workplace. It is also readily transferred to other equipment and handrails making them slippery and potentially dangerous. Current lashing bars are designed to hook into the corner casting of a container and then “lock in” when rotated into the operating position. A frequent issue is when a bar is “hung” temporarily. If the bar is touched or knocked it can readily fall out. Although hanging bars are not encouraged in many ports it occurs frequently and results in striking injuries. The current need to lower the long rods to the deck represents a constraint on how close together teams can work together. Adding extra workers to the lashing task regularly results in higher levels of adverse interaction between teams. This often takes the form of a worker from one team inadvertently striking or impeding workers form another team.

[0011] Accordingly there is a need to greatly reduce the amount of time and effort required to load and unload objects from structures such as the decks of ships. There is also a need to reduce the chance of injury to workers loading and unloading objects onto and off those structures.

Object of the Invention

[0012] Embodiments of the invention seek to substantially overcome or at least ameliorate one or more of the disadvantages of the prior art, or at least to provide a useful alternative.

Summary of the Invention

[0013] According to an aspect of the present invention, there is provided a securing assembly adapted to secure one or more shipping containers to a container ship, the assembly including: attachment means for attaching said assembly to a structure of the container ship in use; an elongate rod, the rod having a first end and a second end, the first end connectable to the attachment means, the second end connectable to an adjustment means for adjusting a length of said elongate rod, and said second end including a threaded portion, said threaded portion operatively associated with a corresponding threaded portion on said adjustment means to adjust the length of said rod and thereby change tension in the assembly; a base adapted to connect said adjustment means to said structure of the container ship via said elongate rod and said attachment means in use; and a manually-operated detensioning mechanism configured with said adjustment means, said detensioning mechanism comprising plates that move together upon manual actuation of the detensioning mechanism to relieve said tension in the assembly.

[0014] Preferably, said base includes a slide mechanism to permit said base to be moved about said structure.

CLAIMS

1. A securing assembly adapted to secure one or more shipping containers to a container ship, the assembly including:

attachment means for attaching said assembly to a structure of the container ship in use;

an elongate rod, the rod having a first end and a second end, the first end connectable to the attachment means, the second end connectable to an adjustment means for adjusting a length of said elongate rod, and said second end including a threaded portion, said threaded portion operatively associated with a corresponding threaded portion on said adjustment means to adjust the length of said rod and thereby change tension in the assembly;

a base adapted to connect said adjustment means to said structure of the container ship via said elongate rod and said attachment means in use; and

a manually-operated detensioning mechanism configured with said adjustment means, said detensioning mechanism comprising plates that move together upon manual actuation of the detensioning mechanism to relieve said tension in the assembly.

2. A securing assembly according to claim 1, wherein said adjustment means includes a pair of arms, said detensioning mechanism bridging between said pair of arms at an end of said pair of arms adjacent said attachment means.

3. A securing assembly according to claim 1, wherein said base includes a slide mechanism to permit said base to be moved about said structure.

4. A securing assembly according to claim 3, wherein said slide mechanism includes a slide moveable along a track securable on said structure.

5. A securing assembly according to claim 1, wherein said base includes a lock to lock said base in a position on said structure.

6. A securing assembly according to claim 5, wherein said lock includes a pin.

7. A securing assembly according to claim 1, wherein said base is disconnectable from said structure.

8. A securing assembly according to claim 1, wherein said base is adapted to move a lower section of the rod at an angle to the object to tension the elongate rod.

9. A securing assembly according to claim 1, wherein said base is adapted to attach to one or more existing fittings of the structure.

10. A securing assembly according to claim 1, wherein said rod is adapted to remain attached to said adjustment means.

11. A securing assembly according to claim 1, wherein said adjustment means includes a sliding element having a thread.

12. A securing assembly according to claim 1, wherein said adjustment means can be operated manually or by way of an automatic adjusting device.

13. A securing assembly according to claim 1, wherein said adjustment means is loadable to a pre-determined tension.

14. A securing assembly according to claim 13, wherein said adjustment means includes sensors to confirm whether adjustment has been achieved and at what tension.

15. A securing assembly according to claim 2, wherein said adjusting means comprises a nut engaged with a threaded portion of said elongate rod that extends through said plates.

16. A securing assembly according to claim 15, wherein said detensioning mechanism comprises a housing, said plates configured within said housing, and a member operably configured between said plates that maintains a space between said plates, said member reconfiguring upon manual actuation of said detensioning mechanism to reduce said space between said plates to relieve said tension in the assembly.

17. A securing assembly according to claim 16, wherein said member between said plates comprises a collapsible linkage.

18. A securing assembly according to claim 16, wherein said detensioning mechanism further comprises a manually-actuated handle configured with said member.

19. A securing assembly according to claim 16, wherein said member between said plates comprises a cam.