

Lift Planning

A lift plan provides a systematic approach to preparing for a lift. It involves taking the opportunity before the load is in the air to consider all the aspects of the lift. It also helps ensure that a lift is properly managed. For example, a lift plan aims to ensure the following:

- The crane is safely deployed and operated.
- The lifting crew clearly understands its roles and responsibilities.
- The workers, the load, and the surrounding equipment and property are protected during the lift.

A lift plan should be prepared any time a crane is used.

Components of a Lift Plan

Consider the following when developing a lift plan:

- The load's weight, dimensions, distribution, centre of gravity, and lifting points
- The lifting equipment and gear, including crane capabilities and rigging details
- The lifting crew, including their roles and competencies
- The lifting method, including maximum hoist line speed
- The path the crane and the load will travel during the lift
- Requirements (if any) to erect or dismantle lifting equipment
- Communication methods and the need for and position of signallers
- Wind speed limitations
- A sketch of the lifting zone (showing the position of lifting equipment, crew, and load)
- Any other important information (e.g., special precautions such as maximum crane travel speed.)



Planning for Critical Lifts

Before starting a critical lift or a tandem lift moved laterally, the employer must ensure that a written lift plan is prepared. These plans can take days or weeks to prepare. Detailed engineering reviews may be needed to address any unique challenges. More resources may be required to handle the lift once the load is on the hook.

The plan should also include the following:

- Safe work procedures or a method statement
- Other relevant documents (e.g., load capacity chart, range diagram, rigging method)
- Risk assessment documents for engineering control

For more information on tandem lifts and critical lifts, see:

OHS Regulation Sections [14.42](#) and [14.42.1](#)

BC Crane Safety's Toolbox Talk: [Planning and Performing a Critical Lift](#)

BC Crane Safety's [Lift Plan Template](#)

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: Supervisor:

(Signature)

(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 at worksafebc.com.