

## PART 20: CONSTRUCTION, EXCAVATION AND DEMOLITION

### SAFE WORK AREAS AND SAFE ACCESS

#### Thrust-out crane landing platforms

- 20.13**
- (1) A professional engineer must certify each thrust-out crane landing platform and certify that the building structure can adequately support loads to be imposed by use of the platform.
  - (2) Thrust-out crane landing platform drawings and certification must be available on site when the platform is in place.
  - ~~(3) The rated load of a thrust-out crane landing platform must
    - ~~(a) equal or exceed the rated lifting capacity of any crane or hoist delivering loads to the platform, except with the prior approval of the Board, and~~
    - ~~(b) be clearly marked on the platform.~~
    - ~~(c) Repealed. [B.C. Reg. 420/2004.]~~~~
  - (3) The rated capacity of a thrust-out crane landing platform must be clearly marked on the platform and not be exceeded.**
- (3.1) Engineering controls or work procedures acceptable to the Board must be implemented to ensure all loads placed on a thrust-out crane landing platform**
- (a) are safely supported, and**
  - (b) can be safely attached and detached from the rigging.**
  - (4) Thrust-out platform decking and supporting members must be designed to safely support any concentrated loads that may be landed.
  - (5) Repealed.

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#### Explanatory Note

Section 20.13 (3) (a) of the *Occupational Health and Safety Regulation* ("OHSR") requires prior approval from the WCB if the rated load of a thrust-out crane landing platform is not equal to or greater than the rated lifting capacity of a crane or hoist delivering loads to the platform. Generally, this section applies when buildings are under construction and these platforms are utilized as a means for cranes to place loads of materials that will be utilized in the construction of the upper floors of the building.

It is recognized that when this requirement was developed in the 1970s, the maximum crane capacities were commonly around 8,000 to 8,800 lbs. Today, the capacities of cranes are much higher and the requirement is out-of-date with equipment utilized in the construction industry. There are very rare occurrences of a thrust-out crane landing platform to have a capacity equal to or greater than the crane that is delivering the load to the platform. In response to this change in the industry/equipment, a guideline was developed by the WCB in June 2004 which described procedures and means that the WCB has found acceptable in the past in order to provide prior approval as required in section 20.13 (3) (a).

It is proposed that existing section 20.13 (3) (a) be deleted. The goal of section 20.13 (3) (a) is to ensure that the thrust-out crane landing platform is not overloaded, and does not collapse. Workers working below the platform would be in danger of serious injury if the load and platform fell on them. Proposed section 20.13 (3.1) is intended to maintain this goal by requiring engineering controls or work procedures to be implemented to prevent loading the platforms in unsafe ways. It would also address situations where the rated capacity of the platform is not exceeded but the dimensions of the load may create

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unsafe conditions for workers. For example, the load's dimensions exceed the dimensions of the platforms or the size and configuration of the load creates difficulties for workers unhooking and hooking the load to rigging on the crane. It is anticipated that a guideline would describe some acceptable engineering controls (e.g., using platforms with rated capacities equal to or greater than the crane's capacity, recommending that the capacity of a landing platform is be maximized, which may require through bolting the platform to a concrete slab of the building, etc.) and work procedures (e.g., those accepted for prior approvals in the past).

Proposed section 20.13 (3) retains the wording of existing section 20.13 (3) (b) and also requires that the rated capacity of the platform not be exceeded. This proposed requirement is intended to ensure that the platform is not overloaded, either through delivery of loads by crane or by manual means. It is also intended to prevent the platform from being overloaded by single or combined loads placed on the platform by the crane and/or from within the structure.

The proposed requirement that the rated capacity of the platform not be exceeded may not be adequately covered by section 4.3 (1) (b) (ii) of the *OHSR* which provides that equipment must be used and operated in accordance with safe work practices. This section would not address situations of marginal overloads based on design factors.

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