



H55G Control of Lifting Operations Equipment and Accessories Requirement Briefing

December 2022

The purpose of the revised H55 *Control of Lifting Operations Equipment and Accessories* procedure is to define the management arrangements, controls and monitoring associated with lifting operations and LOLER & BS7121(2016).

This requirement briefing summarises the key requirements of the revised procedure and should be used as an introductory overview for those people who have responsibility for lifting operations, including Principal Appointed Persons, Appointed Persons, Project Managers, Site Managers, Front Line Supervisors, and those with responsibility for selecting, procuring, or hiring lifting equipment and cranes.

The procedure must be read and understood by those with specific responsibilities.

The procedure applies to VolkerWessels UK (VW UK) employees and subcontractors alike when carrying out lifting operations.

For lifting operations in the rail environment; please refer to additional rail company procedures as applicable (guidance can be obtained from a rail health and safety manager).

FEEDBACK: The main reason for the changes to the lifting procedures.

WHAT YOU SAID	WHAT WE DID
<p>“There is confusion of training and who should be on present on site during lifting operations?”</p>	<p>Training and attendance requirements for lifting operations have been updated and clarified.</p>
<p>“The lift plan is not user friendly in current format and needs to be updated”</p>	<p>Specific Lift Plans have been developed for each item of plant in cooperation with VS AP’s, PAP’s. AP’s have reviewed and agreed that these meet the necessary requirements and are user friendly.</p>
<p>“The procedure available via the IMS needs to be updated to incorporate all plant used for lifting”</p>	<p>Updated the lifting procedure based on site and AP feedback A review was also undertaken to ensure that our lifting operations meet relevant standards and legislation.</p>
<p>“Roles and responsibilities aren’t clear, who should do what?”</p>	<p>Guidance have been created to ensure that responsibilities are clear.</p>

The importance of maintaining safe systems of work when planning and managing lifting operations is key.

VolkerWessels UK have developed our arrangements and protocols for the management of lifting operations which is summarised in this Requirements Briefing.

The full requirements are detailed in [H55 Control of Lifting Operations Equipment and Accessories procedure](#).

The full list of associated documentation and guidance can be found at the end of this briefing.



What's New?

Overview of Changes / Updates:

- Revised H55 *Control of Lifting Operations, Equipment and Accessories* Procedure with allocation of responsibilities for Cranes, Excavators, Telehandlers and Lorry Mounted Cranes.
- New equipment utilization limits.
- New management of telehandlers.
- New Lifting Attendances Requirements for Lorry Mounted Cranes.
- New Lift Plans for specific items of equipment, Cranes, Excavators, Telehandlers and Lorry Mounted Cranes.
- New Lift and Rigging Schedule for Cranes
- New guidance on Temporary Works required for Lifting Operations
- Revised management for lifting with excavators and pick and carry duties
- Terminology changes to forms.

- **IMS** - Operations tab - Lifting Operations
- **BS 7121** - Available via IHS
- **IHS** - Workspace - Activity Zone - Links - External Link - Creating a new account for IHS access

Procedure

NEW - Lifting with Telehandlers. (Section 5.7).

Telehandlers are primarily designed for unloading materials from vehicles and transporting loads on the forks to the final position, and such lifts need to be planned to use the H55-05 Telehandler - Lift Plan Template.

The H55-05 Telehandler - Lift Plan Template must be completed by the Crane Supervisor / Lifting Supervisor who holds a competent card and has a minimum 2 years' experience in the use of the equipment.

The Crane Supervisor / Lifting Supervisor is responsible for briefing the lift plan to the Front-Line Supervisor / Black Hat, Signaller / Slinger if applicable (Static Suspended Loads) and the Telehandler operator before lifting operations commence.

Lift plans completed by an CS / LS do not require checking by another CS / LS or AP unless they are being mentored. Lift Plans for Static Suspended Loads should be reviewed by an AP or PAP.

Telehandler operators must be in possession of a CPCS / NPORS card appropriate to the make and model of the equipment they are to be in control of.

The FLS is responsible for ensuring the lifting operation is carried out in accordance with the lift plan.

If, for any reason, the lifting operation cannot be carried out in line with the approved Lift Plan, then it must be brought to a safe stop and the relevant CS / LS or AP contacted.

NEW - Contract Lift Lorry Mounted Cranes (Section 5.8)

For Lorry Mounted Cranes, VW UK will accept Association of Lorry Loader Manufacturers and Importers (ALLMI) lifting qualifications as proof of competence

NEW - H55-03A Appendix A & B - Lift and Rigging Schedules (Section 5.9)

H55-03A *Appendix A & B - Lift and Rigging Schedules* must be used when alongside H55-03 *Crane - Lift Plan Template* when planning crane lifting operations to ensure the lifts are within the crane's capacity

New - Lifting Types, Lift Plans for Crane, Excavator, Telehandler, Lorry Mounted Crane (section 5.9)

In planning lifting operations, the AP must ensure that it will be carried out safely and that all foreseeable risks will be managed, and the level of planning and preparation should be proportional to the categorisation of the lift as determined by the AP.

All lifting operations should be planned by an AP (see above for planning Telehandler Lifts) and recorded using the relevant lift plan for the type of equipment, which will need to cover the type of equipment to be used. i.e.

H55-03 Crane - Lift Plan Template, H55-04 Excavator - Lift Plan Template, H55-05 Telehandler - Lift Plan Template, H55-06 Lorry mounted Crane - Lift Plan Template.

The lift plans must be reviewed periodically to ensure suitability and if necessary updated. This should not exceed **1 month** from the date of issue.

All lifting operations, whether planned by VW UK or others, should be recorded on H55-07 *Lift Plan Schedule*.

H55-G05 *Guidance on Common Lifts* and H55 -G05-VH *Guidance on Common Lifts* provides further details on guidance of generic / common lifts, which can be used to develop specific lift plans.

NEW - Lifting Equipment Utilization - (Section 5.10)

When identifying the most suitable type of lifting equipment to use for a lifting operation the AP should be aware of the utilization The following factors of safety are recommended for VW UK lifting operations

- Lifting of persons. 50% utilisation must never be exceeded for lifting equipment and accessories (i.e. FoS=2.0)
- All other lifting operations. A maximum utilisation of 90% should not be exceeded. In exceptional circumstances the maximum utilisation can be increased with approval from the PAP but must not exceed 95% in any circumstances.
- The utilisation limit can only be relaxed when the variables in relation to the lift are known absolutely and can be controlled such that the lifting equipment will not be overloaded.
- Tandem Lifts (using more than one item of lifting equipment in a lifting operation) Without the additional controls specified in BS7121 lifting equipment should have an appropriate downrating applied when undertaking multiple lifting operations - 70% maximum utilisation is recommended.
- Demolition type lifting where the load cannot be put back down once the lift has started, i.e. once the lift has started it is committed and must be completed. For example; when an item to be lifted will be permanently released from the supports as part of the lifting activity with no means of returning the load to the original position. In these cases, Utilisation should not exceed 50% for all lifting equipment and accessories (i.e. FoS=2.0).
- For Network Rail projects a utilisation rate in excess of 90% must not be exceeded without approval from NR and the VW PAP

NEW - Lifting Requirements when using Excavators(pick and carry duties) - (Section 5.14)

All lifting operations on site should be planned to ensure that they can be carried out safely and that all foreseeable risks have been taken into account. Poor planning is one of the major causes of accidents arising from the use of excavators for lifting operations especially wheeled 360° excavators.

An excavator should not be the automatic choice for lifting just because it is already on site and it is quicker and cheaper than using another, more appropriate, piece of lifting equipment as it should be borne in mind that excavators are primarily for excavating and handling loose material, rather than lifting suspended loads.

If an excavator is going to be used for pick and carry duties, then the AP must consult with the manufacture first to ensure it is suitable and should be sought and recorded in a retrievable format.

If used then the excavators lifting capacity must also be reduced by **50%**, and the lift plan should follow the guidance detailed in CPA Guidance on Lifting Operations in Construction When Using Excavators

NEW - Lifting Requirements when using Lorry Mounted Cranes (Section 5.15)

The following table has been taken from the CPA guidance for lifting with lorry mounted cranes and illustrates the attendance requirements required when lifting with lorry mounted cranes.

Lorry Mounted Cranes

Activity	Role	Lift Category		
		Basic	Intermediate	Complex
Planning	Appointed Person	Required	Required	Required
Site Visit	Appointed Person	Not Essential	May be Required	Required
Lifting Operation	Appointed Person	Not Essential,	May be Required	Required
	Crane Supervisor	Roles May be Combined	Roles May be Combined	Required
	Operator		Required	
	Slinger / Signaller		Required	Required

NEW - H55-G07 Temporary Works for Lifting

VS Engineering has produced a guidance document summarising various industry guidance and clarifying common grey areas. It summarises the Temporary Works checks required for plant we typically use for lifting, how to get the ground loads, and the level of checking required.

It also provides a conservative method for APs to assess the ground outrigger loads below 25t on various surfaces, for low-risk situations.

Stage	Role	Lift Category				
		<i>Basic lift (repetitive lifting operation, e.g. delivery of goods or minor lifting as part of a larger piece of work)</i>	<i>Basic lift (one off lifting operation, e.g. a crane lift that has been assessed as Basic)</i>	<i>Intermediate lift</i>	<i>Complex lift</i>	<i>Critical lift</i>
Assessment	Appointed Person	Essential.			Essential to be supported by PAP	
Site Visit	Appointed Person	Suitability of lift category and confirmation of limitations not being exceeded to be checked on site.	Can be delegated to a competent person (LS) who must confirm that the initial assessment of lift category is correct or advise on correct category.	Can be delegated to another AP from VW who must confirm that the initial assessment of lift category is correct or advise on correct category.		
Planning	Appointed Person	Essential. Must be lift specific. Sub-contractor Lift Plans must be reviewed by VW AP				
Lifting Operation	Appointed Person	Not essential. Responsibilities can be delegated to a Lift Supervisor.			Essential. Must be either the AP who produced the Lift Plan or delegated to another AP from the same organisation.	
	Lift Supervisor (at lift location)	Essential A combined role with SS/FLS may be suitable but only if assessed by AP.		Essential. A combined role with FLS may be suitable, but only if assessed by AP.		Essential. Roles cannot be combined.
	Slinger/Signaller	Essential. A combined role with LS may be suitable (SS must be assessed as competent and appointed as a LS).		Essential. Roles cannot be combined.		
	Operator	Roles cannot be combined (except for lorry loaders & Telehandlers).	Essential. Roles cannot be combined.			

All Other Lifting Operations

The AP is responsible for the lifting operation and should always ensure that the approach taken is suitable to the specific lifting operation.

H55 Control of Lifting Operations Equipment and Accessories Guidance & Outputs

Associated guidance & information

- H55G *Control of Lifting Operations, Equipment and Accessories Requirements Briefing*
- H55-G01 *Lifting Operations - Roles, Responsibilities and Competency Requirements*
- H55-G02 *Lifting Operations - Lifting Equipment and Accessories*
- H55-G03 *Lifting Operations - Thorough Examinations and Inspections*
- H55-G04 *Lifting Operations - Guidance for Planning Lifting Operations*
- H55-G05 *Guidance on Common Lifts*
- H55-G06-VS *Control of Marine Lifting Operations Equipment and Accessories*
- H55-G07 *Temporary Works for Lifting*
- Q25 *Temporary Works*
- Q25-VF *Temporary Works*
- Q25-VH *Temporary Works*
- Q25-VS *Temporary Works Design and Installation*

DOCUMENTATION (OUTPUTS)

Standard VolkerWessels UK Record Documents are referenced in brackets. Where alternative formats are used, they shall contain the same or additional content.

- (H55-01 *Assessment & Appointment of Principal Appointed Person or Appointed Person*)
- (H55-02 *Assessment and Appointment of Crane or Lift Supervisor*)
- (H55-03 *Crane - Lift Plan Template*)
- (H55-03A *Appendix A & B - Lift and Rigging Schedules*)
- (H55-04 *Excavator - Lift Plan Template*)
- (H55-05 *Telehandler - Lift Plan Template*)
- (H55-06 *Lorry mounted Crane - Lift Plan Template*)
- (H55-07 *Lift Plan Schedule*)
- (H55-08 *Lift Plan Evaluation Checklist*)
- (H55-09 *LOLER Register*)
- (H55-09 *LOLER Register*) (VFORMS APP)
- (H55-10 *Weekly LOLER Inspections*)
- (H55-11-VH *Lifting Site Survey (Lorry Loaders and Grabs on Carriageway)*)

DOCUMENTATION (OUTPUTS - CONTINUED)

Standard VolkerWessels UK Record Documents are referenced in brackets. Where alternative formats are used, they shall contain the same or additional content.

- (H09-07 *Pre-use and Daily Plant Inspections (PUWER)*)
- (H09-07 *Pre-use and Daily Plant Inspections (PUWER) (VFORMS APP)*)
- (H09-08 *Weekly Plant & Equipment Inspection (PUWER)*)
- (H09-08 *Weekly Plant & Equipment Inspection (PUWER) (VFORMS APP)*)
- (H09-09 *Permit to Operate Plant*)
- (H09-09 *Permit to Operate Plant (VFORMS APP)*)
- (H14-08 *Permit to Work Near Power Lines*)
- (H14-08 *Permit to Work Near Power Lines (VFORMS APP)*)
- (H01-04 *Allocation of Responsibilities*)