exceed the rated load capacity, or the use of a ladder with more and adequate load capacity.
2. The use of a ladder as part of a lifting device does not comply with this OR-OSHA standard unless written permission for such use is received from the manufacturer. 437-002-0026(7) prohibits the use of ladders as gin poles or for other than their intended purposes.
3. Two rungs near the lower end of the ladder are partially blocked by the attachment of the winch. This creates a hazard for anyone attempting to climb the ladder.
4. The ladder needs to be secured against tipping.
5. The person on the ground who operates the winch needs to wear protective eye wear, a hard hat, protective clothing and gloves to protect against glass breakage should the suction cups fail and the load drops.
6. The use of the suction cups as part of the spreader bar assembly should be approved by the manufacturer for that purpose.

I hope that my evaluation and comments will assist you in the development of a safe, and useful piece of equipment. For further information please contact the technical section at 378-3272. You are also invited to see the OR-OSHA pages on the Internet at www.orosha.org .

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Maitlyn K. Ackerson". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'M' and a long, sweeping tail on the 'n'.

Mike Mitchell, Occupational Safety Specialist
Standards & Technical Resources Section
Oregon Occupational Safety & Health Division