



Code of Practice for Cranes

The Association extends its thanks to John Carter for his chairmanship of the committee that considered all of the amendments that needed to be made to make the Code of Practice for Cranes a more workable document.

The Code has now been finalised and will come into force 28 days after the Minister signs it. There was a willingness by the Department of Labour officials to ensure that the needs of industry were listened to.

As this is likely to be the last set of changes to the Code the Association will develop a number of Best Practice Guidelines for the various items of plant and this could cover the following possible headings:

- Mobile Cranes
- Overhead gantry cranes
- Truck loader cranes
- Tower cranes (including self erecting tower cranes)
- Crawler cranes
- Tractor cranes
- Telehandlers/forklifts
- Other items of plant when being used as cranes

This will be a significant undertaking and we may need to expand the list to ensure that all types of cranes are covered. This will take some time and will be done in consultation with all industry players. Once completed the additions will be presented to the Department as alternatives to the Code of Practice. Once we embark on these projects we'll invite contributions from industry experts. Even at this early stage we would welcome approaches from any person who would like to be involved. Please advise our office.

Chief Executive's report

In the April newsletter I mentioned the possibility of the Association investigating sponsoring training sessions for management levels of member companies to increase skills during the current recession. To date I have not had any response so I have taken that to mean that there is little interest.

Bookings for the evening at Dracula's have now closed for the evening prior to the start of the conference.

There are still sponsorship slots available at the conference and if any company wants a display stand, space is also available.



2009 Crane Register

All members should have received their initial copy of the 2009 Crane Register. Ask if you require additional copies. The Register was current when it was published. Unfortunately some companies didn't provide details of changes prior to the closing date. Thanks to those who did. While the hard copy remains in place for 12 months the web site can be updated immediately changes are received in our office.

From the President

The recession certainly seems to be biting New Zealand and members of the Crane Association are feeling its effects too. The Chief Executive has provided me with updates on how various members are faring in the market place.

An immediate pointer to the challenging times is the reduction in numbers who have registered for the conference. They're down somewhat when compared with the same time for the previous two years. However, we are anticipating that quite a few more members will put their names down within the deadline.

To those who have yet to sign on and to those who already have, remember that even if you have booked your accommodation at the hotel you still need to register with us (and vice versa).

*Malcolm McWhannell,
President*

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Absolute Shocker

How NOT to use a forklift

Raising people on forks or pallets is dangerous and a prohibited work practice.

Forklifts can be used to lift a person provided:

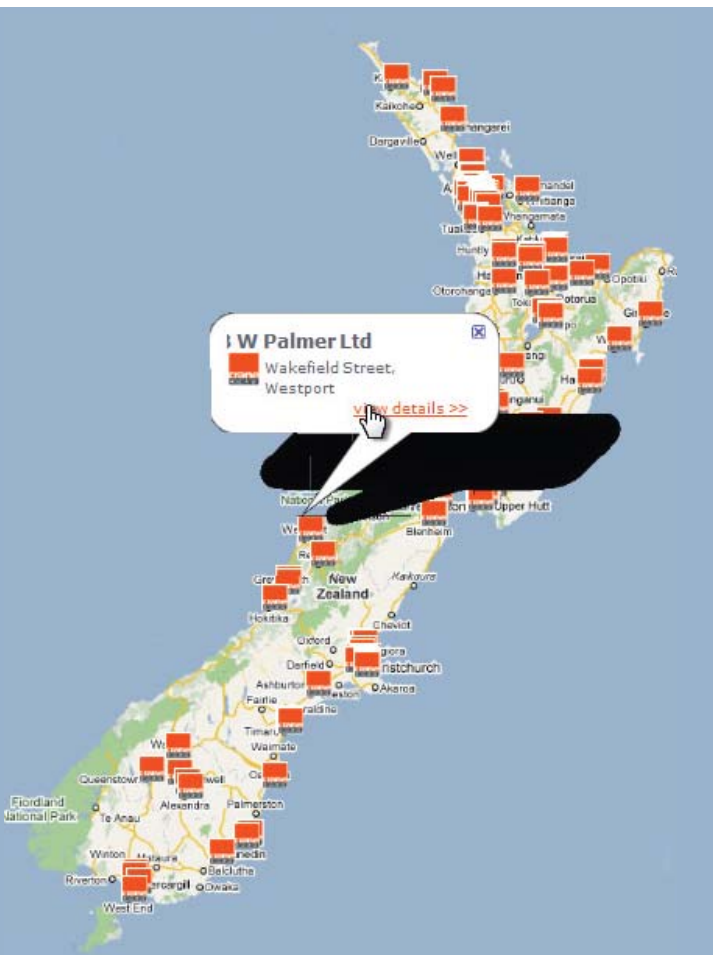
- A purpose-designed man-box, physically secured to the forklift is used
- The operator is at the forklift controls at all times, and
- Both the forklift and the man-box meet relevant safety standards.

Being found on the net

Some members were late to update the latest Crane Register. Their details are still available to anyone wanting to find the right firm for a lifting job. The Association's web site carries a location map of members with links leading to their equipment and company details. Any member with information missing from the Register can certainly be updated on the web site.



A Titan Crane swings equipment into place over the Wellington Town Hall - wild wind and rain no problem.



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 Wakefield Street,
 Westport
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