

Greetings all. As you are aware, the COVID-19 Stage 4 restrictions in the Melbourne metro area will come into effect 11:59pm Wednesday, 5 August. Mitchell shire will remain Stage -3 to be joined by the other rural shires.



Mr Andrews described the construction sector as the "lifblood" of Victoria's economy and said many construction projects would be switched to a "pilot light" stage, and major government projects would continue with reduced staff. The following has been communicated about the Construction Sector.

Unchanged

- Construction of critical and essential infrastructure and services to support these projects will be permitted and ongoing.
- Critical repairs to residential premises, are allowed, where required for emergency or safety.

New Restrictions

- Any building project of more than three storeys can only 25 per cent of 'normal employees' on site.
- Buildings three storeys or less have a maximum of five workers, including supervisors, on site.
- Each site must have a COVID safe plan
- Workers can only work at one site during stage four
- There must not be blending of shifts

But what does this mean for the Crane industry in Metro Melbourne? If the crane is stationed onsite long term (eg Tower Cranes), then the rules above are clear.



The mobile Crane Hire Sector is somewhat different and under the [Stage 4 Industries Distribution List](#), it falls under: **RENTAL HIRING SECTOR** which is permitted to operate with a COVID Safe Plan if "**Supplying a Permitted Service or Industry**" which Construction still falls under.

This allows mobile cranes and their crew to visit multiple jobs within the 6-week lockdown.

The Mobile Crane Hire companies should do the following whilst under Stage 4 Restrictions.

- Have a COVID Safe Plan
- Defer any nonessential works and restrict their depots to essential staff only.
- When sending out cranes and crew, notify the contractor of the number of personnel accompanying the crane so they can ensure they are compliant with the new limits of workers onsite.
- Send the necessary crane crew to jobs conduct the lift safely.

Cranes Service / Diesel Mechanics are permitted to carryout essential maintenance/service works with a COVID safe plan, on the machines critical to keep the permitted construction sector operating safely and reliably.



Here are some useful links:

[COVID Safe Plan Fact Sheet](#)

[COVID Risk Assessments](#)

[Risk Register Example](#)

[COVID Workplace Checklist](#)

[My-Business COVID safe Plan](#)

Note: The Information provided here is current as of 4-Aug-2020 and due to the complexities of the micro sectors of the currently 'permitted' construction sector, is subject to a degree of interpretation. There are continuous updates and clarification from the Premier and Chief Medical Officer, and these will be passed on if deemed to be contradictory or in contrast to this material.

There will be further updates soon around Permits / Risk Assessments and COVID Safe plans.

Stay Safe, CICA