

## **Warning Device Requirements**

### **Organizations Cited**

Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA)  
American Society for Mechanical Engineers (ASME)  
American National Standards Institute (ANSI)  
Crane Manufacturers Associations of America (CMAA)

### **Introduction**

When upgrading a hoist or crane to radio controls, it is important to know the regulations and laws pertaining to this type of control. OSHA standards are the law; fines can be assessed for violating OSHA standards. ANSI and ASME also publish standards regarding suggestions and best practices for crane and hoist manufacturing and operation. CMAA publishes design specifications for cranes. The specific references are listed on the next page.

### **HoistandCraneRemotes.com Explanation**

When a radio remote control is installed on a crane it becomes a “remote-operated crane” (OSHA 1910.179(a)(5)) and is no longer a “floor-operated crane” (OSHA 1910.179(a)(11)). Therefore, cranes controlled by radio remote require a warning device (OSHA 1910.179(i) and ASME B30.2-1.15.1). Acceptable warning devices are defined in ASME B30.2-1.15.3. HoistAndCraneRemotes.com can supply horns or strobes for all of the systems we offer, they are typically listed as an accessory on the radio system product page, please contact us for special warning device equipment.

OSHA standards are specifically written for overhead and gantry cranes. Monorails, monorail cranes, top running single girder cranes and overhead hoists are not covered under OSHA standard 1910.179. They still can be regulated under the general duty clause in section 5(a)(1). Warning devices are not explicitly required by any standard for monorail cranes. HoistAndCraneRemotes.com suggests that warning devices be used on all cranes utilizing radio remote controls to ensure safe operation.

### **HoistandCraneRemotes.com Disclaimer/ legal ramifications**

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**Please feel free to contact us with any questions or comments:**

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### **References**

Listed below are the OSHA and ASME standards that pertain to radio remote operated cranes.

### **OSHA 1910.179 Overhead and Gantry Cranes**

#### **Site Cite**

**1910.179(a)(5)** "Floor-operated crane" means a crane which is pendant or nonconductive rope controlled by an operator on the floor or an independent platform.

**1910.179(a)(11)** A "remote-operated crane" is a crane controlled by an operator not in a pulpit or in the cab attached to the crane, by any method other than pendant or rope control.

**1910.179(i)** Warning device: Except for floor-operated cranes a gong or other effective warning signal shall be provided for each crane equipped with a power traveling mechanism.

**Interpretation of 1910.179; Overhead Gantry Cranes; April 23, 1984; From: John B. Miles, Jr.**

The position of OSHA regarding the application of 29 CFR 1910.179 to monorails, monorail cranes, top running single girder cranes and overhead hoists has not changed since our 1972 interpretation by John J. Klocko. Such Equipment is not covered under 1910.179. . . Hazardous operational aspects observed by OSHA field staff pertaining to monorails, monorail cranes, top running single girder cranes and overhead hoists, should be regulated under Section 5(a)(1) of the Act. Such enforcement sections should reference applicable portions of pertinent ANSI stand and conform with guidelines in the FOM.

**Clarification of OSHA standard on Overhead and Gantry Cranes, 29 CFR 1910.179**

**March 4, 1991; From: Patricia K. Clark**

(b)(1) This standard does not apply to underhung cranes, overhead hoists, or monorails. Underhung cranes and monorails are covered in ANSI B30.11-1980, a National Consensus Standard.

### **ASME B30.2 Overhead and Gantry Cranes**

#### **(Top Running Bridge, Single or Multiple Girder, Top Running Trolley Hoist)**

**Section 2-1.15.1 Cab- and Remote-operated Cranes** (a) A warning device shall be provided.

**Section 2-1.15.3 Types of Devices** One or more of the following devices shall be provided when required

(a) manually operated gong (b) power-operated bell, siren, or horn (c) rotating beacon (d) strobe light

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