

TOOL TYPE      **CHECKLIST**

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GEOGRAPHY      **US**

SOURCE: **SSC**

## **MATERIALS HANDLING:**

# **13 QUESTIONS TO ASK TO VERIFY PROPER CRANE INSPECTIONS**

**THE PROBLEM:** If you're a manufacturer or other operation subject to the OSHA General Industry standards and you use cranes to move materials at your worksite, you better be sure you comply with OSHA's Overhead and Gantry Cranes standard ([Sec. 1910.179](#)).

**HOW TOOL HELPS SOLVE THE PROBLEM:** The following are 13 questions to ask to determine your compliance with one of the most important and frequently cited parts of the standards—crane inspection requirements ([Sec. 1910.179\(i\)](#)).

# **MATERIALS HANDLING:**

## **13 QUESTIONS TO ASK TO VERIFY PROPER CRANE INSPECTIONS**

**Instructions:** Make sure you can answer YES to all 13 of these questions. If you answer NO to any question, you may be out of compliance and need to check into the situation and:

- Make whatever adjustments needed so you can turn that NO into a YES; or
- Determine that the requirement doesn't apply to you.

**1. Before using new and altered cranes do you perform an initial inspection to ensure they meet all OSHA requirements? [ ] Yes [ ] No**

**Note:** The standard defines “cranes” as machines for lifting and lowering a load and moving it horizontally, in which the hoisting mechanism is an integral part of the machine. “Cranes” include both machines driven manually and powered.

**2. Do you properly inspect all cranes in regular use? [ ] Yes [ ] No**

**Note:** Don't answer YES unless inspections include:

- Observation during operation to identify any defects that might appear between the regular inspections we'll discuss below; **and**
- Careful examination of any deficiencies to determine whether they constitute a safety hazard.

**3. Do you perform **daily** inspection of all function operating mechanisms?  
[ ] Yes [ ] No**

**Note:** Don't answer YES unless your inspection seeks to identify maladjustment interfering with proper operation.

**4. Do you perform **daily** inspection of lines, tanks, valves, drain pumps and other parts hydraulic systems for deterioration or leakage? [ ] Yes [ ] No**

**5. Do you perform **daily** visual inspection of hooks for deformation or cracks?** [ ] Yes [ ] No

**6. Do you also **perform** monthly inspections of hooks with deformation and cracks?**  
[ ] Yes [ ] No

**Note:** Don't answer YES unless you produce written certification listing:

- The date of inspection;
- The signature of the person who performed the inspection; and
- The serial number or other identifier of the hook inspected.

**7. Do you perform **daily** visual inspections of hoist chains, including end connections?** [ ] Yes [ ] No

**Note:** Don't answer YES unless you inspect for, at a minimum, excessive wear, twist, distorted links interfering with proper function, or stretch beyond manufacturer's recommendations.

**8. Do you also perform **monthly** inspection of hoist chains, including end connections, for excessive wear, twist, distorted links interfering with proper function or stretch beyond manufacturer's written recommendations?** [ ] Yes [ ] No

**Note:** Don't answer YES unless you also prepare a written record listing:

- The date of inspection
- The signature of the person who performed the inspection; and
- An identifier of the chain inspected.

**9. Do you inspect all functional operating mechanisms for excessive wear of components on a **daily to monthly basis as circumstances dictate**?** [ ] Yes [ ] No

**10. Do you inspect rope reeving for noncompliance with manufacturer's recommendations on a **daily to monthly basis as circumstances dictate**?** [ ] Yes [ ] No

**11. Do you complete periodic inspections, i.e., complete inspections at 1 to 12 month intervals?**  Yes  No

**Note:** Don't answer YES unless periodic inspections include, at a minimum, inspection of:

- o Deformed, cracked or corroded members;
- o Loose bolts or rivets;
- o Cracked or worn sheaves and drums;
- o Worn, cracked or distorted parts such as pins, bearings, shafts, gears, rollers, locking and clamping devices;
- o Excessive wear on brake system parts, linings, pawls and ratchets;
- o Load, wind, and other indicators over their full range, for any significant inaccuracies;
- o Gasoline, diesel, electric or other powerplants for improper performance or noncompliance with safety requirements;
- o Excessive wear of chain drive sprockets and excessive chain stretch; and
- o Electrical apparatus, for signs of pitting or any deterioration of controller contactors, limit switches and pushbutton stations.

**12. Do you give a crane that's been idle for more than 1 month but less than 6 months a complete inspection, including examination of observed defects and determining whether they constitute a safety hazard, before placing it into service?**  Yes  No

**13. Do you inspect standby cranes are inspected at least semi-annually?**  Yes  No