



New Victorian Guidance for Crane Safety

Worksafe, Victoria, has released new guidance to help improve the safety of people who own, use or maintain bridge and gantry cranes. Working safely with bridge and gantry cranes has been designed to illustrate issues relating to the safe use of cranes and describes the best risk controls and practices that are not acceptable.

In April, a company was fined \$150,000 after pleading guilty to two breaches of workplace safety laws after an incident in which a man was seriously hurt after being struck by a moving gantry crane. In 2001, a similar incident by the same company resulted in a worker being killed. In June, another company was committed to stand trial to face charges relating to the 2006 death of a man who was killed while moving a steel roller-door drum with an overhead gantry crane.

WorkSafe urges the use of the handbook to undertake a review of the cranes and to determine which control measures should be implemented. WorkSafe Inspectors will use the handbook as a basis for inspections of bridge and gantry cranes in the coming year. To order a copy go to www.worksafe.vic.gov.au or call WorkSafe's Advisory Service on 1800 136 089.

New Victorian return-to-work guidance

WorkSafe has released new guidance to assist employers and injured workers with the return to work process. The new publications will help employers and injured workers understand their obligations and the steps needed to get workers back to safe and sustainable work and that they regularly communicate with the injured worker and their doctor throughout the rehabilitation and return to work process.

Similarly, injured workers must make every reasonable effort to return to work in suitable employment and participate in assessments to determine their capacity for work, rehabilitation progress, and future employment prospects. The new material was developed to help employers and injured workers understand what they need to do and where to get further help if needed.

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