



Labour Department (Headquarters)

勞工處（總部）

Your reference 來函編號：

Our reference 本處檔案編號：(57) in TS/M/COP/20

Tel. number 電話號碼：2852 3563

Fax number 傳真機號碼：2850 8954

President
Society of Registered Safety Officers
P.O. Box 482,
Fo Tan Post Office, N.T.

30 September 2010

Dear Sir/Madam,

Code of Practice for Safe Use of Tower Cranes

The Code of Practice for Safe Use of Tower Cranes (hereafter referred as CoP) is issued by the Commissioner for Labour under section 7A of the Factories and Industrial Undertakings Ordinance (Cap. 59). It provides practical guidance to the industry as to how to use tower cranes safely and properly with a view to assist the duty holders in preventing accidents.

The CoP has a special legal status. Although failure to observe any guidance contained in the Code is not itself an offence, that failure may be taken by a court in criminal proceedings as a relevant factor in determining whether or not a person has breached any of the provisions of the regulations to which the guidance relates.

In the Chief Executive's 2009-10 policy address, the Labour Department was tasked to review the current CoP which was issued in 2002. The objective of the review is to incorporate into the CoP the best practices recommended in the *Guidelines on Safety of Tower Cranes (hereafter referred as Guidelines)* issued by the Construction Industry Council, which focused mainly on the erection, dismantling and height alteration operations of tower cranes in construction sites. In the Guidelines, the following measures are recommended:-

- (a) checking before erection of tower cranes;
- (b) improvements of site supervision;

- (c) qualification and experience of specialist contractors; and
- (d) qualification and experience of competent persons and workmen.

The review of the CoP and the drafting of the amendments are now completed. A copy of the draft revised CoP in English and Chinese is enclosed herewith for your reference.

For your ease reading and reference, a brief summary of amendments made on the CoP has been prepared in the attached Appendix.

Please be reminded that the brief summary is not exhaustive, more details of the amendments could be found in the draft revised CoP.

In order to make the CoP more effective and practical in ensuring safety in tower crane operations, we would be most grateful if you would let us have your views on the draft revised CoP on or before 31 December 2010. Please send your views by post or facsimile to –

Address : Labour Department, Support Services Division,
 Technical Support Unit/Mechanical Engineering,
 14/F, Harbour Building,
 38 Pier Road, Central,
 Hong Kong.

Facsimile : 2850 8954

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact our Divisional Occupational Safety Officer, Mr. TAM Siu-chung at Tel. 2852 3563 or our Senior Mechanical Engineer Mr. MOK Siu-kin at Tel. 2852 4971.

Yours Faithfully,



(TAM Siu-chung)
for Commissioner for Labour

Encl.

Appendix

Brief Summary of Major Amendments on the Revised Code of Practice for Safe Use of Tower Cranes

<u>Section</u>	<u>Brief Summary of Major Amendments</u>
General	References to other Code of Practices, Guidelines, and International Standards are updated according to the current requirements.
2	Definitions of “certified plan”, “height alteration”, “project engineer”, “registered professional engineer”, “registered safety officer”, “registered structural engineer” and “safety supervision personnel” are added.
4	Sub-section 4.3 Risk assessment is added for the planning of lifting operation.
5	Responsibilities of Owner are revised according to the updated requirements.
6	With reference to the updated British Standard, saddle jibs have been updated to horizontal trolley jibs in sub-section 6.2.3.
8	Sub-section 8.7 Electrical supply and equipment has been updated.
9	(a) Requirements in sub-section 9.2.3 and 9.2.6 have been updated to align with the CIC guidelines; and (b) Anti-collision requirements in sub-section 9.3.4 have been updated to cover adjacent sites.
10	This section has been substantially amended to align with the requirements in CIC guidelines.
13	The maintenance requirements have been amended to align with the requirements in CIC guidelines.
14	Requirement for pre-delivery checking of tower crane has been added at sub-section 14.2.
15	Sub-section 15.3 has been updated according to the current best practices.
Table 1	Some typos have been corrected
Table 2	Table has been slightly streamlined for clarity
References	This section has been updated with the current standards and publications