



CICA – Vic / Tas Branch Crane Safety Bulletin #362 May 2025



Greetings all. Today's Bulletin is about **the case for an Advanced Crane Licence**.

The operation and configuration of cranes require a highly specialised skill set, particularly when working with complex components such as large fly jibs, luffing fly, and when raising the boom combination off the ground.

These tasks demand not only technical proficiency but also a deep understanding of safety procedures, mechanical aptitude, and problem-solving skills.

Given the complexity and inherent risks associated with crane operations, an advanced crane licence would ensure that operators possess the necessary expertise to perform these tasks safely and efficiently.

A formalised advanced licensing framework would guarantee that operators have undergone rigorous training in these critical aspects in addition to basic crane licenses.

Technical Proficiency

The variety of cranes in use requires crane operators to have an in-depth understanding of different types of cranes, including mobile cranes, crawler cranes, articulated cranes and tower cranes.

Each type of crane has unique capabilities and limitations, and the correct configuration of components like fly jibs requires precise knowledge of load capacities, rigging requirements, and operational constraints.

Without advanced training, operators may lack the critical expertise needed to safely and efficiently set up and operate these machines, increasing the risk of accidents and equipment failure.

Safety Awareness

Safety is paramount in crane operations, particularly when configuring crane components.

Operators must adhere to strict safety protocols, ensuring proper load weights, secure rigging, and stable ground conditions.

Misconfiguration of a crane can result in catastrophic failures, endangering workers and the surrounding environment.

An advanced crane licence could mandate comprehensive training in safety regulations and best practices, reinforcing the importance of meticulous

planning and adherence to manufacturer specifications.

Mechanical Skills and Attention to Detail

The process of configuring fly jibs, back masts and other crane components requires a high degree of mechanical skill and manual dexterity.

Working on uneven terrain or in confined spaces further complicates the task, demanding precise control and careful execution.

Operators must also have a keen eye for detail to ensure that all components are installed correctly, outriggers are properly set, and the crane is levelled before lifting operations commence.

Knowledge of Manufacturer's Instructions

Because each crane model has specific guidelines for installing and configuring its components, including fly jibs and luffing fly attachments - operators must be proficient in interpreting and following the manufacturer's instructions to avoid improper installations that could compromise the crane's stability and functionality.

Understanding of Load Charts and Rigging Techniques

Crane operators should be adept at reading load charts, calculating weight distributions, and employing proper rigging techniques to ensure safe lifts.

Configuring a crane for different tasks requires a solid grasp of these principles to prevent overloading or imbalance.

Problem-Solving and Mental Fitness

Unexpected challenges frequently arise in crane operations, requiring operators to think critically and make informed decisions under pressure.

The ability to quickly assess a situation, adapt to changing conditions, and implement effective solutions is invaluable.

Mental agility is required to balance physical inputs from the crane, doggers and riggers with feedback from the rated capacity indicator and coordinate a safe response within the demands of a high-risk environment.

Advanced certification may reduce the likelihood of costly errors and safety breaches.



**CICA – Vic / Tas Branch
Crane Safety Bulletin
#362 May 2025**



Do you think an Advanced crane licence is desirable or necessary?

We'd be interested to hear your thoughts.

Stay Safe - CICA