



The Crane Industry Council of Australia

Media Release

Timely reminder to lift safety

17 September 2021

The Crane Industry Council of Australia (CICA) is urging all mobile crane companies to make use of the ground condition and lift planning resources available to improve their safety systems.

The Hazard 2020 Safety Campaign Update by the Federal Safety Commissioner highlights ongoing problems with scaffolding and mobile cranes on the building sites of over 500 companies accredited under the Australian Government Work Health Safety Accreditation Scheme.

Federal Safety Commissioner David Denney noted that there had been improvements in mobile plant safety generally, however, “36 per cent of companies failed to have or implement safe systems of work for the use of mobile cranes taking into account ground conditions, the development of lift plans where required and the lifting of materials and workers.”

CICA CEO, Brandon Hitch said “October is Safe Work month, and a timely reminder that on site safety vigilance requires a proactive approach. I would encourage both CICA members and non-members to use the CICA resources available to them to conduct their own safety audits. Take the time to identify knowledge gaps, and address them immediately.”

CICA has developed a ground pressure App called “CICA Calc” to calculate ground pressure or crane mat size, based on the formulas and ground pressure

capacity estimates provided in the Queensland Mobile Crane Code of Practice 2006. This App is freely available to all.

The CICA technical committee also regularly reviews the CICA Guidance Notes on lifting, crane stability and ground pressure.

CICA Guidance Notes and Safety Bulletins are available on the CICA website, and members have access to a wider range of Guidance Notes and lift planning advice.

In closing comments, Brandon Hitch said “CICA’s indefatigable quest is to make sure the people who own, use, work and drive alongside cranes, arrive home safely each night”.

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