



Refuelling equipment

Crane operators often need to refuel cranes or other equipment on jobsites. Refuelling is potentially hazardous work, so it's crucial to follow safe work practices to reduce the risk of fires and injuries.

Depending on the jobsite, you may need to work with the site superintendent or an assistant to determine what steps, equipment, and materials are available to carry out refuelling. In any case, refuelling must be carried out according to applicable regulations and the crane manufacturer's recommendations.

Refuelling a crane may seem very straightforward. But an error in the process can cause a dangerous incident.

Key questions to ask before refuelling

Ask yourself the following questions before refuelling:

- Is there a designated refuelling area?
- Is the refuelling area kept free of combustible materials and slipping and tripping hazards?
- What is the plan in the event of a spill? Where is the closest spill kit?
- Is the fuel-dispensing tank properly labelled (i.e., with the type of fuel it contains)?

Safe work practices for refuelling

Safe work practices for refuelling include the following:

- Shut off the engine before refuelling. If necessary, allow the engine to cool.
- Never smoke during refuelling operations.



- Don't refuel near an open flame or a source of sparks.
- Keep a fire extinguisher within 3 metres.
- Properly secure the crane and chock its wheels (if applicable) to prevent it from accidentally moving.
- Be sure that both the fuel-dispensing tank and the crane are grounded.
- Check the fuel hose assembly for a ULC sticker or label. This marking means that the hose meets requirements for dissipating static electricity.
- Concentrate on the task of refuelling.
- To reduce the risk of a spill, do not overfill or "top off" the tank. On hot days, leave some room in the tank to allow the fuel to expand.
- Clean up any spills immediately by using a spill kit.
- Report all spills.

OHS Regulation references: sections 4.3, 5.27, and 23.6

Project:

Address:

Employer:

Supervisor:

Date:

Time:

Shift:

Number in crew:

Number attending:

Other safety concerns or suggestions:

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Record of those attending:

Name: (please print)		Signature:	Company:
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Manager's remarks:

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Manager:
(Signature)

Supervisor:
(Signature)

For more information on health and safety requirements for crane operations in B.C., refer to the *Workers Compensation Act* and the OHS Regulation on worksafebc.com.