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Position Paper

FEM Product Group Cranes and Lifting Equipment Sub-Group Tower and Harbor Cranes

Regarding: "Lifting persons with tower cranes"

Legal Note: This publication is only for guidance and gives an overview regarding *the assessment of risks related to lifting persons with tower cranes*. It neither claims to cover any aspect of the matter, nor does it reflect all legal aspects in detail. It is not meant to, and cannot, replace own knowledge of the pertaining directives, laws and regulations. Furthermore the specific characteristics of the individual products and the various possible applications have to be taken into account. This is why, apart from the assessments and procedures addressed in this guide, many other scenarios may apply.

Introduction

The FEM Product Group Cranes and Lifting Equipment's - Subgroup Tower and Harbor Cranes' mission is to represent the interests of tower crane manufacturers in Europe.

Tower cranes are, in general, designed and manufactured to lift loads as the intended use. They are declared in conformity with the Machinery Directive 2006/42/EC for the use as described in the instruction handbook.

All other uses are not allowed by manufacturers.

When a user of a tower crane decides to operate a tower crane not in line with the intended use as described by the manufacturer, the user is responsible for a risk assessment according to the national work place safety regulation and he does so under his own responsibility.

For professional use, national labour regulations may allow tower cranes to be used to hoist and suspend personnel in man baskets only in unique work situations when it is the least hazardous way to do the job. In such cases, specific provisions to ensure a high level of safety are provided by national authorities of the member states. Those national provisions are based on Directive 2009/104/EC on minimum safety and health requirements for the use of work equipment by workers at work (see Machinery Directive 2006/42/EC, Article 15). Recital 7 of the

Machinery Directive implies that equipment placed on the market for such exceptional use with machinery designed for lifting goods is not in the scope of the Machinery Directive.

For any other use, not described in the instruction handbook (for example entertainment purposes), national regulations of the member states must be followed.

FEM

Created in 1953, the European Materials Handling Federation (www.fem-eur.com) represents, defends and promotes European manufacturers of materials handling, lifting and storage equipment including cranes and lifting equipment and particular tower cranes.

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