Lesson Review: Cranes, Derrick, Hoists, Elevators & Conveyors

All crane operations must comply with the manufacturer’s specifications and no modifications may be made to any piece of equipment without the written approval of the manufacturer.

To avoid common electrical hazards, employers must ensure that:
- Required distances are kept between cranes and power lines
- ANSI requirements for working around power lines are met
- Preventative measure for avoiding power line contacts are in place
- Potential hazards are planned for
- Power line emergencies are dealt with immediately

Additional hazards related to cranes include:
- Overloading hazards
- Struck by hazards
- Inadequate inspections
- Inadequate cribbing
- Improper rigging

Note the following key points from this lesson:
- Prior to the use of any crane equipment, inspection must be done to check for air pressure, clearance for tail swing, rope ware, loose or missing hardware, fluid leaks or any other physical damage to the crane.
- Special precautions must be taken in order to protect employees, especially during operations when visibility is reduced due to atmospheric conditions.
- When using personnel hoists, an inspection and test of all functions and safety devices must be made under the supervision of a competent person before they can be put into service.

Before hoisting employees, crane or derrick operators must conduct a trial lift of an unoccupied personnel platform immediately prior to placing personnel on it.