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ABOUT EICA

EICA was formed in 2014 to address a need identified by Employers and others in the electrical construction industry, that of crane and digger derrick operation near and around electrical lines, as well as the normal difficult terrain found in transmission line construction environments.

While other entities were doing crane certifications based on both construction and railroad scenarios, nobody specifically addressed the electrical power line environment. If you are working in the electrical construction industry, particularly in the power line construction segment of that industry, we believe we are the certification entity that will be held in the highest regard by your current and future employers.

If you are working in the electrical industry, and need a Crane Operators Certification, talk to your employer or contact the JATC that covers your area. You will find our test procedures closely align with your work environment and offer you the best proof to your employer(s) that you are ready to be a safe and productive Crane and Digger Derrick Operator.

EICA Certification is valid for 5 years on all scopes.

EICA MISSION STATEMENT

Promote responsible awareness through certification programs regarding safe and effective practices in the electrical industry; provide effective, valid, reliable and fair assessments that raise the standard of excellence for personnel and be the industry authority on those related occupations.
ANSI ACCREDITATION

Electrical Industry Certifications Association (EICA) announces that it has received accreditation for three operator certification programs from the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) under its personnel certification accreditation program. EICA's accredited schemes include the following: Digger Derrick, Rotating Control Telescoping Crane, and Stationary Control Telescoping Crane. ANSI’s Personnel Certification Accreditation Committee awarded EICA accreditation September 22, 2017.

State and Federal OSHA crane certifications require that the certification body be accredited through a nationally recognized accrediting agency. State and Federal OSHA programs recognize ANSI accreditation.

Gaining accreditation from ANSI took numerous years of development and countless hours by volunteers across the United States. EICA submitted over 8,000 pages of documentation to provide evidence of ISO 17024 compliance to American National Standards Institute.

EICA believes that ANSI represents the highest level of accreditation services within the industry. ANSI’s impartial authentication of EICA’s policies and procedures meets the highest professional level of standards in examination development, verification, and administration.
PURPOSE OF EICA

EICA is a nonprofit organization founded in 2014 to promote responsible awareness through certification programs regarding safe and effective practices in the electrical industry; provide effective, valid, and fair assessments that raise the standard of excellence for personnel engaged in the varied aspects of the electrical industry. EICA’s initial objective is to establish a fair and independent evaluation of crane and digger derrick operator knowledge and skills as they pertain to the safe operation of cranes and digger derricks as used in the electrical construction and utility industry. Even before incorporation was formally obtained, EICA began to develop their crane certification program.

A Crane Working Committee (CWC) was established and began meeting in January of 2014. The CWC was comprised of Subject Matter Experts (SME) representing all eight Joint Apprenticeship Training Committees (JATC) and met every 6-8 weeks. These SMEs have a thorough understanding of the knowledge and skills necessary for safe crane operations in the electrical industry.

The CWC reported to an Advisory Committee comprised of industry leaders from the Outside Line Construction segment of the electrical industry, both Labor and Management. They in turn reported to, and received direction from, a Board of Directors comprised of a broad spectrum of leaders from inside and outside the electrical industry.

The EICA Board of Directors included Employer management representatives, Executive Directors from several chapters of the National Electrical Contractors Association (NECA), the Vice President, of the National NECA staff, a senior representative of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW), a senior representative of the Electrical Training Alliance, and a public-at-large member from the Investment community.
Scope of Certification: Digger Derricks

EICA has one type (scheme) of “Digger Derrick” certification. This certification type is not limited by capacity or control station type. In addition, the certification process is intended to incorporate the use of Digger Derricks in proximity to electrical power lines.

Digger Derricks (line trucks or backyard units) have a telescoping main boom, are equipped with an auger, pole guides, and travel using tracks or wheels.

**Digger Derrick Certification (DD):** The swing, boom, hoist, telescope, auger, pole guides and other basic control functions may or may not rotate along with the boom sections. The operator may operate from a seat attached to the upper rotating structure above the pedestal that rotates with the boom or stand at a fixed control or swing control station that do not rotate with the boom. Outriggers are generally controlled from separate frame-mounted controls. Digger Derricks have capacities that range from nearly 2 to 30 tons. In many cases one of the boom extension sections will be a non-metallic and non-conducting stage that it uses to isolate and insulate the Digger Derrick in case of accidental conductor contact.

Operators that have obtained an EICA Digger Derrick certification, and are electrically qualified, have sufficient knowledge, skills, and abilities of operating a digger derrick around the minimum approach distance in proximity of high voltage power lines. The EICA Digger Derrick certification demonstrates that the operator understands OSHA’s rules regarding digger derricks in construction and maintenance of transmission and distribution lines. Operators that obtain an EICA Digger Derrick Certification understand the machine’s load chart capacity ratings and how to calculate loads. Candidates that have successfully completed the EICA Digger Derrick certification program will be able to demonstrate safe work operations and compliance with industry standards. EICA certified personnel are knowledgeable in site setup, inspections, operations, use of attachments, and machine securement.

Crawler or wheeled machines (with augers and pole guides)
- Wheel mounted Digger Derricks - sitting, single control station
- Wheel mounted Digger Derricks - stationary or rotating control stations
- Track equipped Digger Derricks - stationary or rotating control stations

The certification requirements for the Digger Derrick type follows:
- The Digger Derrick certification requires passing the EICA General exam and the Digger Derrick Specialty exam.
- EICA, through operations and technical knowledge review, determined that EICA’s General exam share many similarities between Cranes and Digger Derricks for general safety, power systems, electrical line operations, travel, setup, personnel platform use and shutdown procedures as identified in the Job Task Analysis and Content Outline.
- The Digger Derrick Specialty exam addresses only specific issues related to Digger Derrick operations, their attachments and load chart use.
- Digger Derrick certification is awarded upon successful completion of the General Exam, Digger Derrick Specialty Exam and Digger Derrick Practical Exam for any control type listed above.
- Crane certification equivalent to type (Stationary or Rotating) can also be satisfied by using Digger Derricks since Tasks 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, and 8 are conducted in the same manner and under the same testing conditions for both Cranes and Digger Derricks.
- Cranes with augers and pole guides may satisfy both the Digger Derrick and Crane certification requirements.
Scope of Certification: Stationary Control Cranes

EICA has two separate types (schemes) of "Crane" certification: Rotating Control and Stationary Control. The crane certification types are not limited by capacity. In addition, the certification process is intended to address the use of Cranes in proximity to electrical power lines.

Stationary Control cranes have a telescoping main boom that travels using tracks or wheels.

Stationary-Control (SC): The swing, boom, hoist, telescope, and other basic control functions are fixed at one or more positions, attached to the frame and DO NOT rotate with the boom sections. The operator generally stands at the controls while operating the crane. Stationary Control cranes have capacities that typically range from 1-35 tons.

- Boom Trucks (commercial truck-mounted) - Stationary
- Wheel mounted cranes - single control station - Stationary
  - a) Small capacity rough terrain (RT)
  - b) Carry decks
  - c) Down cabs

Operators that have obtained an EICA Stationary Control Crane Certification, and are electrically qualified, have sufficient knowledge, skills, and abilities of operating crane around the minimum approach distance in proximity of high voltage power lines. The EICA Stationary Control Crane certification demonstrates that the operator understands OSHA’s rules regarding cranes in construction and maintenance of transmission and distribution lines. Operators that obtain an EICA Stationary Control Crane Certification understand the machine’s load chart capacity ratings and how to calculate loads. Candidates that have successfully completed the EICA Stationary Control Crane Certification program will be able to demonstrate safe work operations and compliance with industry standards. EICA certified personnel are knowledgeable in site setup, inspections, operations, use of attachments, and machine securement.

The certification requirements for Stationary Control type follow:

- The Stationary Control Crane certification requires passing the general written exam.
- The Stationary Control Crane certification requires passing the crane specialty written exam.
- The operational differences between rotating and stationary cranes demonstrate why control type is important. Therefore each crane type requires passing a separate practical exam.
- The successful completion of the stationary control practical exam.
- Certification is awarded upon successful completion of the General Exam, Crane Specialty Exam and the practical exam for stationary control type.
- Crane certification equivalent to type (Stationary) can also be satisfied by using a stationary digger derrick since Tasks 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, and 8 are conducted in the same manner on both Cranes and Digger Derrick.
Scope of Certification: Rotating Control Cranes

EICA has two separate types (schemes) of "Crane" certification: Rotating Control and Stationary Control. The crane certification types are not limited by capacity. In addition, the certification process is intended to address the use of Cranes in proximity to electrical power lines.

Rotating Control cranes have a telescoping main boom that travels using tracks or wheels.

**Rotating-Control (RC):** The swing, boom, hoist, telescope, and other basic control functions rotate along with the boom sections. The operator is housed in a cab or sits on a seat that also rotates with the boom. These cranes have capacities that typically range from 10-500 tons and more.

- Crawler cranes (with or without augers and pole guides)
- Wheel mounted cranes - single control station - **Rotating**
  a) Rough terrain (RT)
- Wheel mounted cranes - multiple control stations - **Rotating**
  a) Truck cranes

Operators that have obtained an EICA Rotating Control Crane certification, and are electrically qualified, have sufficient knowledge, skills, and abilities of operating a crane around the minimum approach distance in proximity of high voltage power lines. The EICA Rotating Control Crane certification demonstrates that the operator understands OSHA’s rules regarding cranes in construction and maintenance of transmission and distribution lines. Operators that obtain an EICA Rotating Control Certification understand the machine’s load chart capacity ratings and how to calculate loads. Candidates that have successfully completed the EICA Rotating Control Crane certification program will be able to demonstrate safe work operations and compliance with industry standards. EICA certified personnel are knowledgeable in site setup, inspections, operations, use of attachments, and machine securement.

The certification requirements for the Rotational Control type follow:

- The Rotating Control Crane certification requires passing the general written exam.
- The Rotating Control Crane certification requires passing the crane specialty written exam.
- The operational differences between rotating and stationary cranes demonstrate why control type is important. Therefore each crane type requires passing a separate practical exam.
- The successful completion of the rotating practical exam.
- Certification is awarded upon successful completion of the General Exam, Crane Specialty Exam and the corresponding practical exam for each control type.
- Crane certification equivalent to type (Rotating) can also be satisfied by using a rotating Digger Derrick since Tasks 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, and 8 are conducted in the same manner on both Cranes and Digger Derricks.
**TRAINING POLICY**

The Electrical Industry Certifications Association (EICA) does not provide training of any kind. EICA only offers certifications exams. EICA does not endorse any training company.

EICA strongly recommends taking a training class and reviewing the reference material listed in the candidate handbook before taking the written examinations.

EICA’s website provides a list of training companies that have been approved to use the EICA logo and who provide preparative training for the EICA certifications. EICA does not endorse any of the training programs. Companies and associations may request to be recognized by EICA in a written application.

**RECERTIFICATION POLICY**

EICA’s crane and digger derrick certifications are awarded for a period of 5 years. EICA has established that all candidates must go through the full certification process for recertification. EICA promotes the highest standard of knowledge and aptitude by submitting all candidates through the full examination process. EICA certificate holders will be notified 12 months prior to their certification expiration date via email and mail.
WHY EICA IS THE BETTER CRANE/DIGGER DERRICK CERTIFICATION CHOICE FOR THE ELECTRICAL INDUSTRY

- American National Standards Institute (ANSI) accredited.
- Certification program assembled by subject matter experts across the outside electrical industry.
- Certification exams are designed around the high voltage electrical industry.
- Practical exams simulate actual work environment.
- Candidates are tested on setting up crane/digger derrick while identifying site setup and pre-operation inspection.
- Practical exams are flexible to accommodate various cranes and digger derrick models. No c.a.d drawings required.
- Practical exam obstacle course can be transported from site to site.
- Practical exams can be modified from industry input.
- Exams are fair, valid, and reliable.
- Written exams test over qualified and unqualified electrical worker operations for cranes and digger derricks.
- Candidates who train and pass the EICA exams are better prepared for operating cranes/digger derricks safely and efficiently in the electrical industry.
- Your staff can be trained on site to become practical examiners for in-house certification.
- Collaborative effort between NECA and the IBEW to create a new certification that exceeds the industry requirements.