

Soft Sling fatalities

In August 2013 fatalities in South Australia and Victoria, and numerous incidents nationally, highlighted the need to restrict the use of soft sling products.

Health and Safety Representatives had expressed their concern that the required manufacturers recommendation on the safe use of round slings was not being adhered to.

Evidence of external wear such as abrasion or cuts and contusions, internal wear which is often indicated by a thickening of the sling, damage by high temperatures, sunlight or chemicals indicated by discoloration, damage to the label and/or stitching are common failures with round slings.

Due to the HIGH RISK WORK in which these slings are used, their misuse and the potential of death should these slings fail, the CFMEU was left with no alternative but to initiate a state-wide alert on round slings.

These slings have been identified as the most abused



Purple	1 tonne
Green	2 tonne
Yellow	3 tonne
Grey	4 tonne
Red	5 tonne

State-wide alert on round slings

The CFMEU recommends that round slings be removed from service and replaced with alternative products such as Superflex wire rope which is light weight, they are also the ultimate in long life and gripping power, and easy to clean and store.

Daily observations of Superflex slings can immediately identify potential faults with this product.

Superflex Wire Rope Slings



Examples of broken soft slings



CFMEU ORGANISERS:

Eddie Bland (Tower Cranes) 0403 482 436

Shaun Desmond (Mobile Cranes) 0411 727 759

CFMEU WH&S CO-ORDINATORS:

Andrew Ramsay 0400 544 430

Royce Kupsch 0411 636 414