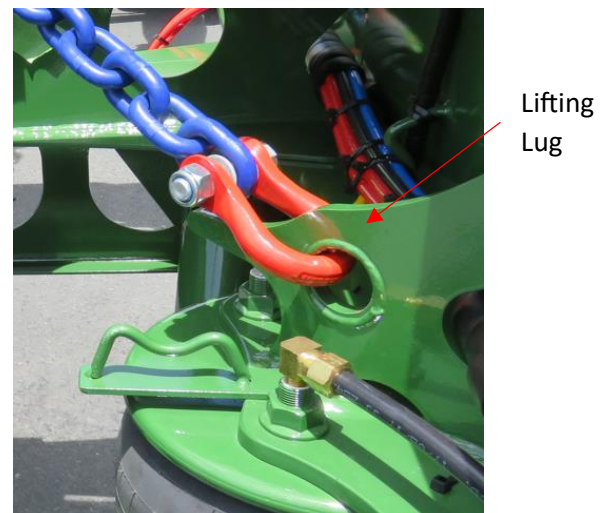
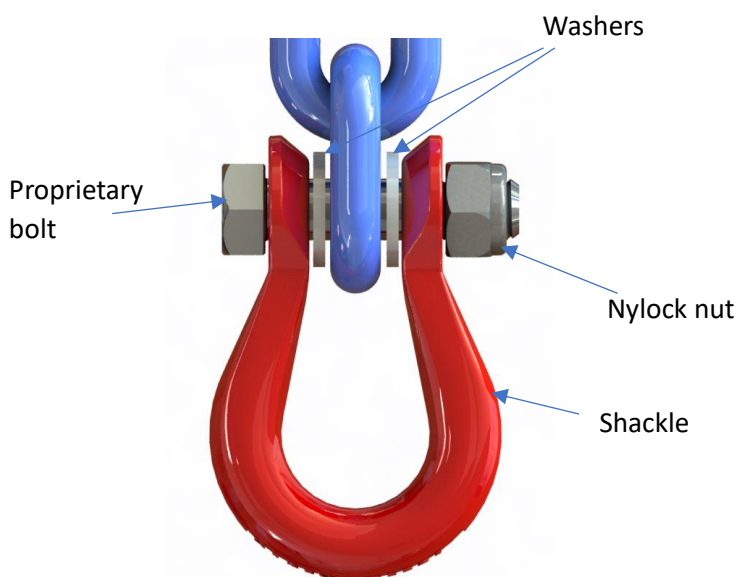


## TRAILER LIFTING CHAIN SLING: BRIDLE CHAIN CHASSIS CONNECTOR

The standard Patchell trailer lifting chain sling (as well as many others in the industry) uses a Unilock-type connecting link at each 'corner' of the sling where it connects the bridle chain to the chassis lifting lug.

An operator has reported an incident where one of these connecting links disconnected while lifting their trailer. This resulted in one corner of the trailer dropping from a metre above the ground. After inspecting the damaged connecting link, it was determined that the most likely cause was the absence of the Nylock nut at time of lifting. The cause of the nut being missing is unclear, however it has highlighted the need for the whole lifting chain assembly to be checked regularly. It is recommended that operators check all bolts, nuts and connectors as well as chain condition as part of their regular safety checks.



**Warning! Failure of the connector during lifting may result in possible dropping of the trailer from height with risk of injury and/or equipment damage.**

## Safe use of 'Unilock' type connector

- Bolt must protrude through nut by at least the bolt end chamfer plus one thread.
- The nut plastic insert must fully engage with the bolt thread. Discard any nut where the plastic insert has extruded out of the end of the nut or is otherwise damaged.
- Bolt must rotate freely after assembly.
- Do not re-use Nylock nuts if re-fitting the connector. This could render the Nylock locking system ineffective.
- Unilock type connector must align freely with the direction of chain pull, with no kinks or twists in the chain.
- Do not exceed the manufacturer's Working Load Limit which is 5.3 tonne in each bridle chain (Note: this is not the same as the trailer weight).
- Assembly of the connector must be carried out to these instructions by a trained, competent person.
- Follow Unilock manufactures datasheet available from your supplier.

### Recommended makes and models of connectors:

PEWAG Item No. U13 Unilock (product code 02243513) Grade 80 Markings: U13 PW8 CE P311  
Bolt minimum length: **65 mm**

TITAN Part no: S8-U13 Markings: S8-U13 TITAN  
Bolt minimum length: **65 mm**

More information about trailer lifting can be found in Section 1 of the LTSC Manual.

<https://logtruck.co.nz/resources/industry-standards/>

For further information or advice, please contact us at [enquiries@patchell.co.nz](mailto:enquiries@patchell.co.nz)