

FACTORS TO CONSIDER WHEN CHOOSING A TRACK HOIST

- CAPACITY:** Is the safe working load of the hoist sufficient for the maximum weight of the proposed user?
- SAFETY:** Does the hoist have a failsafe device to cater for gearbox failure?
Does the hoist use mains or low voltage?
Is the cover on the hoist flame retardant?
Does the hoist have integral battery for emergency lowering to cater for power or transformer failure?
- NOISE:** Do the hoist motors make much noise when lifting or traversing?
Is the track steel or aluminum? Steel tracks transmit noise more than aluminum.
Are the trolleys wheels steel or plastic? Modern engineering plastics are tremendously strong. The plastics sound deadening properties avoid the rumble that steel trolleys generate.
- CONTROLS:** Does the hoist have clearly labeled push button controls?
What happens if the controls get tangled with an electric wheelchair?
What happens if the controls get accidentally dropped in the bath or swimming pool etc?
Is cordless remote control available?
- SLINGS:** Will the manufacturer make special slings if required?
Does the manufacturer make quilted slings for comfort and convenience? (Less bulky to use and easier to wash than sheepskin)
Are instructions for use provided with slings?
Are the slings labeled with washing instructions and serial numbered for easy identification?
- APPEARANCE:** What colour is the track? A white track will be relatively unobtrusive on a white ceiling. Note: Some makes of track are zinc coated to prevent rust. Unfortunately, paint does not adhere well to zinc surfaces. This means that the coating will damage easily and will probably look untidy after only a few years.
- RE-ISSUE:** Are all parts including track curves, turntables etc. reusable?
Is it possible to extend an existing track system?
Is a re-installed hoist still guaranteed?
- RELIABILITY:** Are extended guarantees available?
Are service contracts available?
Is a 24-hour emergency repair service available?

WHERE CAN A TRACK HOIST BE FITTED?

An easy answer might be – Anywhere. To date, we have not encountered a situation where a track hoist could not be installed. Situations once considered difficult i.e. suspended ceilings; sloping ceilings, flat roofs and concrete ceilings including hollow sections are no longer an insurmountable problem.