Loaded Tanks

Loaded tank containers may ONLY be lifted by a TOP SPREADER attached either to a sidelifft truck, a gantry crane or container handling vehicle such as a straddle carrier.

Extreme caution must be exercised when handling loaded containers by a sidelifft truck fitted with a top lift attachment, as the change in the centre of gravity due to cargo surge may result in instability of the vehicle. The tank container should be moved when suspended at the lowest practical height.

Ullage

Transporting by Road, Rail and Sea Only vehicles constructed or specifically adapted for the carriage of ISO containers should be used. Excessive cargo surge can affect vehicle stability. The maximum ullage permitted for a given product is controlled by the appropriate regulations.

Empty Tanks

In addition to the handling techniques for loaded tanks, empty tank containers may be lifted by side connecting the two top corners, provided that the lower transverse support frame contact the bottom corner castings or the corner post.

Malpractice

On no account should a tank container be lifted by equipment contacting the tank shell, or any part of the frame other than the corner castings or corner post.

On no account should lifting forks or tines of a conventional forklift truck be used on any tank container. Contact between lifting equipment and the tank shell or its insulation may result in serious damage to the tank and the escape of cargo.

Road, Rail and Ship

For certain dangerous liquids definitive filling limits are specified. These rates are 97%, 95% or 90% according to the classification of the cargo or its vapour pressure, or whether the cargo is heated in transit. Up to a maximum 20% ullage is normally observed for non-classified products.

While ISO standards do not permit containers to be lifted by angled slings from the top corner castings, most Tankspan tanks are designed and tested to be lifted from both the top and bottom corner castings. When lifting from the top castings the angle of the slings should not be less than 50 degrees to the horizontal. When connecting to the bottom corner castings the slings must be not less than 45 degrees.

Care must be taken to ensure that the slings do not touch the tank during lifting. For safe and efficient handling of containers a properly designed spreader is always to be recommended.