

**ASME B30.11-2004**  
(Revision of ASME B30.11-1998)

# **Monorails and Underhung Cranes**

**Safety Standard for Cableways, Cranes, Derricks, Hoists,  
Hooks, Jacks, and Slings**

**AN AMERICAN NATIONAL STANDARD**



**The American Society of  
Mechanical Engineers**

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Three Park Avenue • New York, NY 10016

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The next edition of this Standard is scheduled for publication in 2007. There will be no addenda issued to this edition.

ASME issues written replies to inquiries concerning interpretations of technical aspects of this Standard. Interpretations are published on the ASME Web site under the Committee Pages at <http://www.asme.org/codes/> as they are issued, and will also be published within the next edition of the Standard.

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## FOREWORD

This American National Standard, Safety Standard for Cableways, Cranes, Derricks, Hoists, Hooks, Jacks, and Slings, has been developed under the procedures accredited by the American National Standards Institute (formerly the United States of America Standards Institute). This Standard had its beginning in December 1916 when an eight-page Code of Safety Standards for Cranes, prepared by an ASME Committee on the Protection of Industrial Workers, was presented to the annual meeting of the ASME.

Meetings and discussions regarding safety on cranes, derricks, and hoists were held from 1920 to 1925, involving the ASME Safety Code Correlating Committee, the Association of Iron and Steel Electrical Engineers, the American Museum of Safety, the American Engineering Standards Committee (later changed to American Standards Association and subsequently to the USA Standards Institute), Department of Labor — State of New Jersey, Department of Labor and Industry — State of Pennsylvania, and the Locomotive Crane Manufacturers Association. On June 11, 1925, the American Engineering Standards Committee approved the ASME Safety Code Correlating Committee's recommendation and authorized the project with the U.S. Department of the Navy, Bureau of Yards and Docks, and ASME as sponsors.

In March 1926, invitations were issued to 50 organizations to appoint representatives to a Sectional Committee. The call for organization of this Sectional Committee was sent out October 2, 1926, and the committee organized November 4, 1926, with 57 members representing 29 national organizations. The Safety Code for Cranes, Derricks, and Hoists, ASA B30.2-1943, was created from the eight-page document referred to in the first paragraph. This document was reaffirmed in 1952 and widely accepted as a safety standard.

Due to changes in design, advancement in techniques, and general interest of labor and industry in safety, the Sectional Committee, under the joint sponsorship of ASME and the Naval Facilities Engineering Command, U.S. Department of the Navy, was reorganized as an American National Standards Committee on January 31, 1956, with 39 members representing 27 national organizations.

The format of the previous code was changed so that separate standards (each complete as to construction and installation; inspection, testing, and maintenance; and operation) will cover the different types of equipment included in the scope of B30.

In 1982, the Committee was reorganized as an Accredited Organization Committee, operating under procedures developed by the ASME and accredited by the American National Standards Institute.

This Standard presents a coordinated set of rules that may serve as a guide to government and other regulatory bodies and municipal authorities responsible for the guarding and inspection of the equipment falling within its scope. The suggestions leading to accident prevention are given both as mandatory and advisory provisions; compliance with both types may be required by employers of their employees.

In case of practical difficulties, new developments, or unnecessary hardship, the administrative or regulatory authority may grant variances from the literal requirements or permit the use of other devices or methods, but only when it is clearly evident that an equivalent degree of protection is thereby secured. To secure uniform application and interpretation of this Standard, administrative or regulatory authorities are urged to consult the B30 Committee, in accordance with the format described in Section III, before rendering decisions on disputed points.

This volume of the Standard, which was approved by the B30 Committee and by ASME, was approved by ANSI and designated as an American National Standard on October 5, 2004.

Safety codes and standards are intended to enhance public safety. Revisions result from committee consideration of factors such as technological advances, new data, and changing environmental and industry needs. Revisions do not imply that previous editions were inadequate.

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## Safety Standards for Cableways, Cranes, Derricks, Hoists, Hooks, Jacks, and Slings

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# SAFETY STANDARD FOR CABLEWAYS, CRANES, DERRICKS, HOISTS, HOOKS, JACKS, AND SLINGS

(04)

## B30 STANDARD INTRODUCTION

### GENERAL

This Standard is one of a series of safety standards on various subjects that have been formulated under the general auspices of the American National Standards Institute. One purpose of the Standard is to serve as a guide to governmental authorities having jurisdiction over subjects within the scope of the Standard. It is expected, however, that the Standard will find a major application in industry, serving as a guide to manufacturers, purchasers, and users of the equipment.

For the convenience of the user, the Standard has been divided into separate volumes.

- B30.1 Jacks
- B30.2 Overhead and Gantry Cranes (Top Running Bridge, Single or Multiple Girder, Top Running Trolley Hoist)
- B30.3 Construction Tower Cranes
- B30.4 Portal, Tower, and Pedestal Cranes
- B30.5 Mobile and Locomotive Cranes
- B30.6 Derricks
- B30.7 Base Mounted Drum Hoists
- B30.8 Floating Cranes and Floating Derricks
- B30.9 Slings
- B30.10 Hooks
- B30.11 Monorails and Underhung Cranes
- B30.12 Handling Loads Suspended from Rotorcraft
- B30.13 Storage/Retrieval (S/R) Machines and Associated Equipment
- B30.14 Side Boom Tractors
- B30.15 Mobile Hydraulic Cranes  
Note: B30.15-1993 has been withdrawn. The revision of B30.15 is included in the latest edition of B30.5.
- B30.16 Overhead Hoists (Underhung)
- B30.17 Overhead and Gantry Cranes (Top Running Bridge, Single Girder, Underhung Hoist)
- B30.18 Stacker Cranes (Top or Under Running Bridge, Multiple Girder With Top or Under Running Trolley Hoist)
- B30.19 Cableways
- B30.20 Below-the-Hook Lifting Devices
- B30.21 Manually Lever Operated Hoists
- B30.22 Articulating Boom Cranes
- B30.23 Personnel Lifting Systems

- B30.24 Container Cranes<sup>1</sup>
- B30.25 Scrap and Material Handlers
- B30.26 Rigging Hardware<sup>1</sup>
- B30.27 Material Placement Systems<sup>1</sup>
- B30.28 Balance-Lifting Units<sup>1</sup>

If these standards are adopted for governmental use, the references to other national codes and standards in the specific volumes may be changed to refer to the corresponding regulations of the governmental authorities.

The use of cableways, cranes, derricks, hoists, hooks, jacks, and slings is subject to certain hazards that cannot be met by mechanical means but only by the exercise of intelligent care, and common sense. It is therefore essential to have personnel involved in the use and operation of equipment who are competent, careful, physically and mentally qualified, and trained in the safe operation of the equipment and the handling of the loads. Serious hazards are overloading, dropping or slipping of the load caused by improper hitching or slinging, obstructing the free passage of the load, and using equipment for a purpose for which it was not intended or designed.

The Standards Committee fully realizes the importance of proper design factors, minimum or maximum sizes, and other limiting dimensions of wire rope or chain and their fastenings, sheaves, sprockets, drums, and similar equipment covered by the Standard, all of which are closely connected with safety. Sizes, strengths, and similar criteria depend on many different factors, often varying with the installation and uses. These factors depend on the condition of the equipment or material; the loads; the acceleration or speed of the ropes, chains, sheaves, sprockets, or drums; the type of attachments; the number, size, and arrangement of sheaves or other parts; environmental conditions causing corrosion or wear; and many variables that must be considered in each individual case. The rules given in the Standard must be interpreted accordingly, and judgment must be used in determining their application.

The Standards Committee will be glad to receive criticisms of this Standard's requirements and suggestions

<sup>1</sup> B30.24, B30.26, B30.27, and B30.28 are in the developmental stage.

for its improvement, especially those based on actual experience in application of the rules.

Suggestions for changes to the Standard should be submitted to the Secretary of the B30 Committee, ASME, Three Park Avenue, New York, NY 10016-5990, and should be in accordance with the following format:

(a) Cite the specific paragraph designation of the pertinent volume.

(b) Indicate the suggested change (addition, deletion, revision, etc.).

(c) Briefly state the reason and/or evidence for the suggested change.

(d) Submit suggested changes to more than one paragraph in the order that the paragraphs appear in the volume.

The B30 Committee will consider each suggested change in a timely manner in accordance with its procedures.

## SECTION I: SCOPE OF B30 STANDARD

This Standard applies to the construction, installation, operation, inspection, maintenance, and safe use of lifting equipment used in construction and industrial settings. This includes, but is not limited to: articulating-boom, container, gantry, mobile, pedestal, portal, tower and stacker cranes; balance-lifting units; below-the-hook lifting devices; cableways; derricks; jacks; hoists; hooks; loads suspended from rotorcraft; material placement systems; monorails; rigging hardware; and scrap and material handlers.

This Standard does not apply to track and motive jacks, railway or automobile wrecking cranes, shipboard cranes, shipboard cargo-handling equipment, well-drilling derricks, skip hoists, mine hoists, truck body hoists, car or barge pullers or trolleys, excavating equipment, or equipment falling within the scope of the following Committees: A10, A17, A90, A92, A120, B20, B56, and B77.

## SECTION II: PURPOSE

This Standard is designed to

(a) guard against and minimize injury to workers, and otherwise provide for the protection of life, limb, and property by prescribing safety requirements

(b) provide direction to owners, employers, supervisors, and others concerned with, or responsible for, its application

(c) guide governments and other regulatory bodies in the development, promulgation, and enforcement of appropriate safety directives

## SECTION III: INTERPRETATIONS

Upon request, the B30 Committee will render an interpretation of any requirement of the Standard. Interpretations can only be rendered in response to a written request sent to the Secretary of the B30 Committee, ASME, Three Park Avenue, New York, NY 10016-5990.

The request for interpretation should be clear and unambiguous. It is further recommended that the inquirer submit his request utilizing the following format.

**Subject:** Cite the applicable paragraph number(s) and provide a concise description.

**Edition:** Cite the applicable edition of the pertinent volume for which the interpretation is being requested.

**Question:** Phrase the question as a request for an interpretation of a specific requirement suitable for general understanding and use, not as a request for approval of a proprietary design or situation. The inquirer may also include any plans or drawings that are necessary to explain the question; however, they should not contain any proprietary names or information.

Requests that are not in this format will be rewritten in this format by the Committee prior to being answered, which could change the intent of the original request.

ASME procedures provide for reconsideration of any interpretation when or if additional information that might affect an interpretation is available. Further, persons aggrieved by an interpretation may appeal to the cognizant ASME Committee or Subcommittee. ASME does not "approve," "certify," "rate," or "endorse" any item, construction, proprietary device, or activity.

## SECTION IV: NEW AND EXISTING INSTALLATIONS

(a) *Effective Date.* The effective date of this volume for the purpose of defining new and existing installations shall be 1 year after its date of issuance.

(b) *New Installations.* Construction, installation, inspection, testing, maintenance, and operation of equipment manufactured and facilities constructed after the effective date of this volume shall conform to the mandatory requirements of this volume.

(c) *Existing Installations.* Inspection, testing, maintenance, and operation of equipment manufactured and facilities constructed prior to the effective date of this volume shall be done, as applicable, in accordance with the requirements of this volume.

It is not the intent of this volume to require retrofitting of existing equipment. However, when an item is being modified, its performance requirement shall be reviewed

relative to the current volume. If the performance differs substantially, the need to meet the current requirement shall be evaluated by a qualified person selected by the owner (user). Recommended changes shall be made by the owner (user) within 1 year.

#### **SECTION V: MANDATORY AND ADVISORY RULES**

Mandatory rules of this Standard are characterized by use of the word *shall*. If a provision is of an advisory

nature, it is indicated by use of the word *should* and is a recommendation to be considered, the advisability of which depends on the facts in each situation.

#### **SECTION VI: METRIC CONVERSIONS**

This Standard contains SI (metric) units as well as U.S. Customary units. The values stated in U.S. Customary units are to be regarded as the standard. The SI units are a direct (soft) conversion from the customary units.

# ASME B30.11-2004

## SUMMARY OF CHANGES

Following approval by the ASME B30 Committee and ASME, and after public review, ASME B30.11-2004 was approved by the American National Standards Institute on October 5, 2004.

ASME B30.11-2004 includes editorial changes, revisions, and corrections introduced in ASME B30.11-2004, as well as the following changes identified by a margin note, **(04)**.

<i>Page</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Change</i>
viii–x	B30 Standard Introduction	General, Section I, and Section VI revised
9	Section 11-0.3	References updated
11	11-1.3.2(f)	Revised

### **SPECIAL NOTE:**

The interpretations to ASME B30.11 are included in this edition as a separate section for the user's convenience.



# MONORAILS AND UNDERHUNG CRANES

## Chapter 11-0 Scope, Definitions, and References

### SECTION 11-0.1 SCOPE OF B30.11

Within the general scope defined in Section I of the introduction, ASME B30.11 applies to underhung cranes and monorail systems where load-carrying members, such as end trucks or carriers (trolleys), travel either on the external or internal (see Fig. 9) lower flange of a runway track section, single monorail track, crane bridge girder, or jib boom (see Fig. 1), including all curves, switches, transfer devices, lift and drop sections, and associated equipment. This Volume includes provisions of both power-driven and hand-operated equipment on which the carriers are independently controlled. This equipment is grouped together because of the similarity of construction and because of common considerations which are peculiar to this type of equipment. Systems used for transporting personnel require special considerations and are not included in this Volume. Also excluded from this Volume are conveyor systems, including power and free conveyors.

### SECTION 11-0.2 DEFINITIONS

*abnormal operating conditions:* environmental conditions that are unfavorable, harmful, or detrimental to or for the operation of the crane or carrier, such as excessively high or low ambient temperatures, exposure to weather, corrosive fumes, dust- or moisture-laden atmospheres, and hazardous locations.

*administrative or regulatory authority:* governmental agency or the employer in the absence of governmental jurisdiction.

*appointed:* appointed by a duly constituted administrative or regulatory authority.

*brake:* a device, other than a motor, used for retarding or stopping motion by friction or power means.

*bridge (crane) girder:* crane member on which carriers travel, horizontally mounted between and supported by the end trucks.

*bridge (crane) travel:* crane movement in a direction parallel to the crane runway.

*cab:* an operator's compartment attached to a crane or carrier.

*cab, normal:* operator's compartment used for controlling a cab-operated crane or carrier.

*cab, skeleton:* operator's compartment used for occasional cab operation of, normally, a floor- or remote-operated crane or carrier.

*carrier:* (also known as trolley) a unit that travels on the bottom flange of a monorail track, jib boom, or bridge girder to transport a load.

*carrier, automatic dispatch:* a carrier that, when activated, operates through a preset cycle or cycles.

*carrier, cab-operated:* a carrier controlled by an operator in a cab attached to the carrier (see Fig. 2).

*carrier, floor-operated:* a carrier that is controlled by a means suspended from the carrier or crane, or controlled

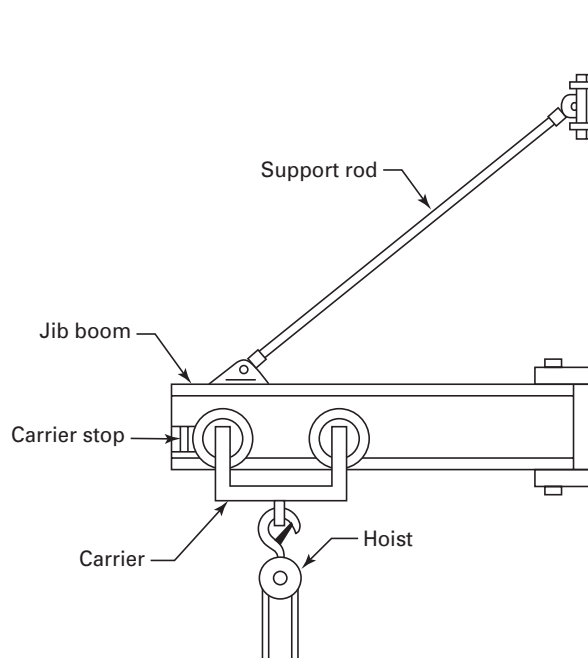


Fig. 1 Wall-Supported Jib Crane