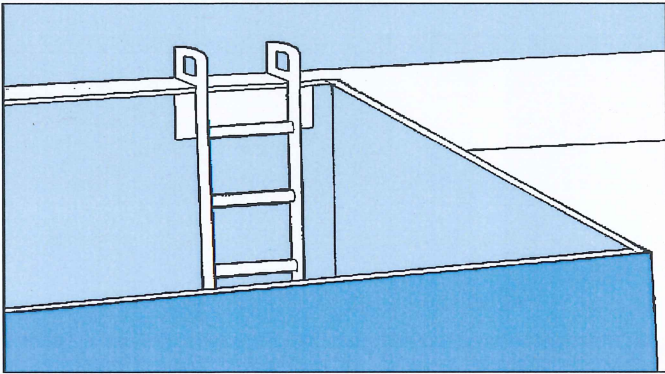


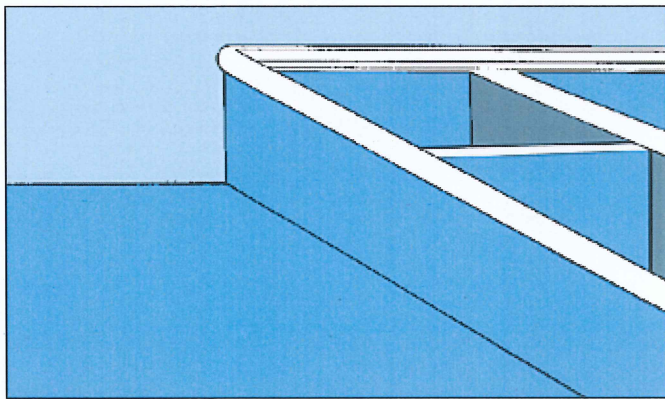
Packing

Fatigue is a major hazard for packer crew. Tight delivery schedules mean the crew often works long hours with few breaks. Because accidents are more likely when the crew is tired, plan crew rotations so everyone gets enough rest.

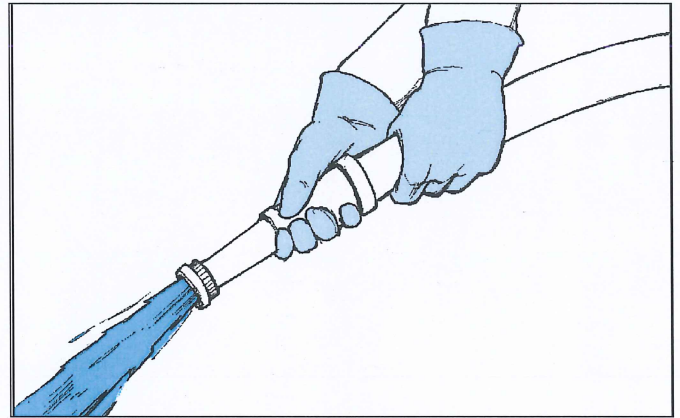
Safety steps and requirements for packing include the following:



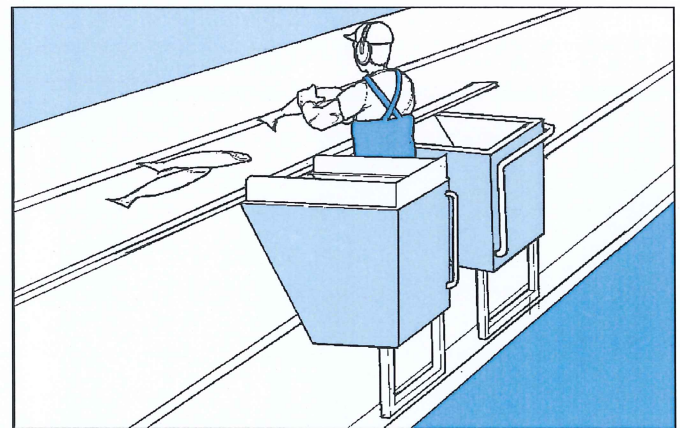
- For fish holds, use ladders that attach securely to the hold. If you need to use portable ladders, ensure they are tied off securely. Home-built ladders **must** comply with Part 13 of the Occupational Health and Safety Regulation.



- Be aware of open tanks. Cover tanks after delivering or unloading fish. Secure them in heavy weather to keep water from sloshing out of them. Water loss from the tanks can lead to free surface effect and related stability problems.



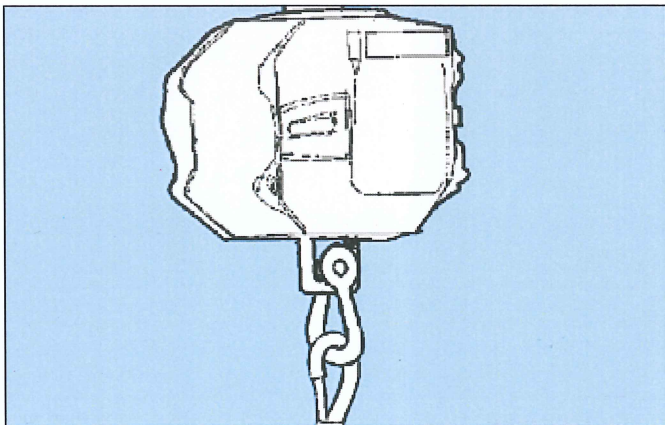
- Regularly hose down decks and other areas to remove fish slime. This will help reduce slips, trips, and falls.



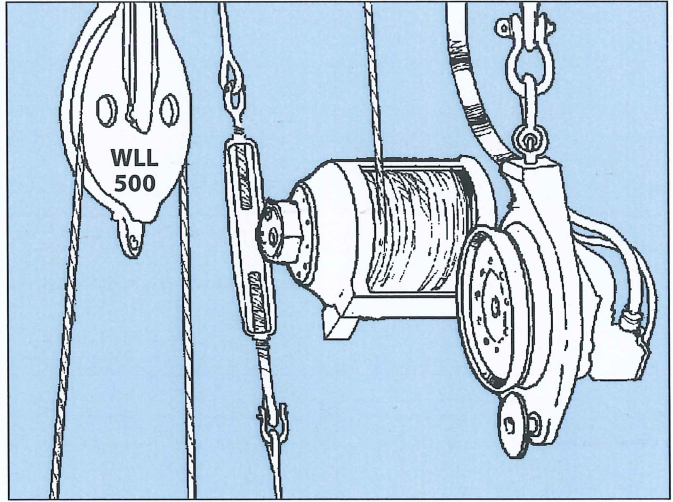
- Make sure all workers know grading table procedures. This is especially important for crew from other vessels who may help in grading.



- Develop safe work procedures for pitching fish. Good posture and efficient organization of work areas can help prevent back, neck, and arm strains, and other injuries caused by throwing and handling fish.



- Use a rated shackle or hook with a safety latch to attach the scale to the brailer. An open hook can slip, especially in heavy swells, causing the hook or the bag to hit crew members.



- Inspect all rigging gear. Chains, slings, hoists, turnbuckles, derricks, blocks, and anchor gear **must** be inspected prior to each use and kept in safe working order. Since chains are manufactured for different purposes, make sure the chain is designed for its intended use. Chains used for hoisting **must** be grade 80 or better.
- Keep a rigging inventory for maintenance and replacement purposes.
- Never exceed the working load limit—the amount of weight that your boom, rigging, shackles, blocks, and other equipment can handle safely. Lifting loads that weigh more than the rated capacity can cause equipment failure, which can lead to accidents and injury.

Rigging requirements are set out in Part 15 of the Occupational Health and Safety Regulation. In addition, see the information on hoists and rigging in the “Safety Procedures” tabbed section.

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- Keep stability documentation—describing the vessel's maximum load in various conditions—available on the vessel.

Other safety steps for packing include the following:

- When taking fish, load the vessel so that list is eliminated, and keep the vessel trimmed.
- After taking fish, secure the deck, and make sure hatch covers are in place and secured immediately after the hold is loaded. Securely stow gear, lines, and equipment.
- If fish are loaded on deck, make sure the load is secured and in compliance with stability documentation.
- It's good practice to lower the boom when underway.

- When towing barges or other vessels, display the correct lights and signals as required by Transport Canada's Collision Regulations.

Tips from fishermen:

- Check all the valves, hatches, strongbacks, rigging, and winch cables.
- Use the tanks in proper loading configurations to optimize stability.
- Make sure the boat crew and the vessel being offloaded are all communicating.
- Use standard hand signals.
- Don't overload the brailers or tubs.

