



Meeting the challenge of change through training

Due Diligence of the Training Material Content

➤ **Standardization of Safety Training Programs**

“Due Diligence” these two words are beginning to have a major impact in all areas of business and industry worldwide, as it is becoming a minimum requirement to provide objective evidence of due diligence for nearly everything we do. Occupational Health & Safety defines due diligence as **“doing everything reasonably practicable”** to prevent a failure or injury. In most regions OH&S is demanding more of the employer by making them “explicitly responsible” for providing proper objective evidence of due diligence for worker safety and worksite safety. This could have a major impact on supervisors as they can be deemed as the employer and therefore can be held responsible.

What this means for operation of overhead lifting equipment is, there must be documented procedures implemented for daily crane operations, inspections rigging applications, training, monitoring worker performance, internal audit, non-conformance and corrective action. Having these processes and procedures properly implemented and maintained will ensure the operator is continuously working in accordance to the safety training received and also compliance to applicable jurisdictional requirements.

Within the couple of years it will become necessary for safety training material content to be developed and documented in accordance and compliant to all applicable standards and codes. Independent third party audits may also be required to ensure compliance of the content to applicable standards and codes. In the event of a serious accident, injury or fatality, if negligence can be proven that the training material content is incomplete or incorrect, the training vendor together with the employer could be held liable in a fine or lawsuit.

Having the proper due diligence records in place for crane operations, rigging applications, and training for workers, will help ensure compliance to the jurisdictional requirements, and a safer work environment for workers.

STANDARDIZATION OF SAFETY TRAINING PROGRAMS

Standardization is fast becoming a major factor for providing safety training to multi-site organizations. Presently it is a common practice for most large organizations to make each of their sites independently responsible for selecting a training vendor to provide safety training for their overhead crane Operators. There is no consistency and very little traceability for monitoring this method of safety training to the corporate office. Which may result costing a large organization hundreds of thousands of dollars a year in unforeseen costs, i.e. worker injuries, WCB rate increases, down time, abuse of equipment, costly repairs, loss of production, loss of a customer, fines and lawsuits, etc, etc. most commonly these costs are usually chalked up to the cost of doing business and not necessarily accountable.

Industry is now realizing the necessity for developing standardized safety training programs that are applicable to all locations. This would relieve the site managers of the responsibility of qualifying the vendors, as the company corporate safety training program would state the minimum content requirement and duration of training required. Each company Location will only need to include additional instructions that are unique to their operation.

Globalization and Standardization of the safety-training requirements is also a very time-efficient and cost-effective way of ensuring the provided training is consistent and traceable throughout the organization. Standardization also makes it easier for the corporate office to develop objective evidence of due diligence ensuring compliance to all applicable jurisdictional requirements.

ACTi is one of the first companies that have objective proof of due diligence of continuous improvement to our safety training programs. ACTi, safety-training course material content is annually audited by an industry expert professional engineer to the following standards; CSA B167-96, ANSI standards A244.1 and ASME B30 series, ISO-9926-1-*Training of Drivers*, AWHs regulations and Federal OSHA - CFR 1910.179 and 1910.184. The main purpose of these audits is to ensure the material content is in



accordance and compliant to all applicable provincial, federal and international codes, standards. The General Safety regulations are addressed on an individual need as per province, state (Federal OSHA), or country's requirements. These audits also relieve a lot of the liability to ACTi, our instructors and our clients, in the event of an accident, injury, fatality, or a personnel injury suit. Therefore ACTi courses are applicable throughout Canada, the United States and any country that recognizes the ISO World crane standard T96 – Chapter 9926-1- *Training of Drivers*.

ACTi courseware material content exceeds the requirements of the Canadian Bill C45 and the compliance requirements of regional Health and Safety authorities and standards. ACTi safety training courses also exceeds the United States, NCCCO certification exam requirements for overhead crane operators five ton and over.

The main reason for choosing ACTi safety-training programs is because they are standardized and audited, reducing responsibility of liability, making them "A cost recovery-training program, not just another cost incurred". In addition, if ACTi'S safety training methodology if properly presented, implemented and maintained, a large multi-site organization could realize a significant decrease in all related costs for this equipment within in a period of a year or less.

ACTi primarily provides licencing of our courseware in different types of Train-The-Trainer programs for in-house training applicable to our clients needs.

- "Engineer Certificates" (attachment) Audits are performed annually on our product material content to ensure current and compliant to all applicable standards and regs listed on the certificates
- "Course Outlines" For both the operator and supervisor courses. ACTi'S courseware has been audited to the ISO 9926-1 standards for the past ten years; this means our practical testing (hands-on) is in compliance to the new CSA-B167-08 requirements, in that it mirrors the theory portion of the training. The additional Supervisor course is strongly recommended for all applicable supervisory personnel, as it will be of assistance for documenting and implementing all the required procedures.
- ACTi has done everything "Reasonably Practicable" to ensure the safety training programs we provide is complete and compliant to all applicable standards, codes also reducing a lot of our responsibility of liability to ACTi, our instructors and our clients.

Bio

Judy Mellott has 20 years experience in the crane industry, starting as a partner in a successful overhead crane inspection and maintenance company. She is responsible for forming three industry committees, chairperson for two, which resulted in two *"Industry Best Practices Bulletins"* published by AWHs (OH&S) including two subsequent revisions. These practices are still current and are the industry minimum requirement in Alberta.

Judy is an active technical committee member on the CSA B167-96 Crane Standard and assisted with the revised CSA B167-08 Standard to be in compliance with ISO 4301 International World Standards for Cranes. She also participates as the CSA Committee Member approved liaison on the ASME B30 Standards Committee for cranes. Judy has participated as a Task Force member on the NCCCO (National Commission for Certification of Crane Operators) certification program for overhead crane operators. As a direct result of her participation they changed the certification requirement to be applicable all overhead lifting equipment five tons and over.

Presently she works with AWHs (Alberta Workplace Health & Safety OH&S) assisting with revising the Codes and Regulations related to Cranes. Judy is a recognized writer for "Hoisting & Rigging" as well as for two international magazines "HOIST" and "OCH".

ACTi is leading the industry by developing training material content that is standardized, in accordance and compliant to all applicable national and international standards. It is our mandate to set the industry minimum acceptable standard for safety training in North America.

Further information will be provided on your request; I also would like to invite you to visit our web site, www.actisafety.ca

ACTi #100, 10405 – 178 Street, Edmonton, AB T6S 1R5
Bus: (780) 466 – 3051 Fax: (780) 462 – 1316

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