

Advisory Committee Background and Overview  
Proposal to Recombine Provisions of Construction Safety Orders,  
Article 15 (Cranes and Derricks in Construction), into  
General Industry Safety Orders,  
Group 13 (Cranes and Other Hoisting Equipment).

Background:

The Standards Board is proposing to relocate crane standards currently found in the Construction Safety Orders (CSO) back into the General Industry Safety Orders (GISO).

Prior to July 7, 2011, all Title 8 crane standards were horizontal and resided in the GISO; however, a federal negotiated rulemaking, commonly known as the CDAC, promulgated standards in 29 CFR 1926 specific for cranes and derricks in construction. The Board originally proposed to combine provisions of the CDAC into the GISO using an expedited (Horcher) rulemaking process; however, general industry stakeholders were concerned that the proposed insertion of the new federal construction standards into the GISO would have unintended consequences and were an “over-reach,” not permitted by the Horcher rulemaking process.

Since that time, the Board has received numerous comments from stakeholders (both management and labor) that it would make sense to recombine all the crane safety orders back into the GISO to provide “one stop shopping.” The logic being that a crane, particularly a mobile crane, can work on construction and general industry-type projects in the same day.

Although the intent of staff’s proposal is to avoid “over-reach” and only consolidate crane safety orders into a single location, it is possible that incidental modifications and clarifications made as a result of the rulemaking process could unintentionally apply construction provisions to general industry. We are seeking your expertise to assure proper application of the federal construction standards and to ensure that existing state standards are preserved where more protective than the federal standards. Furthermore, we seek your input to ensure that the standards are appropriate and consistent with California work methods and practices.

Overview:

Subjects proposed for recombination include the following:

- Scope
- Definitions
- Design, construction and testing
- Modifications
- Assembly/Disassembly
- Power line safety
- Safety devices and operational aids
- Operation
- Keeping clear of the load, free-fall and controlled load lowering
- Operator qualification and certification.
- Signal person qualifications
- Qualifications of maintenance & repair employees
- Inspections & Maintenance
- Hoisting personnel (suspended personnel platforms)
- Crane-specific requirements, including tower cranes, derricks, overhead & gantry cranes
- Equipment with a rated hoisting/lifting capacity of 2,000 pounds or less.

Note: We plan to cover the topics approximately in the sequence listed above. In the event that more time is needed to cover all these, additional advisory committee meeting dates will be announced as needed.