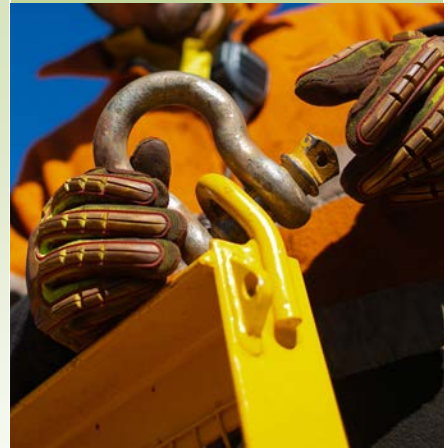




# OH&S Safety Matters

February Issue 2021



## Advanced Rigging Safety

The **Advanced Rigger and Load Rigging Safety** training program is one of the newest safety programs designed by the OH&S Registry for Riggers. This Advanced Rigger training includes lift planning, load control basics and proper load handling procedures for riggers who have already participated in basic rigger training and who want to increase their knowledge of rigging and lifting operations. The use of more complex rigging systems to transport large items into place requires skilled riggers that have a command of rigging calculations, and safe work practices for rigging, lifting and landing loads.

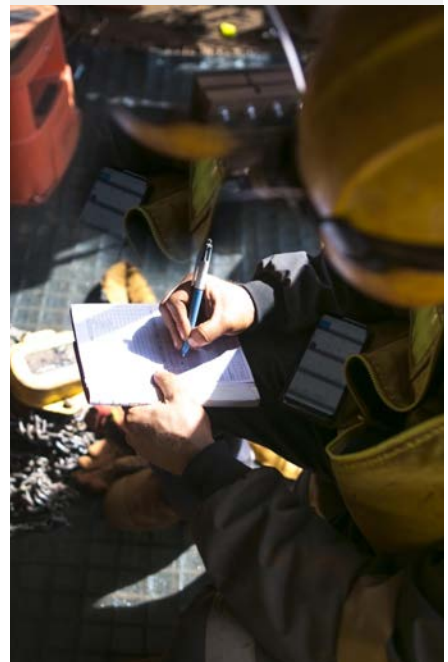
Riggers are the workers who do the calculating, staging, lifting, and movement of a load. It's the Rigger that is responsible to assemble, install, position and secure the rigging required to undertake heavy lifting projects. Riggers determine the most effective manner in which to lift the object by examining it, determining its size and weight and deciding on the right equipment to be used to accomplish the work task. They install and secure cables, pulleys and winches, as well as inspect, repair and maintain rigging equipment.

This **Advanced Rigger and Load Rigging Safety** training program offers further guidance to Riggers for planning and implementation of safe systems of work for lift operations. The process of carrying out correct and safe lifting operations involves planning the lift and using safe work practices and correct lifting methods to move large objects efficiently and safely. A critical component of proper planning means selecting the correct rigging gear, and assigning a competent rigging crew to calculate, stage and perform the lift.

This program builds upon the core skills learned in the **Rigging and Crane Team Safety** course and focuses on the additional individual skill requirements of **Advanced Rigger and Load Rigging Safety** delivered to the Operation Level. Rigger skills and rigging team capabilities will be enhanced by extensive hands-on teaching and realistic problem-solving exercises.

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# Violence Prevention in the Workplace

The majority of the Provincial and the Federal jurisdictions across Canada have specific workplace violence and harassment prevention regulations in place. Many of these same jurisdictions also have working alone regulations, which may have some implications for workplace violence prevention.

Violence means the attempted or actual exercise by a person of any physical force so as to cause injury to a worker, and includes any threatening statement or behaviour which gives a worker reasonable cause to believe that he or she is at risk of injury.

Verbal abuse or harassing behaviour is not included in the definition of violence unless it includes threats or behaviour which give the worker reasonable cause to believe that the worker is at risk of injury.

The OH&S Training Registry has developed a **Violence Prevention** program designed to promote safe work practices and procedures that will enhance worker safety.



The employer as well as for those who make decisions that directly affect the safety of workers are responsible for ensuring that all employees including contractors receive adequate instruction, are appropriately equipped and are accounted for while engaged in their work activities.

The first step in preventing workplace violence is conducting a risk assessment. If the risk assessment shows that there is a risk of violence, the employer must develop and implement a workplace violence prevention program.

### How to Reduce the Risks

A violence prevention program in the workplace should be part of a company's overall health and safety program. It should be developed and implemented in co-operation with the joint health and safety committee or worker health and safety representative. The nature and extent of the program should be based on the results of the risk assessment.

A violence prevention program should include the following components:

- Written policy to eliminate or minimize risk,
- Regular risk assessments,
- Prevention procedures,
- Worker and supervisor training,
- Procedures for reporting and investigating incidents,
- Incident follow-up, and
- Program review.

Some advantages of having a written policy about workplace violence, harassment and other unacceptable behaviour is that **the written violence policy will inform employees about:**

- What behaviour management considers inappropriate and unacceptable in the workplace.
- What to do when incidents covered by the policy occur.
- Contacts for reporting any incidents.

A written policy about workplace violence will also encourage

employees to report incidents and will show that management is committed to dealing with incidents involving violence, harassment and unacceptable behaviour.

Steps that can be implemented to eliminate or minimize the risks of an incident from occurring in the first place include:

- Create a policy that prevents violence.
- Establish a “Zero-tolerance” code of conduct.
- All employees need to be encouraged to accept individual differences.
- Prevent conflicts from turning into harassment or violence.
- Demonstrate respect in the workplace and show your team members you value them.
- Communicate what qualifies as unacceptable behaviour and the consequences employees will face from committing violent, threatening acts.
- Encourage reporting and outline the confidential process by which employees can report and to whom.

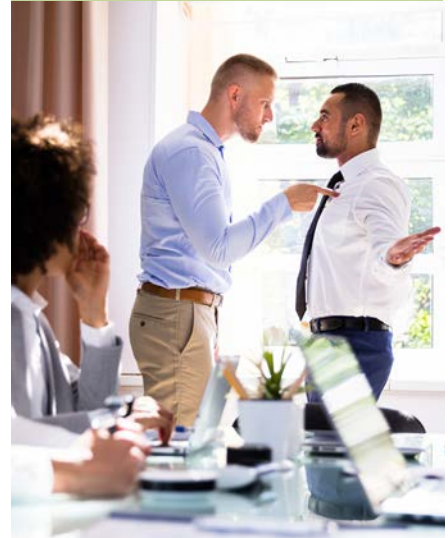
- Outline the procedures for investigating and resolving complaints of violence.
- Provide support services to victims of violence.
- Make a commitment to provide violence prevention training to all personnel.

### Responding to Violence

If you are a worker and you have witnessed or experienced violence in your workplace, you must report it to your employer. Employers must implement procedures for responding to reports of violence and those procedures must ensure a reasonable response to the report or incident and aim to fully address the incident.

Workers and their supervisors need to be aware of how work activities can lead to encounters and conflicts.

*Get Your Instructor Certification so that you can deliver the Safety Training you need on your job site !*



### Instructor Certification

When workers need to learn a safety skill, instructor-led training is the superior option. The benefit to workers participating in Instructor-led training is that it facilitates in-depth discussions of complicated safety issues allowing for direct response from a skilled, practiced and certified instructor.

Workers also benefit from their interactions with their fellow co-workers as questions and comments made about the training are discussed. When a specific safety skill set must be learned, instructor-led training and hands-on practice fulfills worker continuing education needs.

*As always, we thank you for your continued dedication to safety training and we look forward to serving you!*



# Seasonal Safety Training

Spring brings with it much warmer temperatures, a lot more sunshine and unfortunately hazards such as flooding and dangerous driving conditions.

Having a safety tailgate meeting or a toolbox talk to discuss safety related topics about the coming spring hazards with employees is a meaningful way to help everyone stay safe and working. This will ensure workers have the necessary information and training required to protect them from environmental conditions while performing their work tasks.

This time of year is when the wide fluctuations in temperatures and freeze-thaw cycles can occur. This combination can result in freezing rain, black ice on sidewalks and on the roads, ice loading on trees and lets not forget the potholes.

If uncontrolled, these hazards can increase the risk of loss to people, equipment, materials, production and the environment (PEME).

As Occupational Health & Safety Instructors we can deliver relevant seasonal safety training and issue our co-workers with "just the ticket" they need to stay safe during this years spring hazards.



## 2021 e-Catalog is Available

Are you ready to tap into a wider network of training programs. Get access to 100% of the OH&S safety training programs by simply sending me an e-mail and asking for a FREE copy of the 2021 training course library!

[markh@ohandscanada.ca](mailto:markh@ohandscanada.ca)

# OH&S Safety Matters

## Staying in Touch

We want you to be aware that you always have the opportunity to opt-out from receiving OH&S Registry electronic communications. *To opt-out, simply call the OH&S Registry at 778.471.6407 or e-mail [markh@ohandscanada.ca](mailto:markh@ohandscanada.ca) and ask to be taken off the OH&S email list.*

The OH&S Registry will never sell or rent your email address and should you decide that you no longer want to receive further electronic communications from the OH&S Registry we will accommodate your decision to "unsubscribe".

We trust you will choose to continue to receive the **OH&S Safety Matters** newsletters and other promotional materials so you can stay up to date on new programs, best practice tips, and other OH&S Registry news.

We appreciate your business, and look forward to working with you to achieve your safety training goals. Thank you for being a subscriber!



**OH&S Registry**  
Head Office 825 – J Laval Crescent Kamloops, BC V2C 5P2 **ph: 778.471.6407**