

Raising the bar on health and safety in crane operations, roles and responsibilities

Three Year Plan: 2018 - 2020

Three-Year Operational Plan 2018-2020

Introduction

BC Crane Safety is the certification and licensing authority for crane operations in British Columbia. We are primarily funded by WorkSafeBC. BC Crane Safety:

- Provides leadership for health and safety development within the crane hoisting industry
- Serves as an advisory body on regulatory and safety matters
- Works closely with industry, labour, and government to develop and implement new standards of assessment and certification; and
- Provides leadership in the establishment, maintenance, and support of industry specific assessment tools (theory and practical) which result in a BC Crane Operator designation.

Since our foundation in 2005, we have worked tirelessly to achieve consensus across 70 diverse industry classification units to develop regulations and a certification regime that protects workers, contractors, employers and the general public from health and safety-related incidents. Our number one goal is, and has always been, to ensure the safest workplaces possible.

We serve all of our stakeholders – including crane owners, contractors, and operators – as a forum for effectively addressing occupational health and safety issues and as an industry advisory body regarding standards, regulations and qualifications.

Our internationally recognized certification program ensures reliable, accessible and fair assessments including documented proof of competency as well as theoretical and practical tests. Our certification scheme stands out in Canada as a unique made-in-BC competency-based system that assesses and recognizes what applicants know and can do, whether they learned through formal training, on the job, or a combination of both. To date, we have overseen the certification of more than 15000 crane operators working in industries that range from construction to fish farming, sawmills to film and TV.

We are committed to the ongoing development of better practice resources as well as the continued monitoring, improvement and expansion of our certification scheme. This three-year plan outlines our goals moving forward.

Our Guiding Principles

Vision

Safe and effective crane, hoisting, and rigging operations throughout British Columbia

Mission

To engage with our stakeholders concerned with cranes, hoists and rigging, including employers and workers, across multiple sectors to support safe crane and hoisting operations in British Columbia

Mandate

- Maintain the integrity, validity and reliability of crane operator certification and licensing within British Columbia
- Collaborate with industry and other stakeholders to identify and promote industry practices that support safe and effective crane & hoisting operations in BC
- Advocate for standards, policies and regulations that support safe and effective crane operations in BC through stakeholder engagement and advisory groups

Our Values

- Innovation
- Evidence-based
- Accountability
- Fairness
- Service
- Collaboration
- Stewardship
- Effectiveness
- Sustainability
- Leadership
- Transparency
- Integrity
- Expertise
- Partnership
- Professionalism

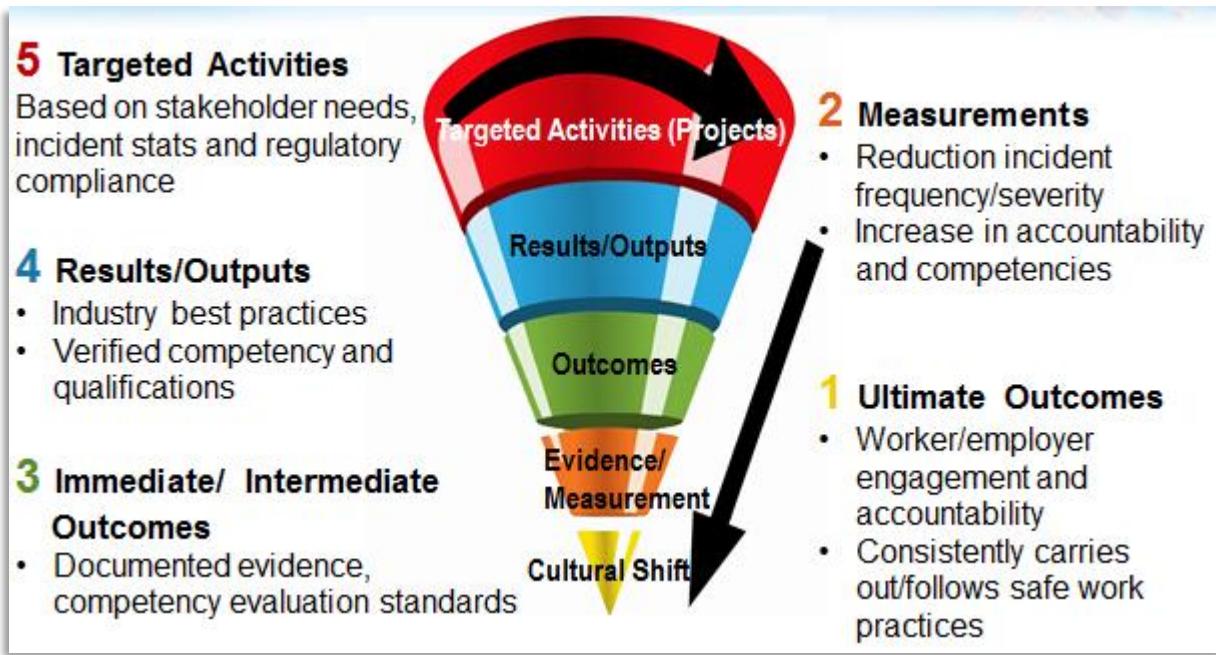
Organizational Objectives

- Promoting accident-free crane operations throughout British Columbia
- The establishment in British Columbia of a cost-effective crane operator qualification regime that:
 - Involves documented proof of competency
 - Includes theoretical and practical assessments
 - Is accessible and available at all levels and types of industry
- Promoting the attractiveness of the trade to prospective entry-level crane operators and the timely achievement of their qualifications
- Serving as an industry advisory body to agencies in a position to oversee qualifications and standards
- Serving as an advisory body to the Workers' Compensation Board of British Columbia (WorkSafeBC) regarding occupational health and safety matters and regulations as they impact crane operations.

BC Crane Safety Logic Model

Using this 3-D rotating logic model, BC Crane Safety has achieved key objectives since 2005 including:

- The development and implementation of basic, agreed-upon safety standards for all crane types affected by Occupational Health and Safety Regulations
- The development of apprenticeship programs for applicable crane types, sharing a common core to support clear career paths for new entrants
- Ensuring the availability and accessibility of the program to all levels and types of industry
- Completion and delivery of educational and training resources
- Accommodation of third-party provision of technical theory and practical assessment as well as the delivery of practical training at the employer level
- Up-to-date examination materials and exam banks



Promoting accident-free crane operations throughout British Columbia

Our most important priority is, and continues to be, the maintenance of the crane operator qualification system to address the needs of all operators and employers in the province. Oversight of this system is the number one key to achieving safe and effective crane, hoisting, and rigging operations throughout BC.

Many of our activities are therefore routine and ongoing, including:

- Delivering administrative services for the crane industry, including operator logbooks
- Maintaining a load chart information database and question bank for the assessment process
- Ongoing quality assurance of the assessment process
- Updating and maintaining the standards and theory exam questions
- Accommodating operators from other jurisdictions and facilitating the Out Of Jurisdiction (OOJ) process in compliance with the Agreement on Internal Trade (AIT)
- Maintaining a crane operator database and operator/employer registry
- Ongoing assessment delivery, development, and evaluation

WorkSafeBC's

Occupational Health and Safety Regulation (OHSR 14.34.1 Operator Certification) requires all crane operators to have a valid operator's certificate. Crane operators must be qualified and competent on the specific equipment they use. Being **qualified** means an operator knows the work, the hazards involved, and how to control the hazards.

This knowledge can come through education, training, experience, or a combination.

Being qualified also means an operator has been instructed in how to use the specific equipment. Being **competent** means an operator has demonstrated how to safely operate, inspect, and maintain a specific machine.

Maintaining BC's world-class crane operator certification regime

We collaborate with industry and other stakeholders to identify and promote industry practices that support safe and effective crane and hoisting operations in BC through ongoing communication and consultations. In addition to ongoing collaboration with all our stakeholders, we provide important opportunities for larger-scale stakeholder engagement.

Projected milestones:

Tower Crane Conferences in 2018 and 2019

- Co-host with WorkSafeBC
- Information sessions
- Collaborative discussion and input through stakeholder engagement

Crane Rental Association of Canada (CRAC) Conference in 2018, 2019 and 2020

- Information sessions
- Consultation regarding the development of new Rigging and Telehandler Standards

Projected outcomes:

Greater stakeholder engagement including:

- A sense of unity of purpose
- Greater communication and networking between stakeholder groups
- Greater understanding of the value of certification and emerging OHS issues
- Opportunities for stakeholder input and collaboration
- Consultation on, and ultimately, validation of new standards

Through our ongoing consultations with stakeholders on a smaller scale, we work diligently and continuously to maintain our certification standards and assessment processes, and to respond quickly to emergent issues and technological change.

Activities include:

- Identification of current practices
- Identification of alternate practice
- Evaluation of industry practices
- Engagement with stakeholders
 - Manufacturers
 - Owners/Employers
 - Operators
 - Regulator
- Identification or design of performance/competency standards

Projected outcomes:

- Anticipated certification of approximately
 - 2000 crane operators in 2018
 - 1500 crane operators in 2019
 - 1500 crane operators in 2020
- Updated certification policies and procedures and implementation of an improved certification management system in accordance with ISO 17024
- Development and implementation of an online registration, information, and administration system and mobile logbook
- Development and implementation of an online cost-free renewals system
- Development and implementation of an online credential checking system
- An updated registration database
- Production of new industry practice guidelines including
 - Tower Crane Pre-Erection Requirements Checklist
 - Tower Crane Assembly and Disassembly
- Development and validation of new Rigging Standard
- Development and validation of new Telehandler Standard
- Development and validation of new Lift Director Standard

Projected milestone:

Implementation of ISO 17024 Certification Standard foundation

- Tied to the development of new standards for Rigging and Telehandler
- Includes the review, revision, and promotion of industry/better practices
- Target completion date: 2020

Attracting prospective entry-level operators

Our ongoing efforts to promote crane operations as an attractive profession include the development of promotional materials and tools to help new entrants navigate the certification system and support the timely achievement of their chosen credential. We continue to update and expand these supports.

Projected outcomes

- Candidate Handbook
- Development of online registration system
- Development of online logbook
- Development of online credential checking system
- Practice questions and quizzes

Supporting Labour Mobility

Holding a BC Crane Operator Certification is highly portable. Through mutual recognition agreements, crane operators with credentials from other Canadian provinces and territories and some US states can work in British Columbia based on recognition of the credential they earned in their home jurisdiction. And it works both ways. There is an application process to recognize valid credentials from outside of BC. Currently, there is no processing fee for this service.

Growth

We continue to expand our reach to other jurisdictions, nationally and internationally, to compare and harmonize certification standards, support robust standards across jurisdictions and support labour mobility.

Activities include

Engagement and industry representation with

- International Standards Organization (ISO)
- Standards Council of Canada (SCC)
- Canadian Standards Association (CSA)
- Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA)
- European Crane Operators License (Esta ECOL)
- Certifying bodies in individual EU member states

Projected milestones

Anticipated signing of Mutual Recognition Agreements (MRAs) with European Union jurisdictions in 2020

- ECOL
- Ireland
- UK

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