



Greetings All,

Many of you who are either CICA or state crane association members, or are on one or more of the crane related mailing lists may have recently seen the press release from CICA regarding the recent discovery of 3 seemingly unrelated cases of fraudulent and counterfeit "Green Stickers."



The press release was issued on March 13th and is freely available from CICA, or by searching online. In the press release, CICA CEO Alan Marshall described some of CICA's concerns that this recent news brings to industry.

The first and foremost question on anybody's mind should be why somebody would try and give such a false impression. The green sticker component of the CraneSafe inspection isn't very expensive. To apply for the sticker and have it issued, the cost is equivalent to a new tyre for your partner's car.



Every single person working in and around cranes deserves to be safe. There are numerous obligations under OHS Acts, Regulations and Australian Standards on what levels of maintenance that apply to cranes, and regardless of the cost, these obligations must be met. The days of dragging old cranes out of the paddock are gone forever.

The CraneSafe program is still a voluntary program. The very fact that many sites insist on a Green Sticker goes a long way to defining the vision that our crane industry leaders had back in 2002 when the program was first launched in Victoria. With more than 7000 assessments conducted last year, the numbers speak for themselves.

So how can anybody across our industry recognise a counterfeit Green Sticker?

More than likely, the sticker would not be the first thing that raises your awareness. The condition of the crane should be something that makes a statement by itself. If the crane looks like it has been poorly maintained, it most likely has. Oil leaks happen from time to time on any machine, and there are times when a crane might be on site for extended periods of time and doesn't get to see a pressure washer as often as it should. But if something appears to not be right, generally speaking, further follow up should be appropriate.

Missing maintenance records, incomplete paperwork on chains and other lifting gear and dirty or ripped slings are all further signs that the crane may not be maintained as well as it should be. If you look at the crane as a whole, the green sticker should be only one of the components that should appear to be in place.

If the sticker looks like it has been tampered with, or just doesn't look like something that has been professionally printed, further follow up should occur. Even if the sticker "looks" right, the condition of the crane may be something that is of concern.

CICA advises the greater crane and lifting industry that if anyone has any concerns as to the integrity of a Green Sticker, or the validity of the inspection period. Please contact the CraneSafe office on (03) 9501 0078 and press "1" to speak with Tracey Watson.

The CraneSafe database has over 10,000 cranes on record since it started and whilst some of those machines have been sold to other parts of the world, or sent to the giant lifting yard in the sky, there is still full and comprehensive records that can be cross checked for accuracy.

Our industry is one that has its own unique issues that try us all on at times. Long hours, Road Regulators that don't understand what we do..... the last thing anybody wants to see is an accident because an unsafe crane was used.

Cheers for now and have a Safe Week.

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