

Cranes: State of the Nation

A dispatch from The Skills Organisation

It would be an understatement to say it's been a good year for New Zealand's crane industry.

The growth in crane trainee numbers has been incredible – we have gone from around 740 to more than 3,530 continuing trainees in the space of just a year. With more people actively working towards cranes qualifications, this can only point to a brighter future for New Zealand's building sector.

As we digest these great results, however, it's important to think long-term and ensure we're guiding our trainees in the right direction. While it's good to see so many people working hard to complete their unit standards, employers should be encouraging their staff to pursue full qualifications.

There is a world of difference between having a handful of unit standards, and holding a completed qualification at the end of the training programme.

So what is the benefit in your

employees gaining a full qualification?

Most importantly, by completing the full qualification, cranes professionals will have a more well-rounded set of skills that encompasses health & safety. Not only will they be more compliant with recent changes in health & safety legislation, they will also have the practical skill set to assess workplace risks and protect your business in the long run.

Don't leave it to chance – make sure your staff have the know-how to keep your business safe by completing their full cranes qualification.

How we're improving training for cranes

In addition to encouraging trainees to complete their qualifications, The Skills Organisation is taking a number of steps to support further growth in the cranes industry.

This starts with the Targeted Review of Qualifications (TRoQ) to assess whether our cranes qualifications continue to meet

industry standards. The cranes TRoQ is progressing well, with Unit 3789 (Sling regular loads and communicate during crane operations) one of the key unit standards under review.

We're also talking with more private training establishments to see if we can deliver quality cranes qualifications, and ensure they are delivered to a high standard.

Lastly, remember that we also offer a large range of qualifications that can upskill your staff and take your company to the next level. These include national qualifications in occupational health & safety, project management, first line management, business administration, and many more.

As ever, The Skills Organisation remains committed to supporting and growing New Zealand's crane professionals. If you have any questions or comments, please feel free to drop us a line on 0508 SKILLS (0508 754 557).



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