

## Principal Contractors LOLER Duties

THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION is for guidance purposes only and has been provided to assist you in the fulfillment of your duties:

PLEASE NOTE THAT AS PRINCIPAL CONTRACTOR OR EMPLOYING ORGANISATION THERE ARE STATUTORY REGULATIONS THAT YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR.

R&B C L LTD HAVE OUTLINED THESE BELOW FOR YOUR INFORMATION. IF AS AN ORGANISATION YOU DO NOT HAVE THE EXPERTISE IN LIFTING OPERATIONS THEN YOU SHOULD NOT HIRE IN CRANES ON A "HIRED AND MANAGED " BASIS BUT SHOULD OPT FOR A FULLY CONTRACTED HIRE.

The Principal Contractor /Employing Organization (THE HIRER) should:

- Carry out all work in accordance with BS 7121
- Supply a competent Appointed Person
- Supply a competent site based Crane Supervisor
- Operate a safe system of work by means of a detailed Lift Plan/Schedule
- Ensure that the SETC hired is of a suitable type and capacity
- Check the credentials of the SETC hire company and the certification supplied

### Statutory Regulations

- The Health and Safety at Work Act 1974
- The Lifting Operations and Lifting Equipment Regulations 1998 (LOLER)
- The Provision and Use of Work Equipment Regulations 1998 (PUWER)
- The Management of Health Safety & Welfare regulations 1999 (MHSWR)
- The Work at Height Regulations 2005 (WAHR)
- The Supply of Machinery (safety) Regulations 1992
- The Construction (Design and Management) Regulations 1994 (As amended) CDM
- Personal Protective Equipment at Work Regulations 1992 (PPE)
- The Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations 1995 (RIDDOR)
- The Air Navigation Order 2000

( or latest enactment thereof)

## Initial Planning

Before any lifting operations are carried out the HIRER will adequately plan the lift to ensure it is carried out safely.

The initial plan will consider the following factors in order to ensure the lifting equipment is suitable for the proposed task;

1. The load to be lifted; and
2. Its weight, shape, centre of gravity, availability of lifting points; and
3. Where the load is presently positioned and where it will be positioned after the lifting operation; and
4. How often the lifting equipment will be used to carry out the task; and
5. The environment in which the lifting equipment will be used; and
6. The personnel available and their knowledge, training and competence.

The APPOINTED PERSON should survey and prepare a scaled drawing which AS A MINIMUM should include the following:

- Plan and side elevation views
- Outline envelope of the building under construction
- The planned location of the crane with dimensioned reference points to aid location
- The make and model of crane
- The radius that the crane can reach
- SWL at max radius
- Height under the hook
- Proximity hazards and delivery vehicle unloading areas.
- Loading bay positions

## Planning of Individual Lifting Operations

For routine lifting operations the HIRER shall make all operators aware of the LIFT PLAN/SCHEDULE and SAFE SYSTEM OF WORK applicable to the site. A typical plan for the routine use of the SETC would be;

1. Assess the weight of the load
2. Choose the right equipment for lifting, e.g. depending upon the nature and weight of the load and the environment in which it is to be used;
3. Check the anticipated path of the load to make sure that it is not obstructed;
4. Prepare a suitable place to set down the load;
5. Fit the equipment suitable for lifting the load (using the appropriate method of use);
6. Make the lift (a trial lift may be necessary to confirm the centre of gravity of the load; tag lines may be necessary to stop the load swinging);
7. Release the equipment (boards or similar may be necessary to prevent trapping of the equipment); and
8. Ensure lifting zone and placing zone are adequately tidied up.

It is unlikely any complex lifting operations will be required, if they are, an additional Risk Assessment and Safety Method Statement will be required.

In order to avoid the risk to other site workers and the public, no loads are to be lifted over their heads.

The path of the load must be within the site boundary, the only exception is when unloading deliveries from a designated unloading area of the public highway (with the express approval of the organisation responsible for management of the highway). Prior to unloading from the designated area it will be cordoned off. Warning signs will be positioned to inform the public that the area is closed for their safety, and advising of an alternative route.

For one-off lifts from the designated unloading area site personnel are to control the movement of the public.

On completion of the lifting operations the crane will be made safe. The controls deactivated and kept in a secure location, and the SETC left in weathervane. If unable to be left in weathervane then a separate Risk & Method statement would be required.

The legs of the sling will be either hooked back onto the master link or removed and stored properly. All lifting accessories will be stored in a fenced area and/or storage unit when not in use to protect them from accidental damage.

Further guidance can be found in the following:

- Code of Practice for safe use of cranes BS 7121 Pt1 (general) & Pt5 (tower cranes)
- L113 Safe Use of Lifting Equipment - Lifting Operations and Lifting Equipment Regulations 1998 Code of practice ISBN 0 7176 1628 2
- HSE Leaflet INDG218 - Guide to Risk Assessment
- HSE Leaflet INDG163 - Five Steps to Risk Assessment
- CPA Safe Use of SETCs - CPA Best Practice Guide.
- CIRIA C703 Crane Stability on Site