

Greetings all, today's bulletin is about the importance of crane servicing and maintaining safe work practises when servicing a crane on site.

Given their critical function in lifting and moving heavy loads, it is so important to regularly and thoroughly service cranes.

Understanding Crane Servicing

Crane servicing is a multifaceted process involving several key steps:

1. **Routine Inspection:** Regular inspections are crucial to identify wear and tear, potential malfunctions, or safety hazards. These inspections should cover the crane's mechanical, electrical, and hydraulic systems, as well as structural components like the boom, jib, ropes, and hooks.
2. **Preventive Maintenance:** This includes tasks such as lubricating moving parts, checking fluid levels, and replacing worn-out components. Preventive maintenance is vital to extend the lifespan of the crane and prevent breakdowns.
3. **Load Testing:** Conducting load tests ensures that the crane can safely lift the maximum weight specified by the manufacturer. This test helps in validating the integrity of the crane's structure and its operational capabilities.
4. **Safety Systems Check:** Modern cranes are equipped with various safety systems such as overload indicators, emergency stop buttons, and anti-collision devices. Regular checks and calibration of these systems are imperative for safe operation.
5. **Software Updates and Calibration:** For cranes with digital controls and monitoring systems, software updates and calibrations are essential to ensure accurate functioning and compliance with the latest safety standards.

StartSafe

CICA's [StartSafe](#) app is an excellent tool designed to streamline crane maintenance operations and enhance safety.

[StartSafe](#) creates machine-specific checklists in line with the [CraneSafe](#) program, the QR code on the CICA Green Sticker prefills the crane's details which minimises typing issues. StartSafe streamlines the process for collecting the pre-starts, with instant data retention to a central location for the crane owner. The CICA Member portal maintains detailed records of all inspections, maintenance activities, and repairs. This documentation is crucial for tracking the crane's maintenance history and for regulatory compliance.

Photos that tell the story of how the crane condition changes throughout the life of the machine, assisting with major inspection evidence. When a faulty item is recorded by the operator, the maintenance team is notified of the issue by email which includes photo evidence of the fault. An additional app (StartSafe Maintenance) has been developed for the company's maintenance team to close the fault loop once the repair is completed. Crane Owners and their maintenance teams can also see the condition of the crane even if it is working remotely or on dry hire.



Conclusion

Effective servicing of cranes is a critical component in the lifecycle of cranes. Regular and thorough servicing not only ensures the safety of the crane operators and other personnel but also enhances the efficiency and longevity of the crane. As technology evolves and new safety standards are introduced, staying informed and adapting servicing practices accordingly remains paramount for anyone responsible for crane maintenance. CICA's [StartSafe](#), [CraneSafe](#) and Member Portal all work together to provide you with all the resources for a safe and productive worksite.



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For more information on any of these products or to become a CICA Member, please contact Paul Arztenhofer (paul@cica.com.au)

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