

# CFMEU SAFETY ALERT

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

## HOME MADE CRANE ON MULTIPLEX JOB

There have been several incidents involving cranes over the last twelve months resulting in a number of fatalities, serious injuries and a number of lucky near misses. When used correctly and in the right situation (fit for purpose) cranes are the safest most efficient tool for the task.

Cranes regardless of size or configuration perform high risk work and are required to be design registered and undergo specific inspections, some requiring ten yearly strip downs and inspection and must be regularly maintained and serviced. Any alterations or modifications to any plant or equipment must be engineer approved before use.

Cranes must comply with **AS1418** Cranes Hoists and Winches and this homemade contraption does not meet the relevant requirements of this standard.

A manufacturers operating manual must be available for operator and service reference.

Cranes must be operated by personnel who are trained, hold appropriate high risk licenses and are competent to perform associated tasks, this includes riggers and dogmen.

Pre planning and risk assessments need to be completed prior to commencing a task.

Taking all of this into account CFMEUWA Organisers were in disbelief to find a homemade crane being used on a Multiplex Pty Ltd job. The intention of the contractor was to minimise manual handling which is a commendable idea.

The problem is that the contractor and Multiplex Pty Ltd did not follow Multiplex's own change management process or consider fit for purpose alternative options that are available.

A tier one company should hang its head in shame for permitting this abomination on site, instead they are trying to defend its use.



Spot the difference, which one looks like a professionally, purpose built lifting device?

REPORT UNSAFE WORK PRACTICES - CALL (08) 9228 6900 OR EMAIL [SAFETY@CFMEUWA.COM](mailto:SAFETY@CFMEUWA.COM)

**Stand up. Speak out. Come home.**

Authorised by Mick Buchan, State Secretary, CFMEU WA, 80 Beaufort St Perth