

Secure Load Lifting Using Cranes Risk Assessment

| | | | |
|-------------------|--------|--------|--|
| Business Name: | | ABN: | |
| Business Address: | | | |
| Contact Person: | Phone: | Email: | |

THIS RISK ASSESSMENT IS APPROVED BY THE PCBU ON THIS PROJECT

Under the Work Health and Safety Regulation (WHS Regulation), a person conducting a business or undertaking (PCBU) is required to ensure that a RISK ASSESSMENT is prepared before the proposed work starts.

| | | |
|------------|--------|-------|
| Full Name: | | |
| Signature: | Title: | Date: |

CLIENT OR PRINCIPAL CONTRACTOR DETAILS

| | |
|---|----------------|
| Client: | SCOPE OF WORKS |
| Project Name: | |
| Project Address: | |
| Project Manager: | |
| Contact Phone: | |
| Date Risk Assessment supplied to Project Manager: | |

| RISK MATRIX | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|--------------------|------------|--|----------------|--|--|--|
| LIKELIHOOD | INSIGNIFICANT | MINOR | MODERATE | MAJOR | CATASTROPHIC | SCORE | ACTION | HIERARCHY OF CONTROLS | |
| ALMOST CERTAIN | 3 HIGH | 3 HIGH | 4 ACUTE | 4 ACUTE | 4 ACUTE | | | Elimination Remove the hazard. | |
| LIKELY | 2 MODERATE | 3 HIGH | 3 HIGH | 4 ACUTE | 4 ACUTE | 4A ACUTE | DO NOT PROCEED | Substitution Replace the hazard. | |
| POSSIBLE | 1 LOW | 2 MODERATE | 3 HIGH | 4 ACUTE | 4 ACUTE | 3H HIGH | Review before work starts. | Isolation Isolate People from the hazard | |
| UNLIKELY | 1 LOW | 1 LOW | 2 MODERATE | 3 HIGH | 4 ACUTE | 2M MODERATE | Ensure control measures in place. | Engineering Isolate the hazard | |
| RARE | 1 LOW | 1 LOW | 2 MODERATE | 3 HIGH | 3 HIGH | 1L LOW | Monitor and keep records. | Administrative Change | |
| | | | | | | | | PPE | |
| Risk Rating & Required Action: | | | | | | | | Notes on Hierarchy of Controls: | |
| 4A | | Stop work. The risk is intolerable. Eliminate the hazard or redesign the activity before proceeding. A Safe Work Method Statement (SWMS) or higher-level authorisation is required. | | | | | | Remember to apply controls in the preferred order shown by the coloured pyramid: | |
| 3H | | Review and approve additional controls before task starts. Senior supervisor sign-off needed. | | | | | | 1. Eliminate | |
| 2M | | Ensure all nominated controls are in place and effective. Proceed with caution; monitor conditions. | | | | | | 2. Substitute | |
| 1L | | Proceed, following standard operating procedures. Monitor and keep records. | | | | | | 3. Isolate | |
| Consequence Scale: | | | | | | | | 4. Engineering | |
| Consequence | People (injury/illness) | | Project / Assets | | Compliance / Reputation | | 5. Administrative | | |
| Catastrophic | Fatality or permanent total disability | | project shutdown | | Significant regulator intervention; criminal prosecution | | 6. PPE | | |
| Major | Serious injury/illness (hospital > 5 days) | | critical delay | | Improvement notice; major media coverage | | Always document why a lower-order control is accepted if elimination or substitution is not reasonably practicable. | | |
| Moderate | Medical-treatment injury; lost-time > 1 day | | moderate delay | | Minor breach; adverse client comment | | aligned with Safe Work Australia's Managing the risk of fatigue at work (2023) and ISO 45001:2018 clauses 6–8. | | |
| Minor | First-aid only, no lost time | | negligible delay | | Isolated non-conformance | | | | |
| Insignificant | No injury | | no schedule impact | | Deviation caught and corrected on site | | | | |

| JOB STEP | POTENTIAL HAZARDS | IR | CONTROL MEASURES | RR |
|---------------------|--|--------------|--|---------------|
| SPECIFIC WORK STEPS | HAZARDS THAT MAY ARISE | INITIAL RISK | SPECIFIC MEASURES TO BE PUT IN PLACE TO ELIMINATE OR CONTROL THE RISKS | RESIDUAL RISK |
| 1. Preparation | Incorrect load assessment, Equipment not inspected | 3H | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Verify load weight and dimensions against crane's capacity - Conduct visual inspection of crane and lifting equipment - Review previous maintenance records of the crane - Ensure operator certification and competency - Communicate lift details with all personnel involved - Implement an exclusion zone around the work area - Ensure clear visibility of the load pathway - Organise a pre-lift meeting for team briefing - Check weather conditions and avoid adverse weather - Secure necessary permits and approvals | 2M |
| 2. Rigging | Inadequate rigging, Improper sling selection | 4H | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Utilise qualified riggers for the task - Select appropriate slings and shackles as per load requirements - Inspect rigging equipment prior to use - Avoid using damaged or worn out rigging gear - Ensure load is evenly distributed on slings - Keep lifting angle under 60 degrees to prevent sling slip - Attach taglines to control load movement - Ensure rigging procedures comply with standards - Conduct trial lift to verify rigging adequacy - Communicate lifting plan clearly to the team | 2M |
| 3. Lifting | Load instability, Crane overload | 4A | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Confirm crane setting and lifting angles before initiating lift - Use a spotter to monitor load movement - Engage in gradual lifting to prevent sudden movements - Avoid lifting over personnel and equipment - Cease operations if load begins to swing uncontrollably - Regular communication between operator and ground team - Use load indicators and alarms to monitor weight - Ensure all personnel maintain a safe distance | 2M |

| Job Step | Potential Hazards | IR | Control Measures | RR |
|------------------------|--|--------------|---|---------------|
| Specific Work Steps | Hazards that may arise | Initial Risk | Specific measures to be put in place to eliminate or control the risks | Residual Risk |
| | | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Address any signals indicating potential overload immediately - Refresh the team on emergency protocols before lifting begins | |
| 4. Moving Load | Load sway, Obstructed pathways | 3H | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Establish a clear, unobstructed path for the load. - Assign a dedicated spotter to monitor the load's movement and the work area. - Communicate with the spotter using standardized hand signals or radio. - Perform a pre-lift inspection to ensure the path is clear of personnel and obstacles. - Use load sway controls or techniques to minimize swinging. - Maintain a safe distance from the load and the crane throughout the movement. - Stop the lift immediately if any unexpected movement or obstruction occurs. - Ensure all personnel are clear of the load's path before moving. - Use proper lifting techniques to maintain stability. - Conduct a final check before releasing the load. - Establish a communication protocol with the crane operator. - Use visual aids like laser lines or plumb lines to guide the load. - Ensure the load is properly secured and balanced before moving. - Plan the movement route in advance. - Use spotters to maintain a clear zone around the load. - Communicate clearly with the crane operator. - Stop the lift if any safety concerns arise. - Ensure the load is lowered safely to the destination. - Use proper tie-down techniques to secure the load. - Perform a final inspection of the load and its securement. - Establish a communication protocol with the crane operator. - Use visual aids like laser lines or plumb lines to guide the load. - Ensure the load is properly secured and balanced before moving. - Plan the movement route in advance. - Use spotters to maintain a clear zone around the load. - Communicate clearly with the crane operator. - Stop the lift if any safety concerns arise. - Ensure the load is lowered safely to the destination. - Use proper tie-down techniques to secure the load. - Perform a final inspection of the load and its securement. | 1L |
| 5. Placement | Injury from falling load, Incorrect load placement | 3H | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Establish a clear, unobstructed path for the load. - Assign a dedicated spotter to monitor the load's movement and the work area. - Communicate with the spotter using standardized hand signals or radio. - Perform a pre-lift inspection to ensure the path is clear of personnel and obstacles. - Use load sway controls or techniques to minimize swinging. - Maintain a safe distance from the load and the crane throughout the movement. - Stop the lift immediately if any unexpected movement or obstruction occurs. - Ensure all personnel are clear of the load's path before moving. - Use proper lifting techniques to maintain stability. - Conduct a final check before releasing the load. - Establish a communication protocol with the crane operator. - Use visual aids like laser lines or plumb lines to guide the load. - Ensure the load is properly secured and balanced before moving. - Plan the movement route in advance. - Use spotters to maintain a clear zone around the load. - Communicate clearly with the crane operator. - Stop the lift if any safety concerns arise. - Ensure the load is lowered safely to the destination. - Use proper tie-down techniques to secure the load. - Perform a final inspection of the load and its securement. - Establish a communication protocol with the crane operator. - Use visual aids like laser lines or plumb lines to guide the load. - Ensure the load is properly secured and balanced before moving. - Plan the movement route in advance. - Use spotters to maintain a clear zone around the load. - Communicate clearly with the crane operator. - Stop the lift if any safety concerns arise. - Ensure the load is lowered safely to the destination. - Use proper tie-down techniques to secure the load. - Perform a final inspection of the load and its securement. | 2M |
| 6. Dismantling Rigging | Pinched fingers, Unsecured equipment | 2M | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Establish a clear, unobstructed path for the load. - Assign a dedicated spotter to monitor the load's movement and the work area. - Communicate with the spotter using standardized hand signals or radio. - Perform a pre-lift inspection to ensure the path is clear of personnel and obstacles. - Use load sway controls or techniques to minimize swinging. - Maintain a safe distance from the load and the crane throughout the movement. - Stop the lift immediately if any unexpected movement or obstruction occurs. - Ensure all personnel are clear of the load's path before moving. - Use proper lifting techniques to maintain stability. - Conduct a final check before releasing the load. - Establish a communication protocol with the crane operator. - Use visual aids like laser lines or plumb lines to guide the load. - Ensure the load is properly secured and balanced before moving. - Plan the movement route in advance. - Use spotters to maintain a clear zone around the load. - Communicate clearly with the crane operator. - Stop the lift if any safety concerns arise. - Ensure the load is lowered safely to the destination. - Use proper tie-down techniques to secure the load. - Perform a final inspection of the load and its securement. - Establish a communication protocol with the crane operator. - Use visual aids like laser lines or plumb lines to guide the load. - Ensure the load is properly secured and balanced before moving. - Plan the movement route in advance. - Use spotters to maintain a clear zone around the load. - Communicate clearly with the crane operator. - Stop the lift if any safety concerns arise. - Ensure the load is lowered safely to the destination. - Use proper tie-down techniques to secure the load. - Perform a final inspection of the load and its securement. | 1L |

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| | | | | |
| 7. Crane Shutdown | Mechanical failure, Environmental exposure | 2M | | 1L |
| 8. Site Clean Up | Slips, trips and falls with equipment | 2M | | 1L |
| 9. Documentation | Inaccurate records, Confidentiality breach | 2M | | 1L |

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| | | | | |
| 10. Review and Feedback | Missed learnings, Inadequate processes | 2M | | 1L |
| 11. Operator Training | Lack of knowledge, Skill degradation | 3H | | 1L |
| 12. Emergency Procedures | Delayed response, Lack of clarity | 3H | | 1L |

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| | | | | |
| 13. Equipment Maintenance | Equipment failure, Inadequate maintenance | 3H | | 1L |
| 14. Communication Protocols | Miscommunication, Unclear instructions | 2M | | 1L |
| 15. Contractor Management | Unqualified personnel, Inadequate supervision | 3H | | 1L |

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SAMPLE

EMERGENCY RESPONSE – CALL 000 FOR EMERGENCIES

Ensure to have an Emergency Management Plan in place as well as adequate numbers of trained first aid staff with easy access to fully stocked first aid kits, rescue equipment, material safety data sheets, adequate access to emergency communication equipment and fire-fighting equipment suitable for all classes of fire and ignition sources.

LEGISLATIVE REFERENCES

RELEVANT LEGISLATION AND CODES OF PRACTICE. DELETE THE LEGISLATIVE REFERENCES IF ANY STATE THAT ARE NOT APPLICABLE

Queensland & Australian Capital Territory

Work Health and Safety Act 2011

Work Health and Safety Regulations 2011

Legislation QLD: <https://www.worksafe.qld.gov.au/laws-and-compliance/work-health-and-safety-laws>

Codes of Practice QLD: <https://www.worksafe.qld.gov.au/laws-and-compliance/codes-of-practice>

Legislation ACT: <https://www.worksafe.act.gov.au/laws-and-compliance/acts-and-regulations>

Codes of Practice ACT: <https://www.worksafe.act.gov.au/laws-and-compliance/codes-of-practice>

Victoria

Occupational Health and Safety Act 2004

Occupational Health and Safety Regulations 2017

Legislation VIC: <https://www.worksafe.vic.gov.au/occupational-health-and-safety-act-and-regulations>

Codes of Practice VIC: <https://www.worksafe.vic.gov.au/compliance-codes-and-codes-practice>

New South Wales

Work Health and Safety Act 2011

Work Health and Safety Regulations 2017

Legislation NSW: <https://www.safework.nsw.gov.au/legal-obligations/legislation>

Codes of Practice NSW: <https://www.safework.nsw.gov.au/resource-library/list-codes-of-practice>

Western Australia

Work Health and Safety Act 2020

Work Health and Safety Regulations 2022

Legislation Western Australia: <https://www.commerce.wa.gov.au/worksafe/legislation>

Codes of Practice WA: <https://www.commerce.wa.gov.au/worksafe/codes-practice>

Northern Territory

Work Health and Safety (National Uniform Legislation) Act 2011

Work Health and Safety (National Uniform Legislation) Regulations 2011

Legislation NT: <https://worksafe.nt.gov.au/laws-and-compliance/workplace-safety-laws>

Codes of Practice NT: <https://worksafe.nt.gov.au/laws-and-compliance/codes-of-practice>

Safe Work Australia Links

Law and Regulation (All States): <https://www.safeworkaustralia.gov.au/law-and-regulation>

Model Codes of Practice: <https://www.safeworkaustralia.gov.au/resources-publications/model-codes-of-practice>

Model Codes of Practice

- Managing noise and preventing hearing loss at work
- Confined spaces
- Labelling of workplace hazardous chemicals
- Managing risks of hazardous chemicals in the workplace
- Welding processes
- First aid in the workplace
- Managing the risk of falls at workplaces
- Hazardous manual tasks
- Managing the risk of falls in housing construction
- Managing electrical risks in the workplace
- Demolition work
- Excavation work
- Work health and safety consultation, cooperation and coordination
- Managing the work environment and facilities
- How to manage work health and safety risks
- Managing risks of plant in the workplace
- Construction work

South Australia

Work Health and Safety Act 2012 (SA)

Work Health and Safety Regulations 2012 (SA)

Legislation for SA: <https://www.safework.sa.gov.au/resources/legislation>

Codes of Practice for SA: <https://www.safework.sa.gov.au/workplaces/codes-of-practice#COPs>

Tasmania

Work Health and Safety Act 2012

Work Health and Safety (Transitional and Consequential Provisions) Act 2012

Work Health and Safety Regulations 2012

Work Health and Safety (Transitional) Regulations 2012

Legislation for TAS: <https://worksafe.tas.gov.au/topics/laws-and-compliance/acts-and-regulations>

Codes of Practice for TAS: <https://worksafe.tas.gov.au/topics/laws-and-compliance/codes-of-practice>

Details of permits, licenses or access required by regulatory bodies (add or delete as required):

- Permits from local council
- Authorisation to commence work
- Any required documents.