

SAFETY ALERT



April 2015

WORK BOXES & FIRST AID CAGES

Although they appear similar, there are a few key differences which could be the difference between life & death.

WORK BOXES SHOULD;

- Be used only to perform work where other methods are unsafe or impracticable
- Be supplied with harnesses and anchorage points
- Only accommodate a maximum of three people
- Have self-closing and self-locking **inward** opening doors
- Have sides at least 1m high, compliant with AS 1657 and have an internal hand rail at the top edge



FIRST AID CAGES MUST;

- Only be used for rescue or retrieval of injured persons
- Display first aid signage
- Be kept clean and hygienic, not used to store materials
- Be within reach of the crane and easily accessible
- Have fully enclosed sides and be suitable to transport injured persons
- Have self-closing and self-locking **outward** opening doors

A risk assessment must be completed by a competent person before anyone is suspended by a crane, and workers need to be trained in implementing any emergency procedures, which also must be tested. Additionally boxes are to be marked with; *the maximum hoisted load, the safe working load, the tare mass, minimum allowable crane capacity, and an identification reference.* In order to be able to lift people, the crane must have a secondary brake. Further, lifting of persons should not be conducted in winds in excess of 7m/s (25.2km/h) as per Australian Standards.

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