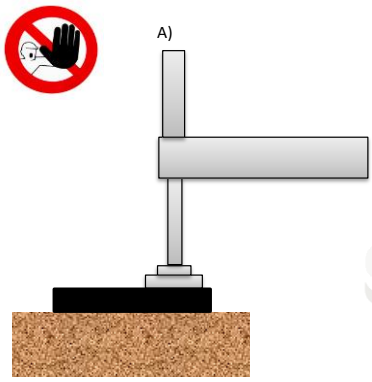
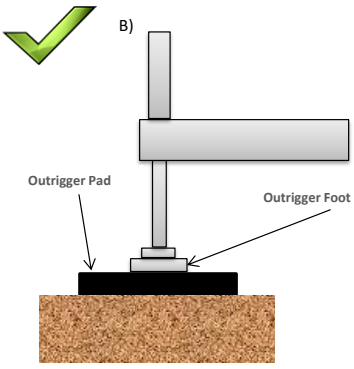
Best Practice

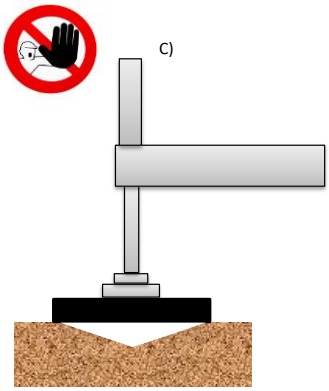
Figure 1



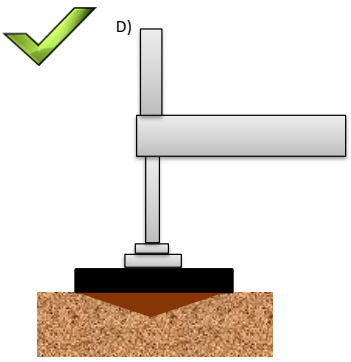
Foot not centred on pad



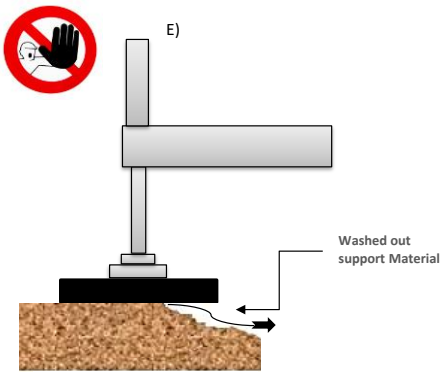
Foot placed centrally to pad



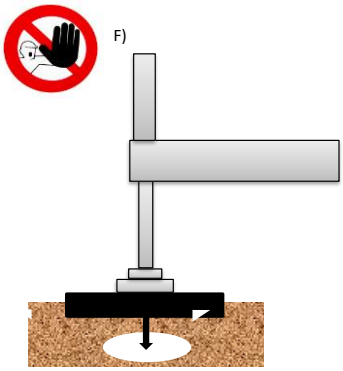
Pad over hollow



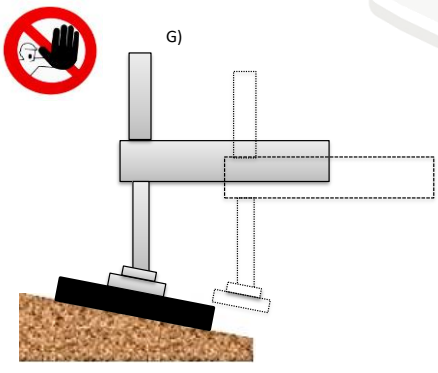
Hollow filled in and compacted



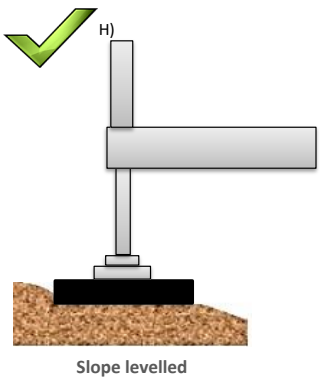
Loose material washed out by rain



Outrigger positioned over void



Pad set-up on a slope



Slope levelled

Best Practice

There are a number of outrigger pads available on the market, our outrigger pads are made from 3 grades of plastic HDPE/HMWPE/UMHWPE. Our pads come in a range of sizes from 400mm² to 3x2m and from 800 to 1500mm diameter with thickness of up to 180mm. Our pads are carried on cranes, MEWPs and concrete pumps which tend to use pads that can be manually handled.

Outrigger pads tend to have a smooth surface, and although all our pads come with a non-slip ground surface we still highly recommend care should be taken to ensure outrigger feet do not slip off the pads in wet or icy conditions. We produce some of our pads with a recess cut out of the middle to support the round foot plate of a MEWP or HIAB.

Precautions When Using Outriggerpads

Where the ground is not strong enough to support the pressure exerted by Crane/Mewp/Hiab or Plant outrigger feet, outrigger pads are frequently used to reduce the pressure imposed on the ground by the machine. Our pads are used in all kinds of temperatures and all types of terrain, in essence the flatter, the more consistent and firmer the ground, the more likely it will be that the pads offer an effective solution to ensuring machine stability.

Positioning of Outrigger on the Pad

If the outrigger pad is not located on level ground and the outrigger foot is not located centrally on the pad (Figure 1) the load will not be spread evenly and will create increased local ground pressure which may lead to collapse.

NOTE: When using our multimat system, care must be taken to set the system up as we advise to ensure the integrity of the system.

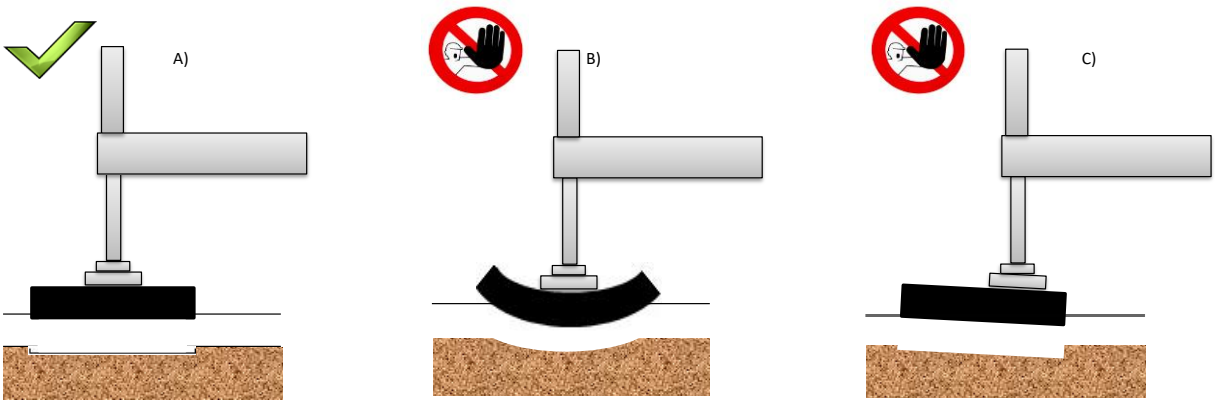
Load transmission to the ground

To obtain maximum load bearing capacity and keep deformation to a reasonable limit, the load from the machine must be transmitted to the ground in an effective manner. This means ensuring that:

- *Pads used under outriggers need to be both the correct size and the correct thickness*
- *Outriggers are placed centrally on the pads*

If the pads are the wrong thickness the load will be concentrated on a smaller area in the middle of the pad. This will result in increased ground pressure which will cause more deformation (bending) and possibly lead to collapse (Figure 2)

Figure 2



RIGID PAD
LOAD CENTRAL

even load spread
reduced deformation
increased load capacity

PAD NOT RIGID
ENOUGH

load concentrated in centre
excessive deformation
reduced load capacity!

LOAD NOT
CENTRAL

load concentrated on one
side excessive deformation
reduced load capacity

For further assistance on sizing your outrigger pads please visit our online pad calculator at the following web address: http://calculator.outriggerpads.co.uk/

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