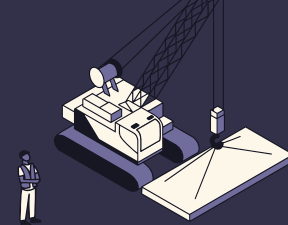


# Lifting Operations/**Dogmen**



In civil and commercial construction, cranes are used to move large loads. A competent crane operator is essential. The dogman (rigger) handles slinging the load. The site controller ensures the crane is operational, safely positioned, and used properly.

## Awareness of hazards:

A crane (or hoist) and the slinging equipment attached form a lifting system. Failure of the system creates a risk of falling objects. Other hazards in the lifting environment include other booms, overhead services, structures, vehicles, people, ground and weather conditions.

Lifting, moving and landing loads requires the dogman to have absolute awareness of the entire load pathway for the duration of the lift. They are ready to respond to accidents.

## Understanding risks:

The dogman ensures equipment is used correctly, is in safe condition, and considers the working load limits (WLL) of each component. The choice of equipment and slinging methods depend on the weight, dimensions, strength, and balance of the load. The angle of sling legs, corners of loads, and lift 'shocks' all

## Eliminate or minimise risks (examples):

Risk controls focus on either the hazard or the behaviour of workers and others.

- **Eliminate the hazard.** Disconnect power lines. Work within safe WLL.
- **Substitute the hazard.** Appropriate slinging methods and equipment.
- **Isolate the hazard.** Exclusion and pedestrian zones. Keep lifting/slew zones clear.
- **Use engineered modifications.** Visual/audible lift warnings. Emergency equipment.

Focusing on human behaviours include:

- **Administration** of safe systems of work. Training (US 3789 - "Sling varied regular loads and safely direct a crane during crane operations"). Lifting plans. Communication signals.
- **Personal protection equipment (PPE).** Communication devices (worn).

affect the WLL of slings, ropes, chains and components.

It's critical to estimate the weight and centre of gravity of the load accurately to maintain a balanced and stable lift. The dogman coordinates the lift by communicating with the operator using signals or radio. The crane or boom operator is responsible for the lifting equipment.

**Safe behaviours** include being mentally and physically fit for risky work. Ensuring equipment is certified and in good working order. Workers are made aware of lifts in progress. Keep hands away from machinery, ropes, and loads. Dogmen should use lifting plans, rigging plans and boom clash agreements if applicable.

**Unsafe behaviours** include walking under loads, entering slewing zones, and not wearing PPE.

**Any person may signal "stop" during lifts.**