

SAFETY CIRCULAR ON RIGGERS AND SIGNALMEN ATTIRE IN CONSTRUCTION AND BUILDING SITES

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By Occupational Safety and Health Division
Ministry of Manpower

INTRODUCTION

The Factories (Operation of Cranes) Regulations requires that riggers and signalmen engaged in lifting operations that involve mobile, crawler or tower cranes must have attended and passed courses acceptable to the Chief Inspector of Factories.

This provision came into force on **1 Sept 2000**. Only trained riggers and signalmen are allowed to carry out the tasks of rigging and signaling during lifting operations.

ATTIRE FOR RIGGERS AND SIGNALMEN

Riggers and Signalmen play an important role in ensuring the safe operation of cranes.

Presently the person to be appointed as a rigger must attend and pass the Rigger Course. The entry requirement for Riggers Course is that the person

must have attended and passed the Signalmen course. Hence all trained riggers are also trained signalmen.

The Factories (Operation of Cranes) Regulations states the following:

Rigger

R18(4) – A rigger who is appointed shall be attired in such a way as would distinctively identify him as a rigger.

Signalman

R19(3) – A signalman who is appointed shall be attired in such a way as would distinctively identify him as a signalman.

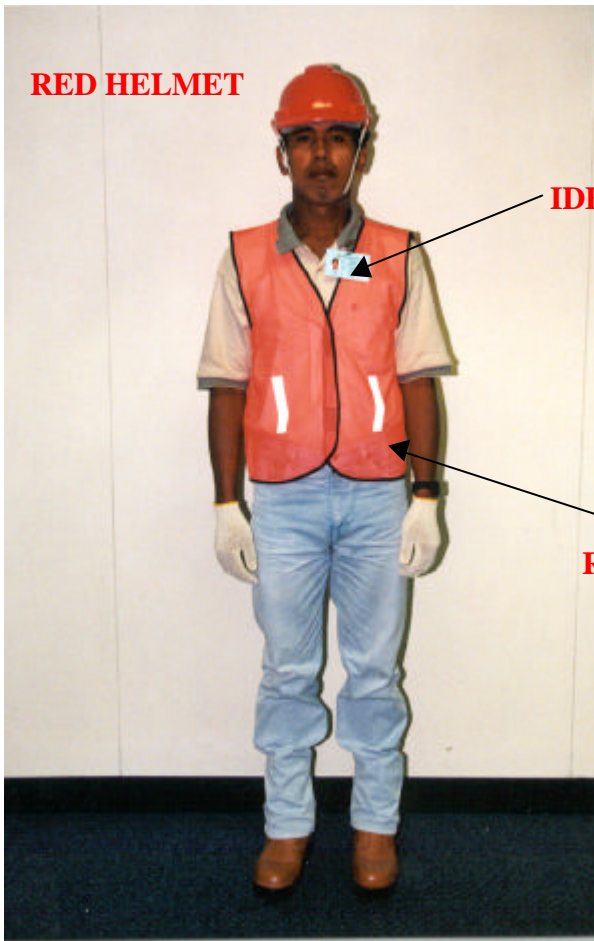
STANDARDISATION OF ATTIRE

Currently, different sites have their own way of identifying riggers and signalmen. A crane operator who moves from site to site has to get himself familiar with the practice at the particular site he is working at. Failure to quickly recognise the appointed rigger or signalmen can result in serious accidents.

To avoid this situation, the industry is urged to follow a standard practice for identifying riggers and signalmen.

The standard wear for these personnel are as shown below:

RIGGER ATTIRE



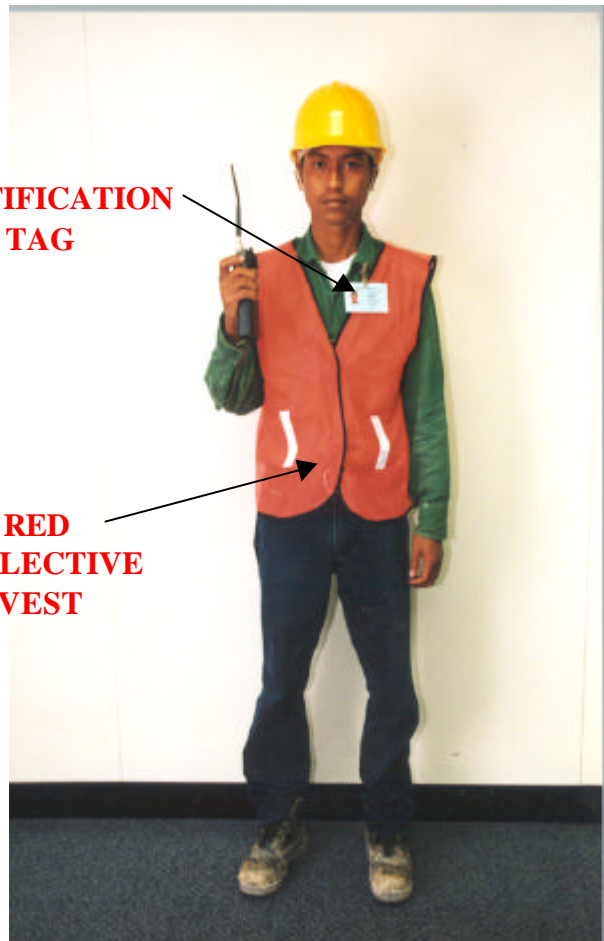
RED HELMET

IDENTIFICATION TAG

RED REFLECTIVE VEST

This photograph shows the standardized rigger attire with red helmet, red reflective vest and an identification tag.

SIGNALMAN ATTIRE



This photograph shows the standardized signalman attire with red reflective vest and an identification tag.

IDENTIFICATION TAG

The identification tag shall indicate the wearer's name and identification card / work permit number, appointment (rigger / signalman), and his employer.



SAMPLE IDENTIFICATION TAG