

## FOR THE SUPERVISOR

**PURPOSE:**

This brief runs 2–3 minutes. Keep it conversational.

**BEFORE THE BRIEFING:**

- Read through once.
- Think about suspended load work on today's shift.
- Be ready to listen more than you talk.

**DURING THE BRIEFING:**

- Share the story below in your own words.
- Ask the questions. Let the crew respond.
- Keep it focused on today.

**Remember: A safety brief is a real conversation — not a box to check**

## STORY TO SHARE

**“THE LOAD YOU CAN CONTROL”**

Every rigging job starts the same way — hooks set, signals confirmed, load on the rise. And most of the time, it goes exactly as planned.

But a suspended load doesn't care about most of the time.

At any point in a lift — from hook-up to set-down — things can shift. A sling can fail. A load can swing. A connection you didn't see can give way. And when that happens, there's no warning. There's just the outcome.

That's why **Handling Suspended Loads is one of the Seven Critical Risks** at The Port of Virginia.

The rule is simple: **Never stand under a suspended load. Not for a second. Not for any reason.**

But staying safe goes beyond where you stand. It starts before the lift — with the right equipment, the right inspection, and the right people talking to each other.

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- Is suspended load work happening on your shift today? Where?
- When did you last inspect your rigging equipment — and what do you look for?
- What's the signal if something doesn't look right before or during a lift?
- If a coworker was standing in the wrong place during a lift, would you say something? What would you say?

**(Keep responses short and practical.)**

## CLOSING REMARKS

With suspended loads, the risk doesn't announce itself. You manage it before the lift starts — or you deal with it when it's too late.

Stay out of the drop zone. Inspect your gear. Communicate clearly.

Because at The Port of Virginia... **WE PROTECT WHAT MATTERS**

