

**Key points about 1RCNY3319-02 (Lift Director Rule):**

- It mandates that a Lift Director be present at a construction site while a crane or derrick is performing certain tasks.
- Identifies responsibilities for the Lift Director.
- Responsibilities of the Lift Director are based on ASME B30<sup>1</sup>.
- Additional requirements are also added for the Lift Director to verify compliance with NYC regulations, monitoring of weather and securing of the crane.
- Lift Director has authority to stop operations and obligations to report uncorrected violations to the DOB.
- Lift Director is required to review plans and hold pre-shift meetings.
- Lift Director must be both a Qualified Person<sup>2</sup> and a Competent Person<sup>3</sup>.
- When supervision is by a Master Rigger or Master Rigger Foreman (“tear off foreman”), that person shall be designated as the Lift Director.

**Rules and Commentary**

(c) **Designation of lift director.** The equipment user must designate a lift director and ensure a lift director is present at the site when required as specified.

(1) Lift directors is required when:

- (i) The crane or derrick is picking a load;
- (ii) The crane is traveling at the site, including being moved onto or off of cribbing or up or down a ramp;
- (iii) The crane or derrick is being placed into a parked condition or otherwise being taken out of service;
- (iv) The crane’s or derrick’s boom/jib is being laid down or jack-knifed;
- (v) The crane’s or derrick’s boom/jib is being raised from a laid down or jackknifed position; or
- (vi) Other special protective measures for wind are being carried out.

**Exception.** Assembly/disassembly of a crane or derrick, use of an assist crane or derrick during assembly/disassembly, provided an A/D Director is supervising the operation in accordance with department rules.

(2) **Qualified and competent.** The equipment user may only designate a qualified and competent person to serve as the lift director.

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<sup>1</sup> See Annex A for the complete list of ASME B30 Lift Director responsibilities.

<sup>2</sup> A **qualified person** is defined by OSHA as one who, “by possession of a recognized degree, certificate, or professional standing, or who by extensive knowledge, training and experience, has successfully demonstrated his ability to solve or resolve problems relating to the subject matter, the work, or the project.”

<sup>3</sup> An OSHA “**competent person**” is defined as “one who is capable of identifying existing and predictable hazards in the surroundings or working conditions which are unsanitary, hazardous, or dangerous to employees, and who has authorization to take prompt corrective measures to eliminate them”.



(3) **Jobs supervised by a master rigger.** The equipment user must designate as the lift director either:

- (i) The licensed master rigger; or
- (ii) A master rigging foreman.

(4) **Designation of existing personnel.** Personnel at the site who perform other tasks, including but not limited to the rigging supervisor, may be designated to serve as the lift director.

**Exceptions:**

- 1. Operators may not serve as the lift director at the same time they are operating.
- 2. The site safety manager, site safety coordinator, registered construction superintendent, concrete safety manger, or construction site fire safety manager

(d) **Notification to the department of the lift director.** The equipment user must notify the department of the designated primary lift director prior to the commencement of work<sup>4</sup>. If a designated alternate lift director will be acting in the place of the primary lift director for a period longer than two consecutive weeks, the department must be so notified by the equipment user. The equipment user must immediately notify the department of any permanent change of the primary lift director.

(e) **Responsibilities of the lift director.** The primary lift director or a designated alternate must be present at the site at all times and is responsible, either personally or overseeing personnel, to assure that:

- (1) The crane or derrick is located and configured per the approved plans.
- (2) Site conditions match the approved plans.
- (3) Traffic and pedestrian controls are in place during operations, relocations, laydown, jackknifing and raising.
- (4) The operator, rigging supervisor, and rigging crew members, including signalpersons, possess the proper credentials.
- (5) The operator and rigging supervisor are present throughout the shift;
- (6) Weather conditions and forecasts are monitored as required;
- (7) Operations cease when warranted by weather conditions or forecasts.
- (8) At the end of the shift, or as weather conditions warrant, the operator has ceased operations;
- (9) The operator has provided any required written record;
- (10) Personnel return to the site to secure the out of service crane when necessary;
- (11) When carrying loads over an occupied building, the top two floors are vacated or proper roof protection is in place;
- (12) For a critical pick, a master rigger or PE verifies compliance with rules;
- (13) There is compliance with rules pertaining to operation near power lines;

<sup>4</sup> Form CD12 is the vehicle for formally designating the Primary Lift Director. This document must be signed by the Primary Lift Director, notarized and submitted with the application on file with the DOB for the onsite crane.



- (14) There is compliance with rules about hoisting personnel;
- (15) Frequent inspections of crane and rigging are performed at the start of the shift;
- (16) The operator is informed of the weight of loads to be lifted, as well as the lift and placing locations;
- (17) The operator has verified that lift weights do not exceed the crane's rated capacity;
- (18) Constant communication is maintained between the operator, rigging supervisor, and signalpersons;
- (19) Loads are properly rigged before being lifted more than a few inches.

(f) **Ordering corrective action and notification to the department.** If the Lift Director discovers a violation, he must immediately notify the appropriate persons to correct the condition, and if necessary, order the operation to stop. Her must notify DOB if condition is not promptly corrected.

(g) **Authority to stop crane and rigging operations** is granted to the Lift Director.

(h) **Responsibilities of other parties** are not diminished by the presence of the Lift Director.

(i) **Ensuring personnel understand duties.** The Lift Director is responsible for ensuring that personnel involved in operations understand their responsibilities.

(j) **Pre-shift meeting.** Prior to the start of every shift the Lift Director must lead a pre-shift meeting with the operator, rigging supervisor, signalpersons and flagging/pedestrian safety manager supervisor. This meeting may be conducted via radio or phone.

- (1) The following topics must be discussed daily:
  - (i) Planned operations.
  - (ii) Pedestrian and traffic controls;
  - (iii) Current and forecast weather;
  - (iv) If required, communication protocols for tandem picks, multiple crane operations, and blind operations.
- (2) Topics at initial meeting, or where tasks, personnel or configurations have changed:
  - (i) Roles and responsibilities;
  - (ii) Lifted load particulars including weights, lift points and any special considerations;
  - (iii) Rigging;
  - (iv) Site conditions;
  - (v) Pick and landing zones;
  - (vi) Hazards;
  - (vii) Wind limitations both working and out of service.
  - (viii) Permit scope and limitations.
- (3) A record of each meeting needs to be noted in the crane's log.

(k) **Review of approved plan** by the Lift Director is required at the start of work and at the start of each new phase. The review must consider site conditions, traffic and pedestrian control, rigging and the wind action plan. The equipment user is responsible for verifying that the Lift Director has reviewed the plans and to notify the Lift Director when the plan has been amended.

**Exception:** When there is no CD4, the Lift Director must instead review the crane manual and any plans that have been developed for the crane installation.

**Lift Director Law** (*Intro 1431*) amends the administrative code to include all of the requirements above, and also introduces requirements for qualification and registration of lift directors. The qualifications section will take effect 18 months after the DOB has approved a curriculum for training.



## **ANNEX 1: ASME B30 LIFT DIRECTOR RESPONSIBILITIES:**

- (a) being present at the jobsite during lifting operations.
- (b) stopping crane operations if alerted to an unsafe condition affecting those operations.
- (c) ensuring that the preparation of the area needed to support crane operations has been completed before crane operations commence.
- (d) ensuring necessary traffic controls are in place to restrict unauthorized access to the crane's work area.
- (e) ensuring that personnel involved in crane operations understand their responsibilities, assigned duties, and the associated hazards.
- (f) addressing safety concerns raised by the operator or other personnel and being responsible if he decides to overrule those concerns and directs crane operations to continue. (In all cases, the manufacturer's criteria for safe operation and the requirements of this Volume shall be adhered to.)
- (g) appointing the signalperson(s) and conveying that information to the crane operator.
- (h) ensuring that signalperson(s) appointed meet the requirements of Section 5-3.3.
- (i) allowing crane operation near electric power lines only when the requirements of para. 5-3.4.5 and any additional requirements determined by the site supervisor have been met.
- (j) ensuring precautions are implemented when hazards associated with special lifting operations are present. Such operations include, but are not limited to the following:
  - (1) multiple crane lifts
  - (2) lifting personnel
  - (3) pick and carry operations
  - (4) mobile cranes operating on barges
  - (5) multiple load line use
- (k) ensuring that the applicable requirements of ASME B30.23 are met when lifting personnel.
- (l) informing the crane operator of the weight of loads to be lifted, as well as the lifting, moving, and placing locations for these loads.
- (m) obtaining the crane operator's verification that this weight does not exceed the crane's rated capacity.
- (n) ensuring that a crane's load rigging is performed by personnel that meet the competence requirements in Section 5-0.3.
- (o) ensuring that the load is properly rigged and balanced before it is lifted more than a few inches.

