

TOOLBOX TALK #30

WHAT DOES OSHA REQUIRE OF CRANE OPERATORS?

Employers must provide each operator-in-training with sufficient training, through a combination of formal and practical instruction, to ensure that the operator-in-training develops the skills and knowledge and ability to recognize and avert risk necessary to operate the equipment. OSHA lists these requirements in their standards for construction as follows:

A determination through a written test that ...

- The individual knows the information necessary for safe operation of the specific type of equipment the individual will operate, including all of the following:
 - The controls and operational/performance characteristics
 - Use of, and the ability to calculate (manually or with a calculator), load/capacity information on a variety of configurations of the equipment
 - Procedures for preventing and responding to power line contact
 - Technical knowledge of the subject matter criteria applicable to the specific type of equipment the individual will operate
 - Technical knowledge applicable to the suitability of the supporting ground and surface to handle expected loads, site hazards and site access
 - Any incorporated materials to the crane standard
- The individual is able to read and locate relevant information in the equipment manual and other materials containing information referred to in the crane standard.

A determination through a practical test that the individual has the skills necessary for safe operation of the equipment, including the following ...

- Ability to recognize, from visual and auditory observation, the items listed in the standard under shift inspection
- Operational and maneuvering skills
- Application of load chart information
- Application of safe shut-down and securing procedures