



Tower Crane Safety

Tower cranes are commonly used to build large structures, such as skyscrapers. If they are not properly inspected, maintained, or operated, they can create serious hazards on construction sites. Fatalities and injuries can occur from the crane collapsing, electrocutions, or being struck by a load or part of the crane.

Antonio's Story

A tower crane was being used to lift a steel beam to the top floor of a building under construction. Antonio was guiding the beam as it was lowered to the ground. It was a windy day. The beam, which was not centered correctly, started to swing. Antonio was unable to move out of the way in time, and the load swung and struck him. He was transported to the hospital with life-threatening injuries.

- ✘ How could this incident have been prevented?
- ✘ Have you known or heard of anyone who was injured or killed by a tower crane? If so, what happened?

Remember This

- Any personnel involved in the lift should be licensed/certified and trained, if appropriate.

- A qualified person must inspect the crane for excessive wear or damage before use.
- **DO NOT** stand underneath the crane during assembly or disassembly.
- Monitor wind speeds and **DO NOT** operate the crane if they are greater than those specified by the manufacturer or a qualified person.
- Inspect all rigging prior to use, and make sure the load is properly rigged before a lift.
- Always check the weight of the load. **DO NOT** lift a load that exceeds the crane's capacity.
- Keep clear of overhead power lines and maintain a safe working clearance from the lines.
- **DO NOT** stand under a suspended load at any time.
- Use tag lines to control loads. Never try to stop a moving load with your hands.
- Communicate using radio and hand signals to ensure a safe lift.

How can we stay safe today?

What will we do at the worksite to prevent injuries while working with tower cranes?

1. _____

2. _____

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