

December 16, 1994

Bill Powell
Hoffman Construction Co.
3536 SW Industrial Way
Aloha, OR 97007

Dear Mr. Powell:

This is in response to your request for clarification of questions regarding the operations of cranes in construction and the training of the operators.

Your first question concerns site specific lift plans and our rule requiring written procedures. OAR 437-03-081(1) does not require site specific work plans. We have, in fact, stated that the crane manufacturer's operating instructions can satisfy this rule.

The second question refers to the training requirements of OAR 437-03-081(2) and whether Local 701's program was sufficient to meet those requirements. OR-OSHA has not done a recent evaluation of the program and thus can only state that it has to meet the requirements of the appropriate appendices in the standard. As stated in OAR 437-03-081(5)(b), the minimum 1500 hours of operating experience would meet the requirement of practical experience. That section also states, "An employee with prior training and experience....", thus both are required. In addition, the prior training must meet the standards set forth in the appropriate appendices. A prudent employer would check the records prior to hiring an individual. Adequate basic training and experience is that which meets the criteria set forth in the standard.

Your final question asks if required records can be kept at the union local if they are adequately available. This is permissible, but you are cautioned that the employer is still solely liable for the adequacy and condition of all such records.

Further questions can be addressed to Ron Preece at 378-3272.

Sincerely,

Phyllis Straight-Millan, Manager
Standards, Training & Technical Resources Section
Oregon Occupational Safety & Health Division

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