SECNAV INSTRUCTION 11260.2A

From: Secretary of the Navy

Subj: NAVY WEIGHT HANDLING PROGRAM FOR SHORE ACTIVITIES

Ref: (a) DODINST 6055.1, DOD Safety and Occupational Health (SOH) Program
(b) SECNAVINST 5100.10, Department of the Navy Policy for Safety, Mishap Prevention, and Occupational Health and Fire Protection Programs

Encl: (1) Department of Labor (Asst. Secretary for OSHA) ltr of 22 Oct 93, "Alternate Standard for Accredited Certification of Weight Handling Equipment"

1. Purpose.

a. To establish and maintain a safe and effective weight handling program at Navy shore activities.

b. To assign to the Commander, Naval Facilities Engineering Command (COMNAVFACENGCOM) responsibility for the direction and oversight of all matters pertaining to the Navy’s weight handling program at Navy shore activities, including development and maintenance of policy, training requirements, auditing for compliance with weight handling program requirements, providing in-service technical support, and acquiring weight handling equipment.

c. To define the responsibilities of other Navy shore activities in support of the weight handling program.

2. Cancellation. SECNAVINST 11260.2

3. Applicability and Scope. The responsibilities assigned by this instruction apply to weight handling functions at Navy shore activities. This instruction neither alters Naval Safety Center responsibilities nor supersedes the special weight handling requirements of programs, such as the Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program and the Strategic Systems Program, which have separate responsibilities and authorities.
4. **Discussion.** Safe and reliable weight handling is critical to the operation of the Navy. Each day, the Navy applies its extensive inventory of weight handling equipment to lift ordnance, naval nuclear propulsion plant components and equipment, new and spent nuclear fuels, electronic equipment, hot metals, components of ships and submarines, supplies, construction materials, and hazardous material items needed to support the Navy's world-wide commitments. Safe conduct of these operations is key to precluding damage to equipment or personnel injury. All Navy weight handling equipment must be properly operated, maintained, inspected, tested, and certified. Personnel involved in the weight handling program must be properly trained and qualified. To achieve these objectives, program policies must be established and consistently applied throughout the Navy shore establishment. Centralized oversight and technical control are required to ensure program compliance.

5. **Definitions.**

    a. The Navy weight handling program covers weight handling equipment and those personnel involved in the management, operation, alteration, test, inspection, maintenance, certification, and acquisition thereof.

    b. Weight handling equipment consists of cranes (e.g., portal cranes, mobile cranes), rigging gear (e.g., slings, shackles), and associated equipment (e.g., chainfalls, dynamometers).

    c. Certification is the process by which, on a periodic basis, weight handling equipment is approved for use at a Navy shore activity. For cranes, the process includes review of all applicable maintenance records, condition inspection, and load test to ensure that the crane has been maintained in a safe and serviceable condition and is functioning properly.

6. **Responsibilities.**

    a. COMNAVFACENGCOM is responsible for all matters pertaining to the Navy's weight handling program at Navy shore activities. NAVFACENGCOM shall establish and maintain a Navy Crane Center reporting directly to the Commander. The Director of the Navy Crane Center shall have direct access to the Chief of Naval Operations and Assistant Secretary of the Navy (Installations & Environment) on matters involving the safe and reliable operation of Navy weight handling equipment. The Navy Crane Center shall have the following responsibilities:
(1) Policy and Training

(a) Develop, issue and maintain policy regarding design criteria, maintenance, testing, certification, and operation of weight handling equipment used at Navy shore activities. Navy policies shall meet or exceed the Occupational Safety and Health Act requirements identified by references (a) and (b).

(b) Establish training and qualification requirements, develop and maintain standard training programs for all personnel involved in the weight handling program. Centralize or regionalize training programs to optimize the use of resources.

(c) Develop, issue and maintain requirements for reporting crane accidents.

(2) Compliance

(a) Audit Navy shore activity programs biennially at a minimum to ensure compliance with Navy weight handling program requirements. For those activities involved in critical weight handling operations, such as lifting ordnance, naval nuclear propulsion materials, other lifts that require a high degree of reliability, or activities with a high tempo of operations in a highly congested environment, an annual audit is prescribed.

(b) Direct corrective action, where required, including suspension of operations, to assure activity weight handling operations can be safely and properly executed. Mandate action at applicable activities to investigate or correct specific equipment deficiencies.

(c) Validate activity certifications annually for cranes in special applications. Perform independent certifications annually for cranes used in longshoring applications as authorized by enclosure (1).

(d) Establish reporting mechanisms to identify and track equipment, procedures, or personnel concerns or problems. Analyze audit data to identify trends and ensure lessons learned are properly disseminated.

(e) Collect data on crane accidents, investigate significant crane accidents, as necessary, to support assigned responsibilities, and disseminate lessons learned. Endorse crane accident investigation reports submitted to the Naval
Safety Center. Assist the Naval Safety Center as appropriate on weight handling matters.

(3) In-Service Technical Support

(a) Establish policy for technical approval of alterations to cranes, including configuration control.

(b) Provide on-site engineering support in response to activity technical issues and emergencies.

(4) Acquisition. Establish acquisition policy. Acquire cranes in accordance with policy and assist in programming for cranes for Navy shore activities on a cost reimbursable basis.

b. Systems Command Commanders and major claimants shall:

(1) Develop and maintain the Navy’s weight handling program at naval shore activities in accordance with the policies and directives issued by COMNAVFACENGCOM.

(2) Properly maintain weight handling equipment and properly train weight handling personnel.

(3) Provide a weight handling program self assessment to the Navy Crane Center prior to audits

(4) Comply with weight handling program reporting requirements.

(5) Ensure contractor crane operations at Navy shore activities meet OSHA requirements identified by references (a) and (b).

(6) Provide funding to the Navy Crane Center, as required, to accomplish on-site technical assistance and independent crane certification of cranes used in longshoring applications.

(7) Provide crane personnel (e.g., to augment audit and technical assistance teams deployed to other activities) to the maximum extent possible, on a cost reimbursement basis, as requested by the Navy Crane Center to assist them in accomplishing their mission.
7. **Action.** COMNAVFACENGCOM, SYSCOM Commanders, and major
claimants shall implement the responsibilities set forth in this
instruction.

BJ Penn
Assistant Secretary of the Navy
(Installations and Environment)

Distribution:
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HTTP://NEDS.DAPS.DLA.MIL
Ms. Elsie L. Munsell  
Deputy Assistant Secretary  
of the Navy  
Environmental Safety  
5 Crystal Plaza  
Washington, D.C. 20360-5000

Dear Ms. Munsell:

The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) has completed its review of the proposed alternate standard on Accredited Certification of Weight Handling Equipment, as required in 29 CFR 1960.17. With this letter, we want to inform you that we have approved the standard. In addition OSHA is recognizing the Navy Crane Center and its authorized agents as a Third Party Certifier for Navy weight handling equipment listed in these subparts. The Navy is not authorized to certify any equipment that it does not own and operate. This approval is based on our determination that the alternate standard provides equivalent protection as would compliance with the following standards in specifically identified operations:

- **Shipyards**, 29 CFR 1915.115(a)(1) Derricks and cranes which are part of, or regularly placed aboard barges, other vessels, or on wingwalls of floating drydocks, and are used to transfer materials or equipment from or to a vessel or drydock, shall be tested and certificated in accordance with the standards provided in Part 1919 of this title by persons accredited for the purpose.

- **Marine Terminals**, 29 CFR 1917.50(b)(1) In accordance with Part 1919 of this chapter, by persons then currently accredited by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration as provided in that part; or

- **Longshoring**, 29 CFR 1918.13(a)(3) Is so located that its failure could cause injury to an employee, as defined in 1918.3(d); until he has ascertained that the device has been certificated as evidenced by current and valid documents attesting to compliance with the requirements specified in paragraph (b) of this section.
Furthermore, OSHA will perform oversight on this standard by reviewing established procedures at the Navy Crane Center, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania and by field compliance inspections.

We appreciate the cooperation provided to OSHA during the many discussions on this alternate standard. Your interest and support for the safety and health of Federal employees is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

David C. Zeigler
Acting Assistant Secretary