

**DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND ECONOMIC GROWTH
MICHIGAN OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH ADMINISTRATION**

**Enforcement of General Industry Safety Standard
Part 18. Overhead and Gantry Cranes
R 408.11801 et seq.**

Revised May 13, 2005

This document provides clarification on application of selected rules contained in General Industry Safety Standard Part 18. Overhead and Gantry Cranes.

Background

On December 7, 1999, the General Industry Safety Standards Commission approved opening Part 18. Overhead and Gantry Cranes for updating and revision. The full promulgation process was followed, with amendments becoming effective on April 10, 2002. Further amendments were promulgated and became effective on May 13, 2005.

Clarification on Application of Selected Rules

Scope - R 408.11801

This paragraph defines the range of equipment covered by the standard.

- Power-operated top running overhead and gantry single and multiple girder cranes are covered by the rules in this standard.
- Top running overhead cranes with push type-bridge and trolleys may be covered by the rules in this standard, as appropriate for accident investigations, complaints or under special circumstances.
- Monorails, railway or truck cranes, mine hoists, conveyors, shovels, drag-line excavators, equipment used on construction jobs, or systems used to transport people are not covered by the rules in this standard.

Employer responsibilities - R 408.11808

Paragraph (7) of this rule requires the manual provided by the crane manufacturer be readily accessible for the crane operator's reference at the work site. When no manual is available, the employer should determine whether it is possible for the employer to obtain a copy. If it is not possible to obtain a copy because the crane manufacturer is out of business, cannot be located, etc., the employer will be allowed to create a manual, obtain a manual for a similarly operating crane or another similar alternative as meeting the requirements of this rule.

Marking rated capacity; classifications; clearance - R 408.11822

- Corrections in deviations from minimum clearances are expected when the deviation creates a hazard to employees.

Hooks; load blocks - R 408.11825

- When determining whether a hook latch is feasible, the employer must assess whether use of a latch would create a fall hazard or an appropriate means to access an elevation issue. If these hazards are created by use of hook latch, then a latch is impractical. The employer must also determine whether there are slack conditions in assessing whether this rule applies.

- Load blocks must have the sides enclosed.

Ladders; footwalks; stairways; escape devices - R 408.11835

- The anti-slip surface requirement for a footwalk can be met through the use of wood.

Brakes and restraints - R 408.11841

- The employer must ensure that appropriate braking means are provided for the trolley of a cab-operated crane where the cab is located on the trolley.

Controls - R 408.11843

- An off-point detent or off-point latch is a detent or latch that holds the lever in the off position. It would take a deliberate action of the operator to move the lever out of the “off” position but would not require the operator to hold the lever after that action.

Warning devices - R 408.11845

- A floor-operated pendant crane must be provided with a warning device when there is an obstruction in the operator’s view or other hazard.

Training. Testing. Permits - R 408.11852, R 408.11853, R 408.11854

- The Consultation Education and Training (CET) Division developed information and educational material for employers to use in their effort to comply with these new requirements. For further information on outreach material, contact (CET) at (517) 322-1809 or visit the website at www.michigan.gov/cis (select “Workplace Safety and Health” from the left navigation bar).

Frequent and periodic inspections - R 408.11872

- For purposes of this rule, hours of use are considered to be the hours that a crane is actually in use moving a load. It would not include time that a crane is turned on attended and available for use, but sitting idle.
- Frequent inspections require records. It is expected that records for the most recent two complete calendar years will be maintained.

Operational tests and rated load tests - R 408.11873 and R 408.11874

- 125% of the rated load or the load recommended by the manufacturer is acceptable.

Maintenance - R 408.11875

- To cite for lack of a permit for maintenance personnel, the compliance officer must document an actual instance where the maintenance personnel needs to operate the crane in order to perform the maintenance or repair functions.

For more information contact:

Consultation Education and Training Division (517) 322-1809
General Industry Safety and Health Division (517) 322-1831