

Training is essential for safe crane operation

What crane owners and employers need to know.

As an employer, you have obligations under the Health and Safety at Work Act 2015 to train and supervise your employees to ensure that they do not cause harm to themselves or other people.

Cranes and lifting activities have a high hazard potential in unskilled hands. So competency standards and training options need to be a key consideration in your business plans. Neglecting this issue will lessen the efficiency of your operation and expose your company to litigation when an accident occurs.

Key steps

- The development of the Company's health and safety policy that will underpin training schemes.
- The documentation of Company operating procedures detailing actions designed to control hazards.
- The deployment of training based on the Company's safe operating procedures.

It makes good sense to develop procedures and nominate competency standards for your people that are recognised nationwide. This is particularly so if your employees work on other people's sites. Standards developed by recognised industry experts will have greater acceptance than standards developed solely in-house.

Choosing unit standards as the competency measure and enlisting the services of a registered training provider may entitle you to receive subsidies for the cost of training. This is administered by the Skills Organisation at www.skills.org.nz

Recommended reading:

- Approved Code of Practice for Cranes
- Approved Code of Practice for Load-Lifting Rigging
- Crane Association Crane Safety Manual

More Information:

For further information on training options and company training strategies, contact the Crane Association of New Zealand (Inc.). www.cranes.org.nz

