Crane Operator Job Description

Duties and Responsibilities:

- Weigh materials to determine load weight and ensure compliance with lifting specifications
- Move levers, depress buttons and foot pedals to operate and control the speed/direction of crane movement
- Conduct inspection of crane mechanism and lifting components to ensure parts are in working order
- Liaise with helpers and ground workers who provide direction assistance through radio communication or hand signals
- Inspect cables and grappling assembly to identify wear and facilitate replacement
- Clean, lubricate, and maintain the moving parts of a crane such as the cables, pulley or grappling mechanism
- Load or unload shipment of heavy duty machinery or material from trucks
- Review work orders and schedules to determine sequence of operations
- Inspect bundles or shipment to ensure conformance to company regulations or customer requirements
- Signal and direct truck drivers to properly back vehicles into loading or unloading bay
- Move, lift, and position equipment, machinery or heavy materials with the aid of hook, bucket or electromagnet
- Provide report of work operations by completing relevant paperwork
- Direct helpers to place blocks and outriggers to prevent capsizing when lifting heavy materials
- Move levers and pedals to rotate crane on chassis or raise or lower crane boom/load line
- Work within set standards of accuracy and precision.

Crane Operator Requirements – Skills, Knowledge, and Abilities

- Education and Training: To become a crane operator, you require a high school diploma and at least 3 years of training under an experienced crane operator. Some states require crane operators to be licensed. Good knowledge of standard crane operation techniques and hand signals are also required
- Decision-making Skills: Crane operators are good judges who are able to determine the appropriate sequence for an operation
- Physical Dexterity: They are able to simultaneously control an array of levers and pedals to lift, move, and reposition materials as required
- Stamina: operators are able to withstand equipment vibration and long hours of sitting.