

Handling Wire Rope Correctly



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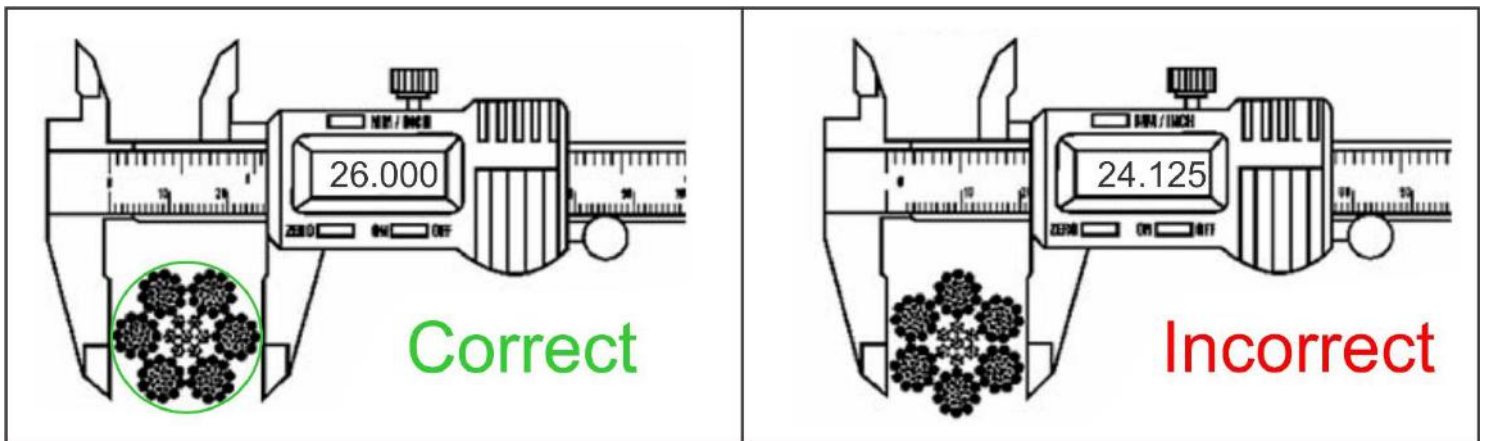
(07) 5589 9746

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It is very important that the correct sized wire rope is used on your Neumann Equipment winch. The diameter of the wire is generally specified for each winch application. Consult your Operation and Maintenance Manual that was provided with your winch or call our helpful staff for assistance.

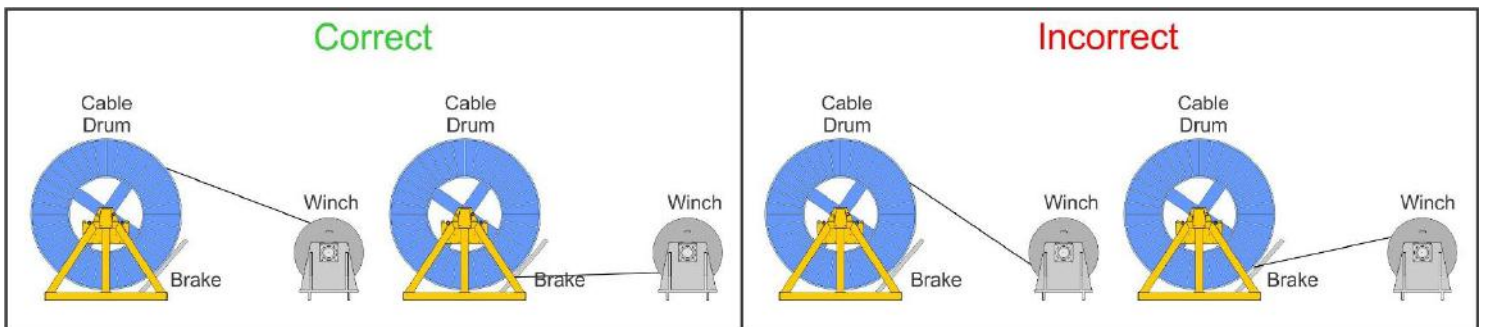
Measuring the Diameter of Wire Rope

Wire rope is most often described by its diameter. The rope's diameter can be determined by measuring the circle that just touches the extreme outer limits of the strands of rope, as shown in the diagram below. The diameter can be measured by using a pair of parallel-jawed callipers or machinist's calliper square, as shown below. A mistake could be made by measuring the smaller dimension.



Unreeling and Uncoiling your Wire Rope for use on your Winch

Unreeling Wire Rope from a Cable Drum - To unreel wire rope from a heavy wire rope drum, place a shaft through the centre and jack up the reel far enough to clear the floor and revolve easily. We have several sizes of Cable Drum Stands that can be used for this purpose. This is a two-person operation, the first person takes the end of the rope and walks away from the reel, taking the wire rope off the top of the reel. The second person needs to control the speed of the turning cable drum by holding a wood block against the flange as a brake, (or by using the brake mechanism on the Cable Drum Stands). Care must be taken to stop slack rope developing on the reel, which can cause kinks in the wire rope. Lightweight cable drums can be unreeled using a vertical shaft, but the same care must be taken to keep the wire rope taut.



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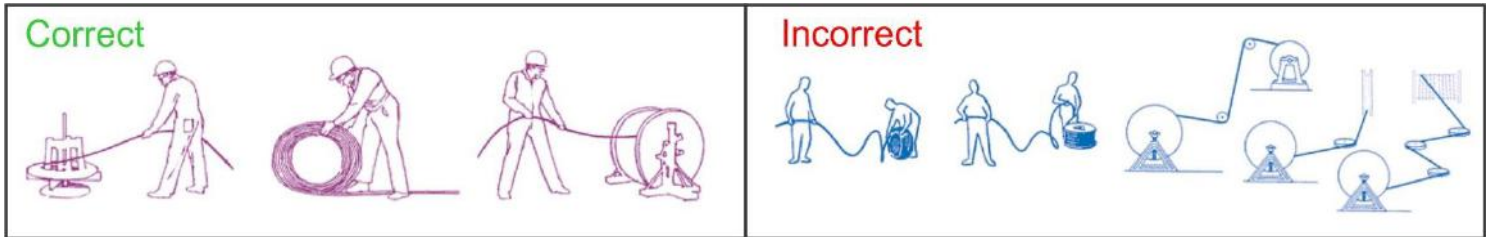


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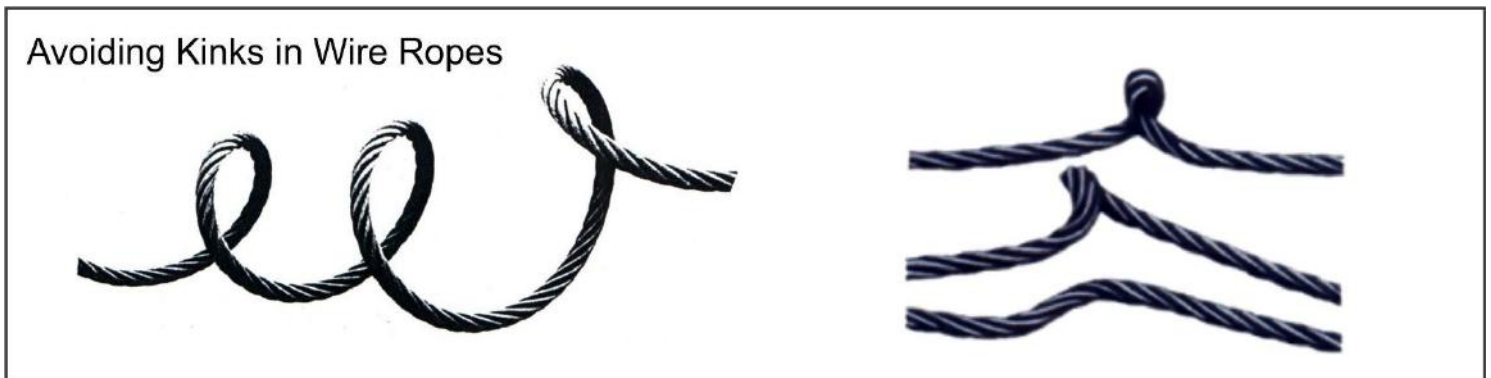
Care must be taken when unreeling wire rope to avoid throwing off turns or spiral in which kinks could occur. The wire rope should never be handled in a way that twists or unlays the wire rope.

Uncoiling a Wire Rope - There is only one correct way to uncoil wire rope. Again, it is a two-person job, whereby the first person holds the end of the rope, while the second person rolls the coil along the floor, backing away. The rope must be allowed to uncoil naturally with the lay, without spiralling or twisting. Always uncoil wire rope as shown below.



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Avoiding Kinks in Wire Ropes - It is extremely important to take care in avoiding kinking your wire rope. Kinks are places where the rope has been unintentionally bent to a permanent set. This often happens when loops are pulled through by tension on the rope until the diameter of the loop is only a few centimetres. They can also be caused by bending a rope around a sheave having too severe a radius. Wires in the strands at the kink are permanently damaged and will not give normal service, even after apparent "re-straightening."



Winding Wire Rope onto a Winch Drum from a Cable Drum

When you are winding new wire rope onto your winch drum it should bend in the manner in which it was originally wound. This will avoid causing a reverse bend in the rope. Always wind wire rope from the top of the one reel onto the top of the other, as shown below. It is also acceptable to re-reeling from the bottom of one reel to the bottom of another. Re-reeling may also be done with reels having their shafts vertical, but extreme care must be taken to ensure that the rope always remains taut. It should never be allowed to drop below the lower flange of the reel. A reel resting on the floor with its axis horizontal may also be rolled along the floor to unreel the rope.

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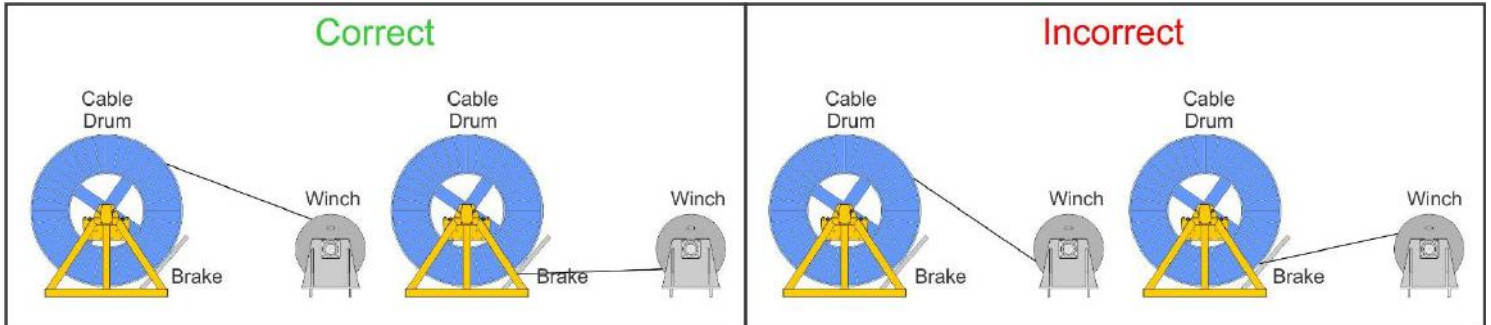
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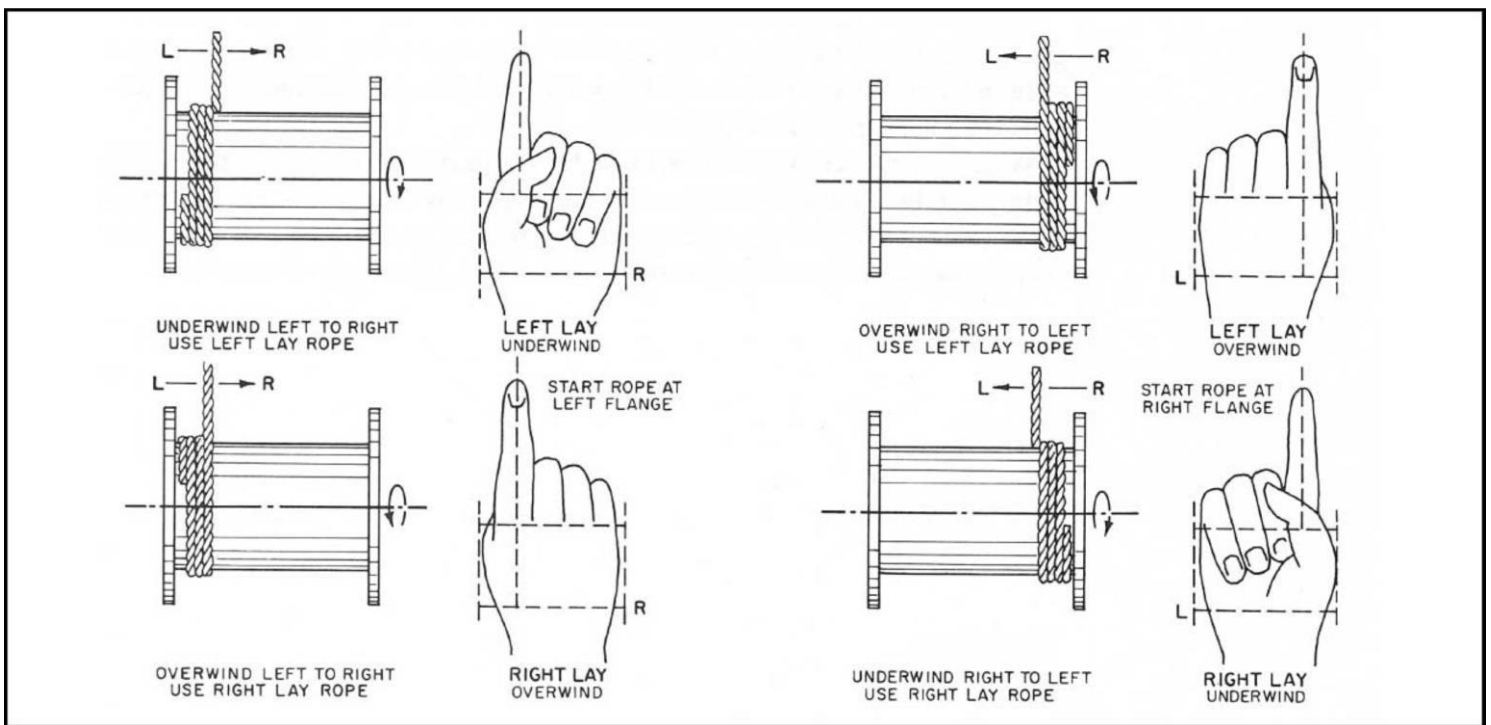


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Wire rope should be attached at the correct location on a flat or smooth-faced drum, so that the rope will spool evenly, with the turns lying snugly against each other in even layers. If wire rope is wound on a smooth-face drum in the wrong direction, the turns in the first layer of rope will tend to spread apart on the drum. This results in the second layer of rope wedging between the open coils, crushing and flattening the rope as successive layers are spooled.



A simple method of determining how a wire rope should be started on a drum is shown above. The observer stands behind the drum, with the rope coming towards him. Using the right hand for right-lay wire rope, and the left hand for left lay wire rope, the clenched fist denotes the drum, the extended index finger the oncoming rope.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding installing new wire rope to your Neumann Equipment Winch please contact our experienced staff on 07 5589 9746.

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