

A tower crane cab is a workplace at the top of a ladder inside a mast, and the operator in it is alone. If they are taken ill, injured or trapped, getting them down is a rescue from height that the site must plan before the crane is erected. BS 7121-5:2019 makes that normative — an emergency plan (Annex D), rescue from height (Annex E), the access and egress a rescue uses (9.6); BS 7121-1:2016 is the general code behind it. LOLER 1998 reg 8 requires the lifting operation to be planned by a competent person, and that planning extends to the operator who cannot come down; Work at Height Regulations 2005 reg 4(2) governs the rescue itself. The plan is written with the crane supplier, whose rescue kit and method for that model are usually the ones used, and rehearsed on KD-RES-DR-006 before the operator first climbs. HSE's guidance on the Regulations is not to rely entirely on the emergency services for rescue in your plan, which is why the fire and rescue service is told the crane is there and the site does not wait for them. A mobile crane's cab is lower and quicker, and BS 7121-3:2017 applies; the plan still names who lowers the boom and how the operator comes out. The weekly inspection and wind record is KD-INS-TC-022, the mobile crane set-up check KD-INS-MC-023, the lift plan KD-LIFT-CL-001.

1 THE CRANE

PROJECT / SITE REF	SITE	DATE	PLAN WRITTEN BY
CRANE	CAB HEIGHT ABOVE GROUND	ACCESS TO THE CAB	SUPPLIER AND 24-HOUR NUMBER
CAB AND MAST DETAILS THAT MATTER IN A RESCUE			

2 THE SCENARIOS — TICK THOSE THIS PLAN COVERS

- | | |
|--|--|
| ☐ Operator taken ill or unconscious in the cab | ☐ Operator fallen on the climb and held by the fall-arrest system |
| ☐ Operator injured in the cab, on the slew ring or the jib walkway | ☐ Fire in the cab or the mast |
| ☐ Operator trapped — cab door jammed, mast ladder blocked, power lost | ☐ Wind above the limit for the climb with the operator in the cab |

3 THE RESCUE METHOD — TICK WHAT THIS PLAN USES; WRITE THE SPECIFIC METHOD IN THE ROWS BELOW

- ☐ Contact first: the operator answers the radio at the interval written below; a missed call is the alarm, and the rescue lead goes to the base of the mast
- ☐ The rescue lead talks the operator through parking the crane if they can — hook up, jib free to weathervane, brakes, power — before they leave the cab; an operator who cannot is not asked twice
- ☐ The climb to the cab by the rescue team named in section 5, each clipped to the mast fall-arrest system — never one person, and never in wind above the limit written below: the operator stays in the parked cab, in contact, until it drops
- ☐ The casualty is lowered from the cab by the descent kit named in section 4, anchored to the point the supplier identifies, inside or outside the mast as the model allows, in the stretcher or casualty harness the kit includes
- ☐ Cab hoist or internal lift: how it is used in a rescue, and what is done when it has no power
- ☐ Mobile crane: the boom is lowered and slewed by a second operator, or from the ground where the model allows; the cab door is opened from outside; the casualty comes down the access steps or by the descent kit
- ☐ Rope-access rescue team under BS 7985:2013 named in section 5 where the site cannot rescue with its own people, their arrival time written in
- ☐ The fire and rescue service told, with the crane height and the access, when the crane is erected — and called on the day, with the words written below; the site does not wait for them

The method for this crane, specifically:

PRIMARY METHOD FOR THIS CRANE	BACKUP IF THE PRIMARY FAILS	RADIO CHECK INTERVAL	WIND LIMIT FOR THE CLIMB

4 THE KIT — ONE LINE PER ITEM

ITEM	WHERE IT IS KEPT	SUPPLIER / OWNER	INSPECTED (DATE, REF)	WEEKLY CHECK (INIT.)

5 THE PEOPLE — THE RESCUE TEAM ON SITE WHENEVER THE OPERATOR IS IN THE CAB

NAME	EMPLOYER	ROLE IN THE RESCUE	TRAINED ON KIT (DATE, BY)	DRILL REF (DR-006)	CONTACT

NAME	EMPLOYER	ROLE IN THE RESCUE	TRAINED ON KIT (DATE, BY)	DRILL REF (DR-006)	CONTACT

6 RAISING THE ALARM, AND AFTER

HOW THE ALARM IS RAISED	999 CALLED BY, AND WHEN	AMBULANCE MET AT
FIRST-AIDER(S) FOR THIS WORK	NEAREST A&E	

7 BRIEFING, REHEARSAL AND REVIEW

BRIEFED TO EVERYONE IT COVERS ON	REHEARSED ON (KD-RES-DR-006 REF)	REVIEW THIS PLAN ON	RAMS / PERMIT IT SITS BEHIND

8 SIGNATURES

Plan written by (appointed person, with the crane supplier):

PRINTED NAME	ROLE	COMPANY	SIGNATURE	DATE	TIME

Accepted — principal contractor:

PRINTED NAME	ROLE	COMPANY	SIGNATURE	DATE	TIME

R REVISION HISTORY

Every revision of this document, and every review that found nothing to change. The revision on the front of this sheet is the one you are holding — check kubitdocs.com for the current one before use.

Rev	Date	Class	What changed	Authorised by
D0	2026-09-02	first-issue	First issue.	— not yet approved —
A0	2026-09-02	review	Approved for issue by the author. Content unchanged from the reviewed draft; the draft status strip is removed. No independent third-party review has been carried out.	Author — director, UK principal contractor, SMSTS. Not an independent review.

Class: first-issue · material (the law, a control, a field or the scope changed — past buyers are notified) · editorial (wording or layout only) · review (checked, nothing changed) · withdrawal. Revision prefix D = draft, not approved and not for sale; A = approved for issue by the person named, on the date shown.