



## Electric and Crane Safety

The greatest electrical risk posed by cranes is contacting overhead power lines. This includes work performed by you and subcontractors you may hire. Employers are required to ensure that overhead power lines are de-energized or separated from the crane and its load by implementing one or more of the following:

- De-energize electrical distribution and transmission lines at the point of work.
- Use insulated barriers that are not a part of the crane to prevent contact with the lines.

*If the power lines are not de-energized, cranes may ONLY be operated in the area if there is a safe minimum clearance of at least 10 feet for lines rated 50 kilovolts or below, plus 0.4 inch for each kilovolt above 50 kilovolts.* If the crane operator cannot maintain a safe clearance by visual means, a person should be designated to observe the clearance and to give immediate warning when the crane approaches the limits of safe clearance. Cage-type boom guards, insulating links, or proximity warning devices ARE NOT a substitute for de-energizing and grounding lines or maintaining safe clearance from them.

### Points to remember

- Workers and employers must consider all overhead power lines to be energized until the owner of the lines or the electric utility indicates that they are not energized, and that *they have been visibly grounded*.
- Training must be provided to all workers and subcontractors working in and around cranes, specific to the worksite and the hazards present AND any exposure to overhead power lines.

### Source

**Centers for Disease Control and Prevention/National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health »**

Date of Safety Talk \_\_\_\_\_

Company \_\_\_\_\_

Talk given by \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

**Attending Employees:**

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**Notes:**

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