



## **FAQ G012 - Is the use of coloured tagging mandatory for indicating compliance with periodic inspection or thorough examination requirements under regulations?**

There is no statutory requirement within legislation, or applicable standards mandating the use of colour-coded tags for lifting equipment. Duty holders may adopt any system of indication—such as tagging, labelling, or digital tracking—provided it is unambiguous, clearly understood by relevant personnel, and supports compliance with the prescribed inspection and thorough examination intervals. The chosen method should ensure that equipment status is readily identifiable and that all inspections are conducted and documented under regulatory requirements.

Unlike painted markings, tagging systems offer a non-invasive method of status indication that can be easily removed and reapplied without compromising the integrity of the lifting equipment. Tags can be detached to allow full access for inspection and subsequently reattached to indicate compliance, thereby supporting both safety and efficiency without causing damage to the equipment.

Note: The use of tagging or other inspection indicators does not negate the requirement to perform routine pre-use, weekly or interim inspections.

Please note: The content of the guidance in these frequently asked questions is provided for general information only. Whilst they are intended to represent a standard of good practice, they have no legal status and compliance with them does not exempt you from compliance with any legal requirements. Although we make reasonable efforts to provide accurate guidance, we make no representations, warranties or guarantees, whether express or implied, that the content of the guidance given in these frequently asked questions and our interpretation of the requirements given is accurate, complete or up-to-date. It is therefore responsibility of those with specific duties under the legislation to ensure that they fulfil the obligations imposed on them.

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