

Greetings all. Today's Bulletin is about how the *CICA Lift Supervisor Program* will improve on-site safety.

In 2015, RMIT researchers, Gharai, Lingard and Cooke, documented their findings in a paper entitled "[\*Causes of Fatal Accidents Involving Cranes in the Australian Construction Industry\*](#)". This paper investigated crane-related fatalities to find the upstream causation of these accidents.

Their findings noted "the most frequent crane-related accident types were those that were struck by load, and electrocution. The most prevalent immediate circumstance causes were layout of the site and restricted space". Another of the more prevalent causes was unsafe actions taken by workers, including the crane operator and workers in the vicinity of the crane. The level of skill and knowledge of workers was also identified as being a relevant shaping factor.



To fill the skill, experience and knowledge gaps of the crane crew members between their High-Risk Work License (HRWL) training and the practical operations for the lifting jobs on site, CICA together with a group of industry experts from crane companies and construction contractors have developed a training curriculum called the *CICA Lift Supervisor Program*.

The course content of the *CICA Lift Supervisor Program* has been developed by industry experts who on average each have 20 plus years of experience. This program will benefit the crane industry by improving overall safety performance, and benefit crane crew members as the program provides a pathway for them to progress to the next level of their crane and lifting career.



To deliver the program efficiently and effectively, the *Level 1- Lift and Transport* portion of the program has been split into two parts, an online self-learning program and face-to-face classroom teaching program. The online learning modules focus on reviewing the knowledge and skills learnt from the High-Risk Work (HRW) Licence training, plus some basic crane related knowledge that is useful and practical for providing guidance as a lift supervisor for crane operations.

Although HRW training organisations follow the content set out in the regulations, they may focus on some aspects and overlook others, or some of the knowledge learnt from HRW training may not be used frequently enough for the crew member to have consolidated the skills to be competent a few years after the training. It is imperative that the lift supervisor be very familiar with all aspects and provide guidance if required.

The online self-learning component of the *CICA Lift Supervisor* program includes five modules:

- Engineering principal basics
- Sling and rigging basics
- Different types of cranes and crane charts
- Specific lifting operations (powerline, workbox, marine lift)
- Transport safety

The face-to-face classroom teaching aspect incorporates three modules and a final assessment:

- Engineering calculations and rigging stability
- Crane loads and lift planning
- Complex lift (multi-crane/multi-hook lift, precast lift)



Program participants will be required to complete the online self-learning modules prior to attending face-to-face classroom teaching.

The [adaptive learning model](#) was selected for the online component over other platforms for its relevance, meaning, for experienced operators, the training and assessment will be accelerated. For inexperienced operators, the training will be more thorough. This variation in training credits the industry for existing knowledge while providing additional training for those not competent.

This program aims to make operators and their employers aware of the knowledge and skills gaps that exist and to substitute or replace them with sound knowledge and understanding of the crane, how it operates and lifts in certain circumstances and how to mitigate the risk of an adverse event.

The ideal candidate for Level 1 of the program is someone with C6 or above, HRWL crane license and Intermediate Rigging License with at least 2 years of crane industry related experience.

The *CICA Lift Supervisor Program* will be launched at the 2022 CICA National Conference. If you would like more information, please contact Alice Edwards ([projeng@cica.com.au](mailto:projeng@cica.com.au))

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