

CRANE OPERATION AWARENESS

- The travel of cranes or boom-type excavators shall be controlled to avoid collision with persons, material, and equipment.
- The empty hook shall be lashed or otherwise restrained so that it cannot swing freely.
- Tag or restraint lines shall be used where rotation of the load is hazardous.
- Cranes shall not be operated with wheels or tracks off the ground or working surface at any time unless properly bearing on outriggers.
- The brakes shall be tested each time a load approaching the rated load is handled by raising the load a few inches and applying the brakes.
- Only one crane is to be used to lift a load.
- A crane, derrick, or hoist shall not be loaded beyond its rated capacity.
- The load shall be attached to the hook by means of sling or other suitable or effective means.
- Slings shall be inspected before use and be free of kinks or twists.
- When moving the load, the individual directing the lift shall see that:
 - The crane is leveled for the work being performed and the wheels blocked where necessary.
 - The load is well-secured and properly balanced in the sling or lifting device before it is lifted a few inches.
- All individuals assisting in the lift shall wear proper personal protective equipment including seat belts, gloves, and hard hats.
- When a load of any kind is to be suspended for any considerable length of time, the brake shall be firmly applied.
- Cranes shall not be left unattended while the load is suspended unless the load is suspended over water, a barricaded area, or blocked up or otherwise supported from below during repairs or emergency.
- Employees are prohibited from standing under any suspended loads.