

# Preventing accidents during lifting operations

## ➤ Manager

- 1) Are you competent to manage a lifting operation? Consider whether you need competent advice or a contract lift
- 2) Ensure that a competent person prepares a lifting plan
- 3) Prepare the site, eliminate risks where possible
- 4) Ensure everyone involved in the lift and, those affected, are properly briefed
- 5) Double check that safety precautions are in place before the lifting starts
- 6) Define exclusion zones around lifting operations, and make sure people stay out of them.

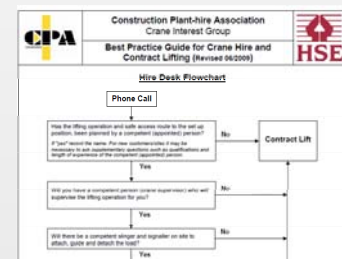
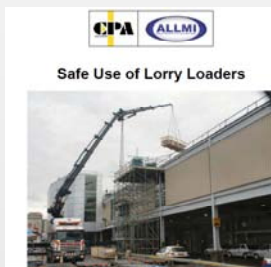
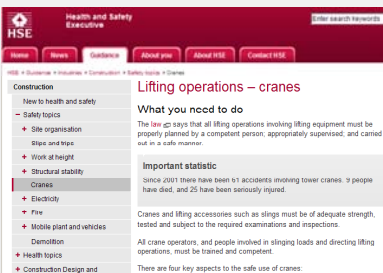
## ➤ Worker

- 1) Before starting work, make sure you have been properly briefed
- 2) Take the time to check the lifting plan against what you actually see on site
- 3) Check the method of work with your supervisor and raise any concerns
- 4) Only act as a slinger/signaller if you are trained, authorised and competent to do so
- 5) Work to the standard hand signals, and ensure that you understand your role in the operation
- 6) Do not enter an exclusion zone.

## ➤ Planning - Applying the Hierarchy of Risk Controls

- 1) Using a crane can eliminate, or substantially reduce site risks related to manual handling and mobile plant. However, lifting operations often present severe risks in themselves, which must be controlled. The main measures you must take include:
  - a) Lifting operations involving a crane require a trained CPA operator, a trained slinger/signaller, and a lifting plan drawn up by a competent person.
  - b) Exclusion zones should be established and loads should not be lifted over people working underneath. Organise unloading so that it takes place away from pedestrian areas.
  - c) All lifting accessories should have a certificate or marking indicating they have been thoroughly examined in the last 6 months
  - d) The lifting operation should be appropriately supervised
- 2) Ensure that the lifting operations are properly co-ordinated, so all trades working on site know about the operation, and not put to risk.

## ➤ Links



Online guidance from HSE Lifting Operations – Cranes  
<http://www.hse.gov.uk/construction/safetytopics/cranes.htm>

Industry Guidance on safe use of Lorry loaders  
<http://www.cpa.uk.net/data/uploads/public/Guidance%20on%20the%20Safe%20Use%20of%20Lorry%20Loaders%20-%20Published%20Version.pdf>

If you are not experienced at managing lifting operations, consider a contract lift – see industry guidance on crane hire

## ➤ Record your Site Briefing Here

Who has been briefed

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I confirm that I have briefed these people on the Key points of the HSE Step3 guidance note on behaviours that can prevent accidents

Signed off by \_\_\_\_\_

## ➤ Concerns Raised At The Briefing

## ➤ Changes implemented or actions planned

## ➤ SLAM

**STOP** work if you find yourself in danger - this is your right in Law

**Look** around you before taking any action, is anybody else at risk

**Assess** the situation, take a few minutes to think through the actions you should take to put things right

**Manage** the risks as the job goes on, anticipate and control risk before the problem emerges