Chain Fall, Come-A-Long, and Lifting Component Inspection Guidelines

How Often Should This Equipment Be Inspected?
- Pre-Use:
  - The equipment should be inspected prior to use
  - Note: If the equipment becomes damaged during use, it should be removed from service and destroyed immediately
- Annually:
  - All equipment shall undergo an annual inspection by a competent person
    - The annual inspection shall include the tagging of the equipment with a “Yearly Color”

Who Can Inspect The Equipment?
- A Competent Person
  - An OSHA "competent person" is defined as "one who is capable of identifying existing and predictable hazards in the surroundings or working conditions which are unsanitary, hazardous, or dangerous to employees, and who has authorization to take prompt corrective measures to eliminate them" [29 CFR 1926.32(f)].
  - The employer must assign the inspection duties to a person who they deem to be a “competent person”. This will be someone who is capable of reading, understanding, and using this guide. This person must also have the authority to remove from service, equipment that he/she deems unsafe and/or not fit for use.

What Should The Competent Person Look For?
- Chain Falls and Come-A-Longs
  - Check all functional operating mechanisms for proper operation and adjustment, maladjustment, and unusual sounds.
  - Check the housing for cracks and loose or missing bolts/nuts.
  - Check Hooks and Latches for function, cracks, corrosion, wear, twisting, and deformation.
    - Be sure that the Latch (“Keeper” or “Mouse”) is present, in working order, and not sprung.
  - Check Chain/Chain Links for cracks, corrosion, wear, twisting, and deformation.
  - Make sure that Function/Warning labels are legible.
- Shackles and Other Lifting Components
  - Check the shackle for cracks, corrosion, wear, twisting, and deformation.
  - Visually check the body of the shackle.
  - Check the Pin for cracks, corrosion, wear, twisting, and deformation.