
Cranes — Inspections —

Part 3:
Tower cranes

Appareils de levage à charge suspendue — Vérifications —
Partie 3: Grues à tour



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Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards bodies (ISO member bodies). The work of preparing International Standards is normally carried out through ISO technical committees. Each member body interested in a subject for which a technical committee has been established has the right to be represented on that committee. International organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO, also take part in the work. ISO collaborates closely with the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) on all matters of electrotechnical standardization.

International Standards are drafted in accordance with the rules given in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2.

The main task of technical committees is to prepare International Standards. Draft International Standards adopted by the technical committees are circulated to the member bodies for voting. Publication as an International Standard requires approval by at least 75 % of the member bodies casting a vote.

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. ISO shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights.

ISO 9927-3 was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 96, *Cranes*, Subcommittee SC 7, *Tower cranes*.

ISO 9927 consists of the following parts, under the general title *Cranes — Inspections*:

- *Part 1: General*
- *Part 3: Tower cranes*

Cranes — Inspections —

Part 3: Tower cranes

1 Scope

This part of ISO 9927 specifies the regular inspections to be carried out on tower cranes. It is intended to be used in conjunction with ISO 9927-1. It does not cover inspection prior to the first use of a tower crane.

2 Normative references

The following referenced documents are indispensable for the application of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

ISO 4309, *Cranes — Wire ropes — Care, maintenance, installation, examination and discard*

ISO 9927-1:1994, *Cranes — Inspections — Part 1: General*

3 General

In order to ensure safe operation of tower cranes, their proper working and operational condition shall be maintained. Therefore, all cranes need to undergo regular inspections. This ensures that deviations from safe conditions are detected and can be rectified. The inspections shall be arranged by the user.

The regular inspections are

- daily inspections
- frequent inspections
- periodic inspections, and
- thorough inspections.

NOTE The manufacturer can give inspection instructions that differ from those of this part of ISO 9927. In this case, it is the manufacturer's instructions that are applicable.

Annex A gives an overview of the inspections (periodicity, content, persons in charge, results and reports).

4 Daily inspections

4.1 General

Daily inspection shall be performed before starting. This inspection shall consist of a visual inspection (in general, no dismantling is required) and functional tests as defined hereafter.

They shall be carried out by a competent person (e.g. the crane driver).

4.2 Content

The inspections before each start shall take in

- a) the functioning of mechanisms, in particular the brakes (generally without load),
- b) the functioning of limiting and indicating devices, and
- c) observation of conspicuous defects, including ropes.

4.3 Results

Any defect shall be pointed out to a person who can take a suitable decision (to leave the tower crane in use, repair, thorough inspection of a part of the tower crane or the whole tower crane, limitation of use).

The causes of these defects shall be sought, depending on the type of component and defect concerned.

The record book shall be updated (date of the repair, method).

5 Frequent inspections

5.1 General

Frequent inspections shall comprise visual inspections (in general, no dismantling is required), as specified in 5.2, and the functional tests according to 4.2.

They shall be carried out by a competent person (e.g. an experienced technician, see ISO 9927-1).

5.2 Items to be inspected

The following items shall be inspected.

- a) Level of lubricants: leakage of lubricants, greasing.
- b) Hydraulic equipment: leakage.
- c) Hooks and latches: visible deformation, cracks, wear.
- d) Wire ropes: in accordance with ISO 4309.
- e) Connections, joints: corrosion, visual inspection.
- f) Brake wear: thickness of brake linings, adjustment, noise, etc.
- g) Hydraulic and pneumatic hoses: in particular those which are bent during operations.
- h) Electrical installation: state, signs of deterioration, moisture accumulation.
- i) Anchorage: braces or guys supporting cranes (condition).

5.3 Periodicity

The periodicity of the frequent inspections shall take into account the actual use of the tower crane and the environment in which the tower crane is working.

The minimum periodicity is as follows:

- a) for 5.2 a) to 5.2 e), monthly;
- b) for 5.2 f) to 5.2 i), twice yearly.

5.4 Results

Any defect shall be pointed out to a person who can take a suitable decision (to leave the tower crane in use, repair, thorough inspection of a part of the tower crane or the whole tower crane, limitation of use).

The causes of these defects shall be sought, depending on the type of component and defect concerned.

The record book shall be updated (date of the repair, method).

6 Periodic inspections

6.1 General

Periodic inspections are inspections made periodically, as indicated in 6.3, and after each re-erection.

Periodic inspections shall comprise visual inspections (in general, no dismantling is required), and functional tests, both with and without load, as defined below.

They shall be carried out by a competent person (e.g. an experienced technician, see ISO 9927-1).

The competent person shall be in possession of

- the report of the previous inspections, and
- the automatic registered data, where available, (cycles, hours, days, loads, etc.) permitting knowledge of the service time of the components for which data exist.

6.2 Content

The periodic inspections shall include the content of the frequent inspections.

The functional tests for all components shall be performed in the most unfavourable position for these components.

- a) Verification of the tower crane's identification and plates.
- b) Verification of the presence of the instruction handbook.
- c) Verification of the records of maintenance.
- d) Verification of the components, equipment and steel structure. Compare the component installed on the tower crane with the component listed in the documentation.
- e) Consideration of the condition of equipment indicating its deterioration:
 - the gear or its components are loose and its oil (lubricant) leaks;
 - visible couplings between particular components (e.g. motor, gear, brakes, drums) show wear or damage;

- unusual noise and vibration is noticeable;
 - unusual high temperature is noticeable;
 - fastening bolts are loose, fissured or defective;
 - brake linings are worn or damaged;
 - the general condition (corrosion, dirt) is doubtful;
 - the electrical installation (cable entries, cable attachments) shows damage;
 - wire ropes (see ISO 4309);
 - hooks (see Annex B).
- f) Functional tests. Functioning and efficiency, with the rated load of
- mechanisms, in particular the brakes, and
 - limiting and indicating devices.
- g) Steel structure and rails:
- welding;
 - corrosion;
 - remaining deformation;
 - cracks.
- h) Support of the tower crane/crane-track.

For an example, see ISO 9927-1:1997, Annex A.

6.3 Periodicity

Tower cranes shall be inspected at least each year and after each re-erection.

NOTE 1 Some verifications can be performed when the tower crane is dismantled.

NOTE 2 Changing of the pulley block or addition of a jib extension or tower section are not considered as dismantling and re-erection.

NOTE 3 After folding and unfolding of a self-erecting tower crane, there is need only for an inspection limited to b), c), f), g) and h) of 6.2.

6.4 Results

Periodic inspections shall be recorded. This report shall indicate the components verified and remaining defects. An example of such a report is presented in Annex C.

The report shall be given to a person who can take a suitable decision (to leave the tower crane in use, repair, thorough inspection of a part of the tower crane or the whole tower crane, limitation of use).

The causes of these defects shall be sought, depending on the type of component and defect concerned.

The record book shall be updated (date of the repair, type, etc.).

7 Thorough inspections

7.1 General

Thorough inspections are detailed inspections made with a periodicity according to 7.3 (and as identified in Annex A).

They shall be performed by a competent person, capable of defining the actions needed to be taken depending on the results of these inspections (e.g. an expert engineer, see ISO 9927-1).

The competent person shall be in possession of

- the report of the previous inspections, and
- the automatic registered data, where available, (cycles, hours, days, loads, etc.) permitting knowledge of the service time of the different components for which data exist.

7.2 Content

The thorough inspections shall comprise at least all the elements of the periodic inspections.

A thorough inspection can require non-destructive tests and/or dismantling if considered justified, taking into account

- the content of the previous verifications (daily, frequent, periodic or thorough),
- the results of the current tests, and
- the result of the current visual checks.

When dismantling, special care shall be taken in order to avoid mistakes or wrong operation while following the maintenance instructions. If these are not available, the manufacturer of the tower crane or of the component concerned should be contacted for assistance.

During the thorough inspection, particular attention shall be given to the following:

- vibration;
- unusual noise or temperature;
- poor general condition, corrosion;
- alignment of machinery, motors and gears, rails, wheels, shafts;
- brakes;
- connections, bolts, pins.

7.3 Periodicity

7.3.1 Periodicity for tower cranes or components for tower cranes with no automatic registration on use

Thorough inspection of a component or the tower crane is recommended at periodic intervals, as follows:

- 4 years;
- 8 years;
- 10 years;

- 12 years;
- 14 years;
- every year after 14 years.

7.3.2 Periodicity for tower cranes or components for tower cranes with automatic registration of data on use

The instruction handbook should contain the periodicity of the thorough inspection of the crane and of the corresponding components based on the registered data, at least at the intervals given in 7.3.1.

In addition to the periodicity, the manufacturer should give guidance to reinitialise the value of the parameter (return to zero, keep the value as new origin, etc.).

7.4 Results

The report of the thorough inspection shall contain the result of the inspection made by the competent person as well as his conclusions and recommendations, including the time until the next thorough inspection.

An example of such a report is given in Annex C.

When the tower crane or a component is not used as classified or is in a condition which seems to be hazardous, the competent person (see 7.1) will recommend appropriate action.

The causes of defects shall be sought, depending on the type of component and defect concerned.

The record book shall be updated (date of the repair, type, etc.).

8 Exceptional inspection

8.1 General

The inspection shall be carried out after

- a) exceptional circumstances, such as
 - extreme weather conditions (storm),
 - an earthquake of medium seismic intensity,
 - overload, collision or foundation disturbance,
- b) after substantial modification, for example, increase of rated capacity, change of mechanisms, transfer of control station, change of power, change in design of the load-bearing structure, welding on the load-bearing structure, modification of control system or change in operating condition relative to the class of utilisation and load spectrum.

The verifications shall be performed by a competent person (experienced technician or engineer, depending on the nature of the verification).

8.2 Content

The extent of the inspection shall be proportional to any damage or modification that may have occurred.

Annex A
(normative)

Overview of inspections

	Daily inspection	Frequent inspection	Periodic inspection	Thorough inspection
When (periodicity)	— Before each start up of the tower crane	— Monthly or every six months and/or according to the manufacturer's	— At a determined period (legal, given by the manufacturer or recommendation) — After dismantling/re-erection	— After finding a fundamental failure — At a determined period, either legal, — given by the manufacturer, or — given by recommendation following report (frequent or periodic inspection) — As recommended in 7.3
What (content)	See 4.2	See 5.2	See 6.2	See 7.2
How	— Visual inspections — Functional tests Without dismantling	— Visual inspections — Functional tests Without dismantling	— Visual inspections, including reading of recording instruments — Functional tests (loaded and unloaded) Without dismantling, if not otherwise required by the manufacturer.	— Same as for the periodic inspection If necessary, with dismantling or measurement (play) or specific tests on all or part of the tower crane
By whom	Competent person (e.g. crane driver)	Competent person (experienced technician)	Competent person (experienced technician)	Competent person (engineer)
Inspection results	— OK, or — request for repair if fault found, or — can give rise to a request for a thorough inspection (repetitive cases, major fault, etc.), or — can give rise to a request for adequate information (driving, instructions, limit of use, etc.)	— OK or, — request for repair if fault found or, — can give rise to a request for a thorough inspection (repetitive cases, major fault, etc.), or — can give rise to a request for adequate information (driving, instructions, limit of use, etc.)	— OK, or — request for repair if fault found, or — can give rise to a request for a thorough inspection (repetitive cases, major fault, etc.), or — can give rise to a request for adequate information (driving, instructions, limit of use, etc.)	— Date of the next inspection — Partial or total changes ^a , or — scrapping, or — request for repair, or — can give rise to a request for a adequate information (driving, instructions, limit of use, etc.)

	Daily inspection	Frequent inspection	Periodic inspection	Thorough inspection
Report	Not systematic	Not systematic	The report shall include a check list of the points checked and a summary of the detected defects.	The report shall contain the findings of the competent person as well as his conclusions — list of repairs, period before next thorough inspection, tests to be performed, proposal for general overhaul, etc.
Maintenance book	Updating of maintenance book if repair is involved	Updating of maintenance book with reports on maintenance work, defects, damages, repairs, etc.	Updating of maintenance book with reports on maintenance work, defects, damages, repairs, etc.	Updating of maintenance book with reports on maintenance work, defects, damages, repairs, etc.
<p>^a Systematic changes of certain parts can be recommended by the manufacturer or by way of recommendations.</p>				

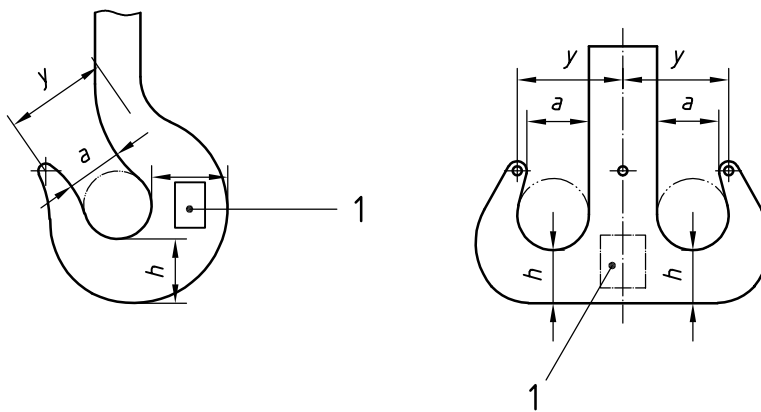
Annex B (informative)

Verification of hooks

This annex gives an example for the verification of hooks.

To apply the following method, the initial dimensions of the hooks need to be known. They are available from the manufacturer of the tower crane or of the hook.

- Deformation: if the openings a and y (see Figure B.1) have widened by more than 10 %, which is the maximum permissible limit, replace the load hook.
- Surface fissures: damage and surface fissures may be removed notchless, provided that the permissible tolerance levels are not exceeded.
- Wear: on single or twin hooks, it shall not be greater than 5 % of height h (see Figure B.1). It is not permitted to carry out welding work on load hooks, e.g. to compensate for wear.
- Hook neck shaft: cracks.



Key

1 marking

Figure B.1 — Shape and dimensions of hooks

Reference values for a , h and y are to be taken from the instruction manual. If they are not available, the manufacturer of the tower crane or of the hook shall be contacted.

Annex C (informative)

Example of report for periodic, thorough or exceptional inspections

Company: _____ Date: _____
Crane type: _____ Serial No.: _____
Manufacturer: _____ Year of construction: _____
Address of customer/hirer: _____
Construction site: _____ Stock number: _____
Person undertaking the inspection: _____ Signature: _____
Inspection observations: _____

No.	Subassembly	Part to be checked	Existing or complete		Condition or maintenance		Function		Repair or replacement		Re-examination				
			+	-	+	-	+	-	+	-	Necessary	Carried out			
											Yes	No			
													Date/ Signature		
1	Crane document	Crane book													
		Instruction handbook													
		Spare parts lists													
2	Rail track/area for the erection	Substructure horizontal													
		Substructure able to take the loads													
		Length of sleepers													
		Condition of sleepers													
		Distance of sleepers													
		Gauge													
		Inner radius of curved rail													
		Rail dimensions													
		Rail fixings													
		Rail joints/joint plates													
		Running-up key for travelling limiter													
		Travel limits													
Notation: + met - not met O not necessary															

No.	Subassembly	Part to be checked	Existing or complete		Condition or maintenance		Function		Repair or replacement		Re-examination					
			+	-	+	-	+	-	+	-	Necessary	Yes	No	Carried out Date/Signature		
3	Signs / safety distances	Type plate														
		Signs														
		Warning signs														
		Safety distances														
		to														
		to														
		to														
		to														
		Barriers														
Notation: + met - not met O not necessary																

No.	Subassembly	Part to be checked	Existing or complete		Condition or maintenance		Function		Repair or replacement		Re-examination			
			+	-	+	-	+	-	+	-	Necessary	Carried out		
											Yes	No	Date/ Signature	
4	Undercarriage or portal	Free of cracks												
		Outrigger arm support												
		Outrigger arm lock												
		Rail wheels												
		Wheel flanges												
		Travelling gears												
		Travelling brakes (travelling test)												
		Guarding of danger spots												
		Devices to limit fall due to wheel failure												
		Rail clamps												
		Track clearer												
		Supporting devices												
		Transport safety retainer removed												
Notation: + met - not met O not necessary														

No.	Subassembly	Part to be checked	Existing or complete		Condition or maintenance		Function		Repair or replacement		Re-examination			
			+	-	+	-	+	-	+	-	Necessary	Carried out		
											Yes	No		
												Date/Signature		
5	Slewing gear	Clearance of the slewing ring												
		Fastening of the slewing ring												
		Test run of the slewing ring												
		Slewing gear pinion												
		Fastening of the gear												
		Slewing gear brake												
		Free jib slewing												
		Guarding of danger spots												
6	Hoisting winch	Coupling												
		Changing gear												
		Interlock of changing gear												
		Rope drum mounting												
		Fastening of the hoisting winch												
		Clearance of brake linings												
		Brake disk												
		Brake release unit												
		Springs												
		Brake test												
		Lowering without power												
		Rope fastening												
		2 safety turns												
Notation: + met - not met O not necessary														

No.	Subassembly	Part to be checked	Existing or complete		Condition or maintenance		Function		Repair or replacement		Re-examination		
			+	-	+	-	+	-	+	-	Necessary	Carried out	
											Yes	No	Date/ Signature
7	Luffing gear	Coupling											
		Changing gear											
		Interlock of changing gear											
		Rope drum mounting											
		Fastening of the luffing winch											
		Clearance of brake linings											
		Brake disk											
		Brake release unit											
		Springs											
		Brake test											
		Lowering without power											
		Rope fastening											
		2 safety turns											
Notation: + met - not met O not necessary													

No.	Subassembly	Part to be checked	Existing or complete		Condition or maintenance		Function		Repair or replacement		Re-examination					
			+	-	+	-	+	-	+	-	Necessary	Yes	No	Carried out Date/ Signature		
8	Auxiliary hoisting winch	Coupling														
		Changing gear														
		Interlock of changing gear														
		Rope drum mounting														
		Fastening of the auxiliary winch														
		Clearance of brake linings														
		Brake disk														
		Brake release unit														
		Springs														
		Brake test														
		Lowering without power														
		Rope fastening														
		2 safety turns														

Notation: + met - not met O not necessary

No.	Subassembly	Part to be checked	Existing or complete		Condition or maintenance		Function		Repair or replacement		Re-examination					
			+	-	+	-	+	-	+	-	Necessary	Yes	No	Carried out Date/ Signature		
9	Trolley travelling mechanism	Rail wheels														
		Rope pulleys														
		Wheel flanges / guides rollers														
		Trolleys travelling limiter														
		Coupling														
		Fastening of the trolley travelling drum														
		Rope fastenings														
		Limit stops														
		2 safety turns														
		Fetch back of the maintenance cage														
10	Ballast	Ballast														
		Loose ballast (weight)														
		Fixed ballast (weight)														
		Secured against moving														
		Secured against falling down														
		Slings points														

Notation: + met - not met O not necessary

No.	Subassembly	Part to be checked	Existing or complete		Condition or maintenance		Function		Repair or replacement		Re-examination			
			+	-	+	-	+	-	+	-	Necessary	Carried out		
											Yes	No	Date/ Signature	
11	Tower construction	Welds free of cracks												
		Corner posts												
		Diagonals												
		Bolt connections												
		Pin connections												
		Tower joints												
12	Jib construction	Welds free of cracks												
		Upper and lower chords												
		Diagonals												
		Bolt connections												
		Pin connections												
		Jib joints												
Notation: + met - not met O not necessary														

No.	Subassembly	Part to be checked	Existing or complete		Condition or maintenance		Function		Repair or replacement		Re-examination			
			+	-	+	-	+	-	+	-	Necessary	Carried out		
											Yes	No	Date/ Signature	
13	Counter-jib	Welds free of cracks												
		Counter-jib chords / girder												
		Diagonals												
		Bolt connections												
		Pin connections												
		Counter-jib joints												
14	Access, walkways, platforms	Ladders												
		Hoop guards												
		Personal protective equipment against falls from a height												
		Walkways												
		Platforms												
		Safety device against falling down												
Notation: + met - not met O not necessary														

No.	Subassembly	Part to be checked	Existing or complete		Condition or maintenance		Function		Repair or replacement		Re-examination				
			+	-	+	-	+	-	+	-	Necessary	Carried out			
											Yes	No	Date/ Signature		
15	Cabin / control station	Walls													
		Windows													
		Floor													
		Entrance													
		Doors													
		Seat													
		Ventilation													
		Heating													
		Electric installation													
		Windscreen wiper													
		Side protection													
16	Controls	Actuating devices													
		Signs and warnings													
		Radius indicator													
		Indicators													
Notation: + met - not met O not necessary															

No.	Subassembly	Part to be checked	Existing or complete		Condition or maintenance		Function		Repair or replacement		Re-examination					
			+	-	+	-	+	-	+	-	Necessary	Carried out				
											Yes	No	Date/ Signature			
17	Electric installation	Ground fault protection system														
		Feed line														
		Cable drum														
		Crane switch														
		No-volt release														
		Deadman's switch (movable control)														
		Electric installation														
		Strain reliefs														
		Lighting														
		18	Rope drives, pendants	Hoisting rope												
Luffing rope																
Jib tie(s)																
Trolley travel rope(s)																
Erection rope(s)																
Rope pulleys																
Rope hoop guard																
Rope guides																
Rope and terminations																
Other rope connections																
Pendant ropes																

Notation: + met - not met O not necessary

Number	Subassembly	Part to be checked	Existing or complete		Condition or maintenance		Function		Repair or replacement		Re-examination		
			+	-	+	-	+	-	+	-	Necessary	Carried out	
19	Block assembly	Fastening at hoisting rope											
		Wear of the hook											
		Deformation of the hook											
		Surface cracks											
		Load hook's nut safety catch											
		Hook catch											
		Hook block											
20	Motion limiters / safety devices	Travelling limiter											
		Hoisting limiter											
		Lowering limiter											
		Derricking limiter up											
		Derricking limiter down											
		Trolley travelling limiter forward											
		Trolley travelling limiter reverse											
		Max. load limiter											
		Load moment limiter											
		Slewing limiters											
Notation: + met - not met O not necessary													

