



# TOOLBOX

**SAFETY  
TRAINING**

Company \_\_\_\_\_ Location \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

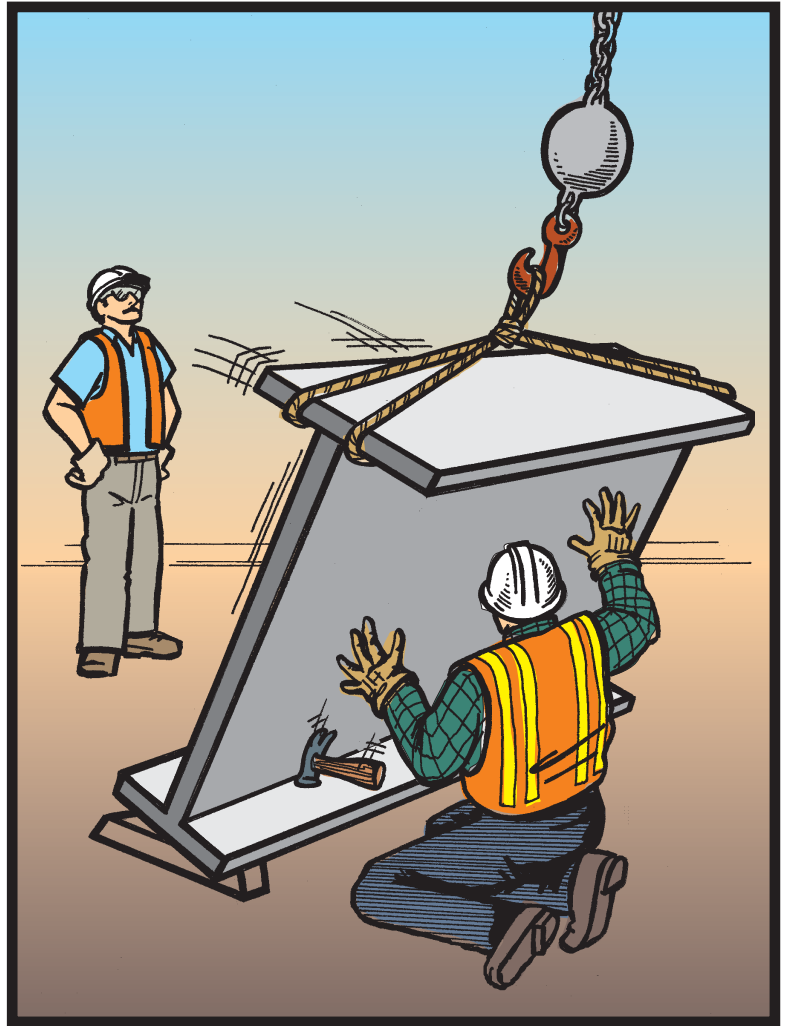
## **Vol 27 - No 33      CRANE SAFETY**

The use of cranes has become an integral part of the construction industry. The crane enables us to relocate, store and place objects much too heavy to be moved by hand. If an accident occurs it will probably be serious, therefore the crane operator must be trained in the operation of such large equipment,

A spotter or signal man must be used to guide the crane operator through his maneuvering. The crane operator will in many cases find that he cannot see the materials to be placed or see exactly where to place them. These are the situations when a signal man's guidance is crucial to safe crane operation. The signal man and the crane operator must stay in constant communication with each other with the use of a radio or phone, if available. If not, then the standard crane hand signals posted on the crane's cab must be used. Using whichever form of communication he chooses, the signal man directs the crane on how and when to move. By using a signal man for direction, cranes have become much safer in operations on the job site.

The designated signal man will be the only person directing the crane operator, except when an emergency stop signal is given. In that case, the crane operator is expected to stop on any person's emergency stop signal.

The signal person has the responsibility not only to direct the crane operator with clear hand signals but also to pay close attention to what's going on at all times with the crane and its operation. In one case, a bit of carelessness on the part of the signal man resulted in tragedy. A crane was placing I-beams and a signal person did not see that an employee was still behind a beam. When the signal man instructed the crane operator to raise the hook, the rigging caught on the I-beam and it topples over onto the employee trying to disconnect it. The accident resulted in a fatality.



**A crane working safely is working properly.**

Company \_\_\_\_\_ Location \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

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