



## Single-use or one-way slings: the supplier’s problem has become our problem

European Federation of Foundation Contractors

For organisational and economic reasons most deliveries to site are done by means of single-use slings. This means that suppliers no longer have to care about certificates and checks, which are often different from country to country.

But the supplier’s solution has become the receiver’s health and safety problem because, once unloaded, single-use slings:

- Stay on site as a potential risk;
- Have a lower safety factor than the “normal” ones (5:1 instead of 7:1);
- Stay outside in all types of weather conditions;
- Are not externally (by a notified body) or internally checked.

The EFFFC recommends that single-use slings should not be used: but when companies are unable to influence this, they should make an agreement with their own suppliers to take single-use slings back to their yard to be destroyed. However, this is not a total solution because single use slings are also used by other subcontractors and the main contractor and may therefore still be found on the site.

The internal policy of every company member of the EFFFC should include a clear and firm instruction to everyone on site, to destroy and dispose of these single-use slings once the delivery is unloaded. Our site operatives should never touch anything on a job site that does not belong to their own equipment and / or company.

It is the responsibility of everybody, from company management, to site management, to foremen and operatives, to check and to undertake corrective action where needed.

*Further information about Single-use slings see the Expert Committee Information Sheet 035 “Einweg-Hebebänder” published by the Expert Committee Woodworking and Metalworking at the DGUV (German Social Accident Insurance). A translation of which can be found at [www.effc.org](http://www.effc.org).*



..... **“NO WAY”** EFFFC