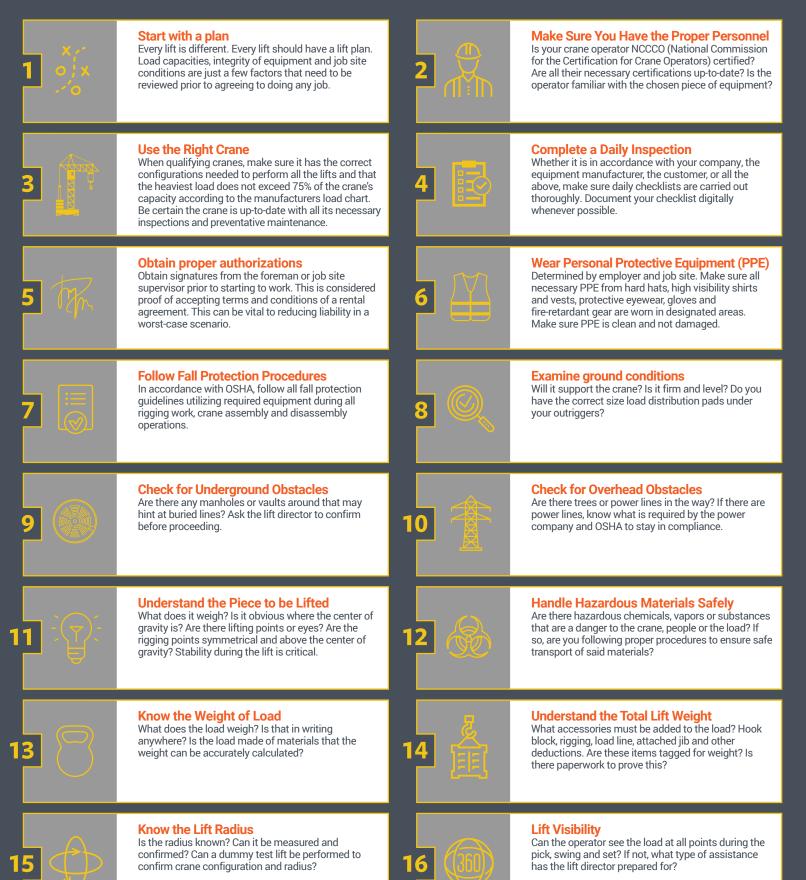
# FLEET COST & CARE 25 TIPS FOR TACKLING CRANE SAFETY

Cranes are powerful machines, capable of impressive feats that define the skylines of our cities and enable entire industries to function. Unfortunately, mistakes and negligence do occur when cranes are not treated with the respect and due diligence required. To promote safety in the grane & heavy lifting industry, we wanted to offer up a few tips that are always good to have top of mind when you are planning a job or in the seat.



### **Examine the Lift Area**

Is the lift area controlled? Are there people, valuable materials or equipment in vicinity of the swing radius? Is the area cordoned off with caution tape and are there signal persons prepared to keep people out of the area?



### Watch the Weather

Is inclement weather going to prevent the lift? Do weather reports expect conditions to change? Does the load have a sail area that will further reduce the maximum possible wind allowed? Are extreme temperatures present that will affect the lift?

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### **Know your Rigger**

Is the rigger certified and competent to perform the work?



## **Obtain the Proper Rigging Equipment**

Is the rigging equipment in good condition and tagged for capacity? Are there calculations that show rigging sufficient to handle the loads? Will the load be stable when picked as proposed? Are correct softeners used when required to protect the load and rigging?



### Inspect Rigging Equipment Daily

Inspect all rigging equipment each day prior to use. Visual observations should be concerned with discovering gross damages which may be an immediate hazard. (Periodic inspections based on frequency of use should be scheduled by your safety director in addition to daily inspections.)



### **Use Cranes Properly**

Cranes are engineered for vertical lifting. Do not think your situation is unique and that you and your crew can pull off side loading a crane. Any improper lifting puts extreme stress on the boom and other structural components making any such lift very dangerous.



# Use Signal Persons When Necessary

Will signal persons use hand signals or verbal commands over radio? If radio, is there a dedicated channel to be used? Are batteries fully charged? Are the signal persons certified and competent to perform the job required?



### Tag Lines

Will tag lines be used? Are they long enough and strong enough to control the load? Does the person holding the rope know how to control the load?



### **Pay Attention**

This may seem obvious, but even during the downtime between lifts it is important that everyone associated with the crane stays alert and focused. Failure to do so can create potential danger for anyone at or around the job site.

If you're interested in learning more ways to keep your fleet safe, contact the Fleet Cost & Care team today.

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