

June 26, 2002

Gregory Brown
Oregon Department of Transportation
455 Airport Way SE
Salem, OR 97301

Dear Mr. Brown:

Question - In reviewing 29CFR 1926.550, Subpart N - Cranes, Derricks... I noticed section C, requires an anti-two-blocking device to prevent contact between the load block and boom tip. All of our cranes statewide have this device but our digger derricks do not. In fact, I haven't seen any digger derricks with this device in anyone's fleet state wide. I contacted Overton Safety, (vendor responsible for our crane certification course) and was told these are considered line trucks. These digger derricks meet ANSI A92.2 and ANSI A10.31 and employ a boom winch for lifting overhead loads. I would like to know what separates this type of equipment from the crane classification. Are they indeed exempt from this requirement? If so can you forward a response letter to that effect for our files.

The answer to your question is: (1) Anti-two-block devices are only required to be used when cranes are used to lift personnel; (2) Digger derricks are not normally used to lift personnel. That's probably why you haven't seen any equipped with anti-two-block devices. If one is used to lift personnel, then an anti-two-block device will be required; and (3) the only place in Subdivision N that exempts digger derricks from any requirements is in the "Note" located in OAR437-003-0081, Crane Operator Safety Training Requirements, referring to additional training requirements for cranes of 5 tons or greater lifting capacity.

Should you have additional questions, please call me at 503 947-7450.

Mike Mitchell, Technical Specialist
OR-OSHA, Standards & Technical Resources

(Sent via Email)