



ASME B30.3-2009
(Revision of ASME B30.3-2004)

Tower 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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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, 1962, with 39 members representing 27 national organizations.

The format of the previous code books changed so that separate volumes (each complete as to construction and installation; inspection, testing, and maintenance; and operation) would 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 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 IX, before rendering decisions on disputed points.

The 2009 edition of this Volume revised its scope to include Construction and Permanently Mounted Tower Cranes and added the responsibilities of other members of the lifting team.

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.

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 July 27, 2009.





ASME B30 COMMITTEE

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

(The following is the roster of the Committee at the time of approval of this Standard.)

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

(09)

B30 STANDARD INTRODUCTION

SECTION I: SCOPE

The ASME B30 Standard contains provisions that apply to the construction, installation, operation, inspection, testing, maintenance, and use of cranes and other lifting and material-handling related equipment. For the convenience of the reader, the Standard has been divided into separate volumes. Each volume has been written under the direction of the ASME B30 Standards Committee and has successfully completed a consensus approval process under the general auspices of the American National Standards Institute (ANSI).

As of the date of issuance of this Volume, the B30 Standard comprises the following volumes:

- B30.1 Jacks, Industrial Rollers, Air Casters, and Hydraulic Gantries
- B30.2 Overhead and Gantry Cranes (Top Running Bridge, Single or Multiple Girder, Top Running Trolley Hoist)
- B30.3 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 Supplied From Rotorcraft
- B30.13 Storage/Retrieval (S/R) Machines and Associated Equipment
- B30.14 Side Boom Tractors
- B30.15 Mobile Hydraulic Cranes (withdrawn 1982 — requirements found in latest revision 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
- B30.25 Scrap and Material Handlers
- B30.26 Rigging Hardware
- B30.27 Material Placement Systems
- B30.28 Balance Lifting Units¹
- B30.29 Self-Erect Tower Cranes¹

SECTION II: SCOPE EXCLUSIONS

The B30 Standard does not apply to track and automotive 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, conveyors, excavating equipment, or equipment covered under the scope of the following standards: A10, A17, A90, A92, A120, B20, B56, and B77.

SECTION III: PURPOSE

The B30 Standard is intended to

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

(b) provide direction to manufacturers, owners, employers, users, 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 IV: USE BY REGULATORY AGENCIES

These Volumes may be adopted in whole or in part for governmental or regulatory use. If 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.

¹ These volumes are currently in the development process.

