

THE RIGHT ROPE FOR THE RIGHT APPLICATION

Contributed by Fernando Lara

The selection of a wire rope is an important task. It is important to select ropes that are best suited for each application. No single rope can do it all. The specification of the right wire rope starts at the conception, project and design of the equipment or application where the wire rope will be used. Important characteristics and properties of the application must be known, like:

- Is it a static or dynamic rope?
- What are the environmental elements to consider?
- Need any special lube or protection?
- Will the rope run over sheaves?
- For what level of fatigue resistant properties we are looking?
- For what level of abrasion resistant properties we are looking?
- For what level of vibration fatigue resistant properties we are looking?
- Will the rope be winding on a drum?
- Will the rope be exposed to high temperatures?
- Will the rope be exposed to low temperatures?
- Need the rope be a rotation-resistant or a non-rotation-resistant?

Above are some questions we need to answer so we can properly specify the wire rope during the conception of the equipment or when we are looking for a wire rope that will deliver a better service life and performance. It is almost impossible for a single wire rope to have all the features that will maximize performance against each selection criterion. In fact, a high rating in one area generally means a lower rating in another. Application and service requirements must be carefully analyzed so that the wire rope will meet the most important criteria and sacrifice the least important ones.

WireCo WorldGroup has the technical support you need on this important task of the right selection of your wire rope. We are here to assist you with that task. After all, "The world is our worksite".

Fernando Lara is the Manager of Technical Services for Latin America.

