

**ASME B30.6-2020**  
(Revision of ASME B30.6-2015)

# Derricks

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

**AN AMERICAN NATIONAL STANDARD**



**The American Society of  
Mechanical Engineers**

**ASME B30.6-2020**  
(Revision of ASME B30.6-2015)

# Derricks

---

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

AN AMERICAN NATIONAL STANDARD



**The American Society of  
Mechanical Engineers**

Two Park Avenue • New York, NY • 10016 USA

Date of Issuance: September 18, 2020

The next edition of this Standard is scheduled for publication in 2025. This Standard will become effective 1 year after the Date of Issuance.

ASME issues written replies to inquiries concerning interpretations of technical aspects of this Standard. Interpretations are published on the ASME website under the Committee Pages at <http://cstools.asme.org/> as they are issued.

Errata to codes and standards may be posted on the ASME website under the Committee Pages to provide corrections to incorrectly published items, or to correct typographical or grammatical errors in codes and standards. Such errata shall be based on the date posted.

The Committee Pages can be found at <http://cstools.asme.org/>. There is an option available to automatically receive an e-mail notification when errata are posted to a particular code or standard. This option can be found on the appropriate Committee Page after selecting "Errata" in the "Publication Information" section.

ASME is the registered trademark of The American Society of Mechanical Engineers.

This code or standard was developed under procedures agreed to as meeting the criteria for American National Standards. The Standards Committee that approved the code or standard was balanced to assure that individuals from competent and concerned interests have had an opportunity to participate. The proposed code or standard was made available for public review and comment that provides an opportunity for additional public input from industry, academia, regulatory agencies, and the public-at-large.

ASME does not "approve," "rate," or "endorse" an item, construction, proprietary device, or activity.

ASME does not take any position with respect to the validity of any patent rights asserted in connection with any items mentioned in this document, and does not undertake to insure anyone utilizing a standard against liability for infringement of any applicable letters patent, nor assume any such liability. Users of a code or standard are expressly advised that determination of the validity of any such patent rights, and the risk of infringement of such rights, are entirely their own responsibility.

Participation by federal agency representative(s) or person(s) affiliated with industry is not to be interpreted as government or industry endorsement of this code or standard.

ASME accepts responsibility for only those interpretations of this document issued in accordance with the established ASME procedures and policies, which precludes the issuance of interpretations by individuals.

No part of this document may be reproduced in any form,  
in an electronic retrieval system or otherwise,  
without the prior written permission of the publisher.

The American Society of Mechanical Engineers  
Two Park Avenue, New York, NY 10016-5990

Copyright © 2020 by  
THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF MECHANICAL ENGINEERS  
All rights reserved  
Printed in U.S.A.

# CONTENTS

Foreword .....		v
Committee Roster .....		vi
B30 Standard Introduction .....		vii
Summary of Changes .....		xi
<b>Chapter 6-0</b>	<b>Scope, Definitions, Translations, Personnel Competence, and Reference</b>	<b>1</b>
Section 6-0.1	Scope of B30.6 .....	1
Section 6-0.2	Definitions .....	1
Section 6-0.3	Technical and Safety-Related Information .....	7
Section 6-0.4	Personnel Competence .....	7
Section 6-0.5	References .....	7
<b>Chapter 6-1</b>	<b>Construction and Installation</b>	<b>8</b>
Section 6-1.1	Load Ratings .....	8
Section 6-1.2	Construction .....	8
Section 6-1.3	Ropes and Reeving Accessories .....	9
Section 6-1.4	Anchoring and Guying .....	10
Section 6-1.5	Winches and Swingers .....	10
Section 6-1.6	General Requirements .....	10
<b>Chapter 6-2</b>	<b>Inspection, Testing, and Maintenance</b>	<b>12</b>
Section 6-2.1	Inspection .....	12
Section 6-2.2	Testing .....	13
Section 6-2.3	Maintenance .....	13
Section 6-2.4	Rope Inspection, Replacement, and Maintenance .....	14
<b>Chapter 6-3</b>	<b>Operation</b>	<b>16</b>
Section 6-3.1	Qualifications, Responsibilities, and Operating Practices .....	16
Section 6-3.2	Responsibilities .....	17
Section 6-3.3	Handling the Load .....	20
Section 6-3.4	Signals .....	21
Section 6-3.5	Miscellaneous .....	24
<b>Figures</b>		
6-0.2.1-1	A-Frame Derrick .....	2
6-0.2.1-2	Basket Derrick .....	2
6-0.2.1-3	Breast Derrick .....	3
6-0.2.1-4	Chicago Boom Derrick .....	3
6-0.2.1-5	Gin Pole Derrick .....	4
6-0.2.1-6	Guy Derrick .....	4
6-0.2.1-7	Shearleg Derrick .....	5
6-0.2.1-8	Stiffleg Derrick .....	5

6-3.4.2-1	Standard Hand Signals for Controlling Derricks . . . . .	22
6-3.5.3.1-1	Flowchart to Assist in Determination of Applicable Section of Derrick Operation Near Electric Power Lines . . . . .	25
6-3.5.3.1-2	Specified Clearance Around an Electric Power Line . . . . .	26
6-3.5.3.1-3	Electric Power Line Support Structures . . . . .	27
 <b>Table</b>		
6-3.5.3.1-1	Specified Clearance in the Vicinity of Energized Power Lines . . . . .	26

Currently in preview, click buy full version

# 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 (ANSI). This Standard had its beginning in December 1916, when an eight-page “Code of Safety Standards for Cranes,” prepared by the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) Committee on the Protection of Industrial Workers, was presented at 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 (AESC) [later changed to American Standards Association (ASA), then to the United States of America Standards Institute (USASI), and finally to ANSI], 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 AESC 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 was organized on November 4, 1926, with 57 members representing 29 national organizations.

Commencing June 1, 1927, and using the eight-page Code published by ASME in 1916 as a basis, the Sectional Committee developed the “Safety Code for Cranes, Derricks, and Hoists.” The early drafts of this safety code included requirements for jacks, but due to inputs and comments on those drafts, the Sectional Committee decided in 1938 to make the requirements for jacks a separate code. In January 1943, ASA B30.2-1943 was published addressing a multitude of equipment types, and in August 1943, ASA B30.1-1943 was published addressing only jacks. Both documents were reaffirmed in 1952 and widely accepted as safety standards.

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 Bureau of Yards and Docks (now the Naval Facilities Engineering Command), was reorganized on January 31, 1962, with 39 members representing 27 national organizations. The new Committee changed the format of ASA B30.2-1943 so that the multitude of equipment types it addressed could be published in separate volumes that could completely cover the construction, installation, inspection, testing, maintenance, and operation of each type of equipment that was included in the scope of ASA B30.2. This format change resulted in B30.3, B30.5, B30.6, B30.11, and B30.16 being initially published as “Revisions” of B30.2, with the remainder of the B30 volumes being published as totally new volumes. ASA changed its name to USASI in 1966 and to ANSI in 1969, which resulted in B30 volumes from 1943 to 1961 being designated as ASA B30, USAS B30, or ANSI B30, depending on their date of publication. In 1982, the Committee was reorganized as an Accredited Organization Committee operating under procedures developed by ASME and accredited by ANSI.

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 of the B30 Standard Introduction, before rendering decisions on disputed points.

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.

B30.6 was first published in 1969; new editions were published in 1977, 1984, 1990, 1995, 2003, 2010, and 2015. This 2020 edition contains additions and/or revisions to rigger responsibilities, crane operator qualifications, operation in the vicinity of electric power lines, and definitions.

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 9, 2020.

# ASME B30 COMMITTEE

## Safety Standard 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.)

### STANDARDS COMMITTEE OFFICERS

**T. L. Blanton**, *Chair*  
**E. D. Fidler**, *Vice Chair*  
**K. Peterson**, *Secretary*

### STANDARDS COMMITTEE PERSONNEL

**N. E. Andrew**, ArcelorMittal  
**B. B. Bacon**, Tennessee Valley Authority  
**T. L. Blanton**, NACB Group, Inc.  
**P. A. Boeckman**, The Crosby Group  
**P. W. Boyd**, The Boeing Co.  
**J. Burkey**, Columbus McKinnon Corp.  
**B. D. Closson**, Craft Forensic Services  
**J. A. Danielson**, The Boeing Co.  
**D. R. Decker**, Becket, LLC  
**L. D. DeMark**, Equipment Training Solutions, LLC  
**D. W. Eckstine**, Eckstine & Associates  
**R. J. Edwards**, NBIS  
**E. D. Fidler**, Grove U.S., LLC  
**J. A. Gilbert**, Associated Wire Rope Fabricators  
**G. B. Hetherston**, Hetherston Consulting, LLC  
**M. M. Jaxtheimer**, Navy Crane Center  
**P. R. Juhren**, Morrow Equipment Co., LLC  
**R. M. Kohner**, Landmark Engineering Services, Ltd.  
**A. J. Lusi, Jr.**, Lumark Consulting, LLP  
**L. D. Means**, Means Engineering and Consulting  
**M. W. Mills**, Liberty Mutual Insurance  
**W. E. Osborn**, Ingersoll Rand  
**R. M. Parnell**, Industrial Training International  
**J. T. Perkins**, All Material Handling  
**K. Peterson**, The American Society of Mechanical Engineers  
**B. A. Pickett**, Systems Engineering and Forensic Services  
**J. A. Pilgrim**, Manitowoc Cranes  
**S. K. Rammelsberg**, McDermott  
**K. Reynolds**, Shell Exploration and Production  
**J. E. Richardson**, U.S. Department of the Navy  
**D. W. Ritchie**, Dave Ritchie Consultant, LLC  
**J. W. Rowland III**, Consultant  
**A. R. Ruud**, Atkinson Construction  
**L. K. Shapiro**, Leonard I. Shapiro & Associates  
**D. W. Smith**, TI Group  
**W. J. Smith, Jr.**, Nations Builder Insurance Service  
**R. Sampson**, Sampson International, LLC  
**R. Straub**, Advanced Crane Technologies, LLC  
**J. Sturm**, Sturm Corp.  
**D. P. Sullivan**, IUOE Local 142 JAC  
**P. D. Sweeney**, Riverside Engineering, LLC  
**E. P. Vliet**, Turner Industries Group  
**J. D. Wiethorn**, Haag Engineering Co.  
**R. C. Wild**, CJ Drilling, Inc.  
**S. D. Wood**, Trex Corp.  
**R. J. Bolen**, *Alternate*, Consultant  
**D. Boyl**, *Alternate*, The Crosby Group  
**B. M. Case**, *Alternate*, Electric Boat  
**W. L. Dickinson, Jr.**, *Alternate*, Crane Industry Services, LLC  
**J. Diller**, *Alternate*, The Walsh Group  
**D. Duerr**, *Alternate*, ZDM Associates, Inc.  
**M. Eckstine**, *Alternate*, Safelift, LLC  
**S. K. Fletcher**, *Alternate*, Cowles, Murphy, Glover & Associates  
**M. Gardiner**, *Alternate*, Haag Engineering Co.  
**J. B. Greenwood**, *Alternate*, Navy Crane Center  
**D. A. Henninger**, *Alternate*, Bridon Bekaert  
**D. F. Jordan**, *Alternate*, American International Crane Bureau  
**K. Kennedy**, *Alternate*, Navy Crane Center  
**D. P. Lavoie**, *Alternate*, Liberty Mutual  
**J. Lindsay**, *Alternate*, Link-Belt Construction Equipment  
**J. Muhlbauer, Jr.**, *Alternate*, All Ship & Cargo Surveys, Ltd.  
**G. D. Miller**, *Alternate*, Manitowoc Cranes  
**D. A. Moore**, *Alternate*, Unified Engineering  
**L. S. Olver**, *Alternate*, Kolo Holdings, Inc.  
**J. M. Randall**, *Alternate*, McDermott  
**K. Rask**, *Alternate*, Nations Builder Insurance Service  
**C. L. Richardson**, *Alternate*, Lone Star Rigging, LP  
**M. Riggs**, *Alternate*, Rigging Institute, LLC  
**J. R. Schober**, *Alternate*, American Bridge Co.  
**J. Schoppert**, *Alternate*, NBIS Claims and Risk Management, Inc.  
**T. Sickelsteel**, *Alternate*, Leavitt Cranes, USA  
**C. H. Smith**, *Alternate*, Morrow Equipment Co., LLC  
**J. A. Stewart**, *Alternate*, General Service Administration  
**J. J. Van Egeren**, *Alternate*, Manitowoc Cranes  
**C. Warren**, *Alternate*, Webber, LLC  
**M. Zerba**, *Alternate*, Lampson International, LLC

## HONORARY MEMBERS

**J. W. Downs, Jr.**, Downs Crane & Hoist Co., Inc.  
**J. L. Franks**, Consultant  
**C. W. Ireland**, National Oilwell Varco  
**J. M. Klibert**, Lift-All Co., Inc.

**R. W. Parry**, Parry, Parry & Glen  
**J. C. Ryan**, Boh Bros. Construction Co.  
**D. N. Wolff**, Consultant

## B30.6 SUBCOMMITTEE PERSONNEL

**S. K. Rammelsberg**, *Chair*, McDermott  
**D. Ferland**, *Vice Chair*, West81 Engineering, Inc.  
**T. L. Blanton**, NACB Group, Inc.  
**A. J. Egging**, National Oilwell Varco  
**B. S. Hope**, Crane U  
**C. W. Ireland**, National Oilwell Varco  
**H. G. Leidich**, Leidich Consulting Services, Inc.

**L. D. Means**, Means Engineering and Consulting  
**T. Onishi**, Able Rigging Contractors  
**D. W. Smith**, STI Group  
**R. S. Stemp**, Lampson International, LLC  
**P. Yuskevich**, Howard I. Shapiro & Associates  
**M. Zerba**, Lampson International, LLC

## B30 INTEREST REVIEW GROUP

**O. Akinboboye**, Ropetech Engineering Services  
**J. D. Cannon**, Consultant  
**B. Dobbs**, LEEA  
**M. J. Eggenberger**, Berry Contracting, Inc.  
**A. Gomes Rocha**, Industrial Training International  
**J. B. Greenwood**, Navy Crane Center  
**N. C. Hargreaves**, Hargreaves Consulting, LLC  
**H. A. Hashem**, Saudi Aramco  
**J. Hui**, School of Civil Engineering, People's Republic of China

**A. C. Mattoli**, Prowitth, Inc.  
**J. Mellott-Green**, All Canadian Training Institute, Inc.  
**J. Mihlbauer, Jr.**, All Ship Cargo Surveys, Ltd.  
**L. S. Olver**, Pollo Holdings, Inc.  
**G. L. Owens**, Consultant  
**A. Payne**, Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement  
**K. Reynolds**, Shell Exploration and Production  
**L. Y. Shapiro**, Howard I. Shapiro & Associates  
**C.-C. Tsai**, Institute of Occupational Safety and Health, Taiwan

## B30 REGULATORY AUTHORITY COUNCIL

**C. Shelhamer**, *Chair*, New York City Department of Building  
**K. Peterson**, *Secretary*, The American Society of Mechanical  
Engineers  
**C. Harris**, City of Chicago — Department of Building  
**R. D. Jackson**, U.S. Department of Labor  
**D. E. Latham**, State of Maryland — Department of Labor  
**M. J. Nelmida**, State of California — OSH Standards Board

**C. N. Stribling, Jr.**, Kentucky Labor Cabinet  
**T. Taylor**, State of Minnesota — Department of Labor and Industry  
**G. M. Thomas**, State of South Carolina — Department of Labor,  
Licensing and Regulation  
**A. O. Omran**, *Alternate*, New York City Department of Buildings  
**N. Reynolds**, *Alternate*, Maryland Occupational Safety and Health

## 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-movement-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 and Pedestal Cranes
- B30.5 Mobile and Locomotive Cranes
- B30.6 Derricks
- B30.7 Winches
- B30.8 Floating Cranes and Floating Derricks
- B30.9 Slings
- B30.10 Hooks
- B30.11 Monorails and Underhung Cranes (Withdrawn 2018 — requirements found in latest revision of B30.17)
- B30.12 Handling Loads Suspended From Rotorcraft
- B30.13 Storage/Retrieval (S/R) Machines and Associated Equipment
- B30.14 Side Boom Derricks
- B30.15 Mobile Hydraulic Cranes (withdrawn 1982 — requirements found in latest revision of B30.1)
- B30.16 Overhead Underhung and Stationary Hoists
- B30.17 Cranes and Monorails (With Underhung Trolley or Bridge)
- 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 Lever 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 Units
- B30.29 Self-Erecting Tower Cranes
- B30.30 Ropes
- B30.31 Self-Propelled, Tower, or Remote-Controlled Hydraulic Lifting Transporters<sup>1</sup>
- B30.32 Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) Used in Inspection, Testing, Maintenance, and Lifting Operations

### SECTION II: SCOPE EXCLUSIONS

Any exclusion of, or limitations applicable to, the equipment, requirements, recommendations, or operations contained in this Standard are established in the affected volume's scope.

### 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.

<sup>1</sup>This volume is currently in the development process.