

Crane Safety: Stability and Ground

PROJECT / SITE	DATE	TALK LED BY

THE HAZARD

Peak lifting season is when ground conditions and setup errors turn into collapses. A crane that was safe on Monday can be unsafe on Thursday if it rained in between.

WHAT GOES WRONG

- Outriggers not fully deployed, or set on pads too small for the bearing pressure.
- Ground assumed to be as it was, after rain, after a nearby excavation, or after backfill.
- Load weight estimated rather than known, and the chart consulted afterwards.
- People walking or working under a suspended load because the route is shorter.

CONTROLS: BEFORE YOU START

- Deploy outriggers fully and use pads sized for the ground you actually have.
- Re-assess ground bearing after rain, after vibration and after any nearby digging.
- Know the weight before you lift and read the chart for the radius you will swing to.
- Keep everyone out from under the load and out of the swing path, and enforce it.
- Agree who signals and use one signaller only, visible to the operator throughout.

ASK THE CREW

1. What is the ground under the crane like today compared to when it was set up?
2. Who signs off the lift plan on this job?
3. Do we know the weight of today's heaviest pick, or are we estimating?
4. Who is the signaller, and can the operator see them from every position?

ATTENDANCE RECORD

Everyone present signs below. This sheet is the record of the talk.

PRINT NAME	SIGNATURE
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SUPERVISOR / COMPETENT PERSON	SIGNATURE