

Critical Safety Practices

Together we ensure safety

Why Critical Safety Practices?

- Over the past 10 years, **58 lives have been lost** across the construction sector.
- The **most serious accidents repeatedly involve the same hazards**: falls, lifting operations, machinery and vehicles, uncontrolled energy release and getting caught under or between machinery.
- That is why the Confederation of Finnish Construction Industries (RT) has created, together with its member companies, **five Critical Safety Practices**.
- These are not separate rules, but **concrete ways of working** for planning, executing and supervising work.
- When work is planned, hazards are identified and safety is ensured, **the most serious accidents can be prevented.**



Critical Safety Practices



Prevent falls



**Control
lifting**



**Isolate
energy**



**Control traffic
and machinery**



**Avoid the line
of fire**

Critical Safety Practices



Prevent falls

Identify and eliminate fall hazards or control them with technical measures.



Control lifting

Plan and carry out lifting operations safely.



Isolate energy

Isolate energy sources at the site before maintenance, repair or installation work.



Control traffic and machinery

Ensure safe movement on site and operate machinery and vehicles in a controlled manner.



Avoid the line of fire

Identify and mark off hazard zones where people may be crushed, struck by loads or buried.

Prevent falls

Identify and eliminate fall hazards or control them with technical measures.

Together we ensure safety

- Identify tasks and work phases involving fall hazards and eliminate the hazard as the first priority.
 - If the fall hazard cannot be eliminated, control it with structural or technical solutions – personal protective equipment is the last resort.
- Prevent objects and tools from falling.
- Ensure that everyone knows how to use personal protective equipment correctly.



My responsibility

- ✓ I identify tasks with fall hazards and avoid working at height whenever possible.
- ✓ I use fall protection equipment correctly and inspect it before starting work.
- ✓ I stop unsafe work – it is my right and my duty.

Control lifting

Plan and carry out lifting operations safely.

Together we ensure safety

- Identify hazards and plan lifting operations and material transfers.
 - Select equipment with sufficient capacity and the correct lifting accessories and verify their condition.
 - Also take into account other structures, machinery and equipment in the work area to avoid collisions.
- Define and mark off the hazard zone for lifting operations.
- Ensure effective communication between all parties involved in the lifting operation.



My responsibility

- ✓ I carry out lifting operations safely and have the required competence and authorization.
- ✓ I use only suitable and inspected equipment for lifting.
- ✓ I make sure the load is secured correctly and remains under control.
- ✓ I stay clear of suspended loads.
- ✓ I stop unsafe work – it is my right and my duty.

Isolate energy

Isolate energy sources at the site before maintenance, repair or installation work.

Together we ensure safety

- Identify all energy sources at the work site – electricity, hydraulics, compressed air and other stored energy.
 - Account for unexpected start-ups and equipment failures.
 - Plan the isolation and lockout of energy sources and the safe release of stored energy.
- Isolate machines and equipment from all energy sources before starting work.
- Ensure that stored energy in machines or equipment is released safely.



My responsibility

- ✓ I identify the energy sources at the site before starting work.
- ✓ I make sure that no machine or equipment can start up accidentally.
- ✓ I stop unsafe work – it is my right and my duty.

Control traffic and machinery

Ensure safe movement on site and operate machinery and vehicles in a controlled manner.

Together we ensure safety

- Plan traffic arrangements.
 - Separate pedestrians from vehicle traffic.
 - Mark off and signpost hazard zones and routes and keep markings up to date.
 - Ensure traffic control and guidance on site.
- Ensure that machinery is always used for its intended purpose in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.
- Ensure that machinery is operated only by competent and authorized persons.
- Ensure that machinery is properly maintained and inspected.



My responsibility

- ✓ I follow marked routes and respect exclusion zones.
- ✓ When approaching a vehicle, I make eye contact with the operator.
- ✓ I only operate vehicles and machinery that are fit for purpose and for which I hold the required authorization and competence.
- ✓ I stop unsafe work – it is my right and my duty.

Avoid the line of fire

Identify and mark off hazard zones where people may be crushed, struck by loads or buried.

Together we ensure safety

- Identify hazard zones where people may be crushed, buried, or struck by moving loads, elements, machinery, falling objects or energy release.
 - Plan and mark off hazard zones before work begins.
 - Prevent people from being present in hazardous areas.
 - Keep signs and boundaries up to date.
- Minimise overlapping work phases.
- Ensure that only people carrying out the specific task work in marked hazard zones.



My responsibility

- ✓ I stay clear of hazardous work areas.
- ✓ I stay aware of the work being carried out around me, any changes to it, and the hazards it creates.
- ✓ I stop unsafe work – it is my right and my duty.

Thank you!