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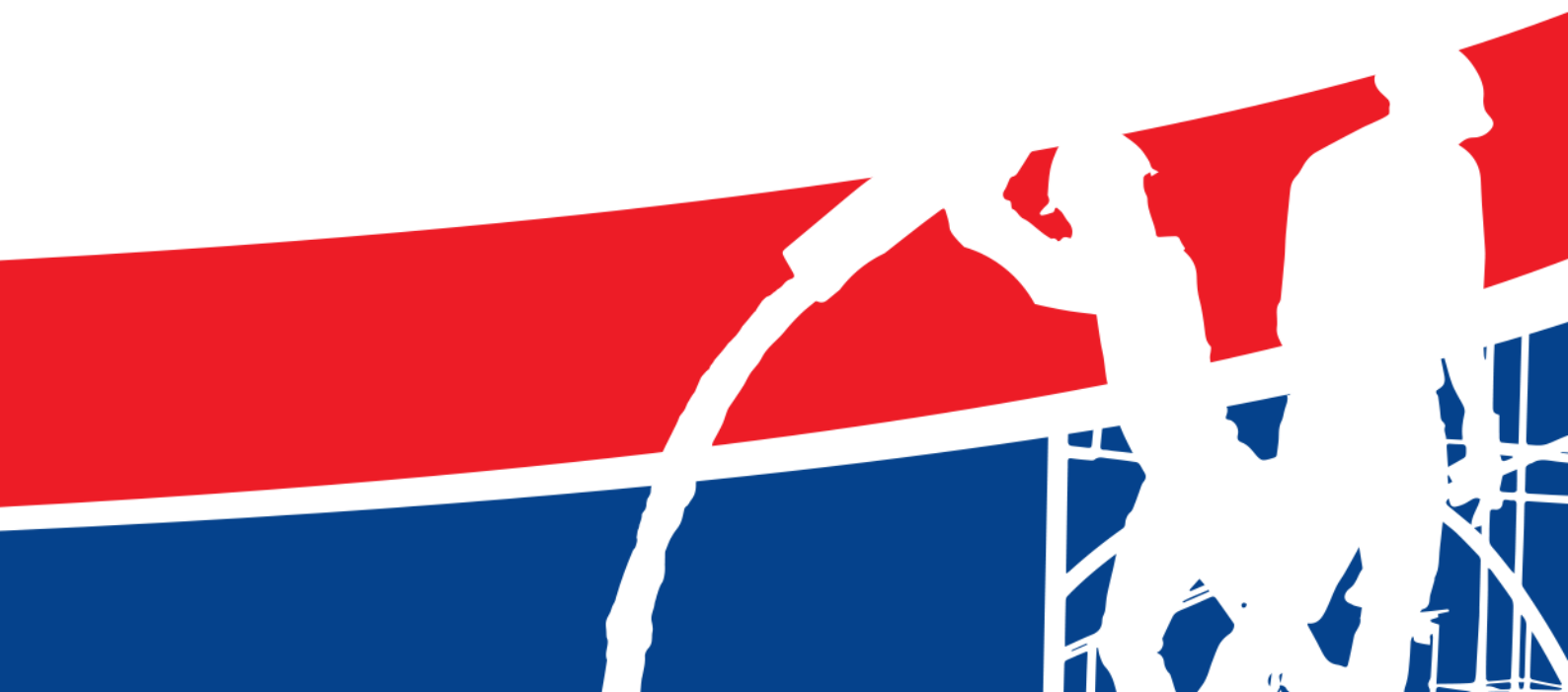
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# Safety Bulletin

## - Duty of Care

*This Safety Bulletin is sent to remind owners and operators of concrete placing booms of their 'duty of care' when determining 'who should' and 'how' to carry out all inspections on their plant.*



## Audience

- Owners of Concrete Placing Equipment
- Operators of Concrete Placing Equipment
- Persons Servicing and Repairing Concrete Placing Equipment
- Persons Inspecting and Certifying Concrete Placing Equipment

## Summary

Concrete Pumping Association of Australia (CPAA) is the national body representing the interests of the concrete pumping industry. The CPAA provides a strong, unified and respected voice for the concrete pumping industry across Australia working to improve the professionalism, safety and quality of the industry it represents, and accordingly these 'Safety Bulletin' are published to keep members abreast of issues relevant to our members.

## Duty of Care

Duty of care can be broadly defined as a legal obligation, which is imposed on an individual or organisation requiring compliance to a standard of reasonable care while performing any acts that could foreseeably harm others. Breaching a duty of care may subject an individual or organisation to prosecution or liability such as fines.

This Bulletin has been published to remind concrete placing boom owners and operators of their 'duty of care' in determining 'who should' and 'how' to carry out all inspections, and specifically MAJOR INSPECTIONS.

This Safety Bulletin has been published to remind concrete placing boom owners and operators of specific requirements for;

1. Competent person(s), and
2. Annual and Major Inspections (when and how)<sup>i,ii</sup>

## Competent Person(s)



The Australian Standard for the Safe Use - Concrete placing equipment, AS 2550.15<sup>iii</sup>, requires 'competent person(s)' to make decisions and/or provide approval in a range of situations before use of equipment. Operators and Concrete placing equipment owners have a 'duty of care' to ensure that the competent person(s) making these decisions and providing approvals are in fact competent to do so in each case.

When selecting a competent person(s) to undertake the requirements set out in AS 2550.15 section 8.3, concrete placing boom owners and operators should ensure the person selected to perform the inspection satisfies the following check list;



- provide appropriate qualifications to undertake the required task(s)
- demonstrate knowledge of the operation of concrete placing equipment
- provide copies of training undertaken on manufactures concrete placing equipment
- show years of relevant experience in assessment of concrete placing equipment
- have current insurance to undertake assessments and inspections
- should provide reference list of similar work previously completed
- should provide example of documentation / report issued at completion

The above check list is only suggested and not exhaustive of other investigations which can be undertaken to meet 'duty of care' requirements for concrete placing boom owners and operators.

## Maintenance, Inspections, Assessment & Repairs

The requirements for the maintenance, inspection and assessment for continued service of concrete placing equipment shall be conducted in accordance with relevant part of AS 2550 series<sup>iv</sup> and in accordance with manufacturer's specifications or equivalent and include, but not limited to the following:

- (a) Pre-operational inspection
- (b) Routine maintenance inspection
- (c) Annual inspections
- (d) Assessments of suitability for continued service (Major Inspection 6 yearly)

## Next Steps

The Concrete Pumping Association of Australia Management Committee has committed to the development of 'National Concrete Pumping Industry Guidelines' to clarify and better align nationally requirements for the safe operation, cleaning and maintenance of concrete placing equipment, in particular recommendations on how and when to carry out major inspections. For further information and assistance contact the Concrete Pumping Association of Australia on 1300 136 636.

## References

- <sup>i</sup> AS 2550.15 (1994) Cranes - Safe use - Concrete placing equipment, Sydney, Standards Australia.
- <sup>ii</sup> Ibid
- <sup>iii</sup> Ibid
- <sup>iv</sup> AS 2550 Series Cranes, hoists and winches - Safe use - General requirements, Sydney, Standards Australia

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