

BULLETIN

Crane and Hoist Operation – Licence Requirements

This bulletin outlines the licensing requirements to operate a crane or hoist in the Northern Territory. The use of cranes and hoists is considered high risk work and requires the operator to hold an appropriate licence to perform high risk work issued by NT WorkSafe.

The licensing of workers aims to ensure that they have the skills and knowledge to perform high risk work in a safe manner so to reduce the health and safety risk to themselves and other persons in the workplace.

Classes of High Risk Work Licences for Cranes and Hoists

Tower Crane – Covers the operation of a jib or boom crane mounted on a tower structure, may be demountable or permanent, including both horizontal and luffing jib types but does not include a self-erecting tower crane.

Self Erecting Tower Crane – covers the operation of a crane that is not disassembled into a tower element and a boom or jib element in the normal course of use and where the erection and dismantling processes are an inherent part of the crane's function.

Derrick Cranes – Covers the operation of a slewing strut-boom crane with its boom pivoted at the base of a mast which is either guyed (guy derrick) or held by backstays (stiff legged derrick) and which is capable of luffing under load.

Portal Boom Cranes – Covers the operation of a boom crane or jib crane mounted on a portal frame, which is supported on runways along which the crane travels.

Bridge and Gantry Crane – Covers a crane that is either remotely controlled or operated from a permanent cabin or control station on the crane and having more than three powered operations. The licence also covers the application of load estimation and slinging techniques to move a load meaning the licence holder is able to conduct dogging work without needing to have a separate dogging licence.

Vehicle Loading Cranes (capacity 10 metre tonnes and above) – Covers the operation of a crane with a capacity of 10 metre tonnes or more, mounted on a vehicle for the purpose of loading and unloading the vehicle, including the application of load estimation and slinging techniques to move a load. Therefore the operator is able to conduct dogging work whilst holding this licence type. There is no requirement to hold a separate dogging licence.

Non-Slewing Mobile Cranes (greater than 3 tonne capacity) – Covers the operation of a mobile crane of greater than 3 tonnes capacity that incorporates a boom or jib that cannot be slewed and includes an articulated mobile crane and a locomotive crane, but does not include vehicle tow trucks

Slewing Mobile Cranes (C2) – Covers a mobile crane incorporating a boom or jib that can be slewed, with a load capacity up to 20 tonnes.

Slewing Mobile Cranes (C6) – Covers a mobile crane incorporating a boom or jib that can be slewed, with a load capacity up to 60 tonnes. This licence also covers the operation of cranes requiring a C2 licence.

Slewing Mobile Cranes (C1) – Covers a mobile crane incorporating a boom or jib that can be slewed, with a load capacity up to 100 tonnes. This licence also covers the operation of cranes requiring a C6 or C2 licence.

Slewing Mobile Cranes (CO) – Covers a mobile crane incorporating a boom or jib that can be slewed, with a load capacity over 100 tonnes. This licence also covers the operation of cranes requiring a C1, C6 or C2 licence.

Materials Hoists (cantilever platforms) – covers the operation of a builder's hoist by which only goods or materials and not personnel may be hoisted and where the car, bucket or platform is cantilevered from, and travels up and down outside, a face of the support or structure.

Personnel and Materials Hoist – covers the operation of a builder's hoist in which personnel, goods and/or materials may be hoisted, and which may be either a cantilever hoist, a tower hoist or a several winches configured to operate as a hoist.

Concrete Placing Boom (incorporating knuckle boom, capable of power operated slewing and luffing) – covers cranes used to place concrete by way of pumping through a pipeline attached to, or forming part of the boom of the plant.

Bridge and Gantry Cranes

A license to operate a bridge or gantry crane is not required if the crane being used has three or less powered operations. Powered operations include traversing, travelling, hoisting (hoist, raise and lower are considered to be one operation) and rotation. A worker operating a crane that does not require a license will still need to be appropriately trained and deemed competent in the use of the bridge or gantry crane they are operating.

Examples of how to assess the competency of a person to operate the bridge or gantry crane could include a review of the work history and training records of a person, conduct appropriate challenge tests and have an experienced competent worker of the Person Conducting a Business or Undertaking (PCBU) assess a new worker on behalf of the PCBU.

Operators can demonstrate their competency in operating of particular plant by:

- Holding a statement of attainment or other nationally recognised qualification
- Successfully completing training at an industry training school
- Completing on-the-job training under supervision of an experienced competent person.
- Many Registered Training Organisations (RTOs) also provide a fee for service called verification of competency conducted by an accredited assessor aligned to that RTO.

Applying for a Licence

Information on applying for a licence can be found in the bulletin [Licensing Persons Performing High Risk Work](#). Applications should be made use the form [Application for a High Risk Work Licence](#) (FM010a).

Additional Information

The following information on high risk licensing is available on the NT WorkSafe website.

- [Guide to High Risk Licence](#)

Bulletins

- [High Risk Work Licensing – Worker Obligations](#)
- [High Risk Work Licensing – PCBU Obligations](#)

For further information please contact NT WorkSafe on 1800 019 115 or go to www.worksafe.nt.gov.au