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# About Load Testing and Equipment Certification of Material Handling Equipment

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## *What is a Load Test?*

A load test is a physical proof test of a lifting device. A lifting device is subjected to a load of up to 125% of its rated capacity to verify its structural and mechanical integrity. After the load is released, the lifting device is visually inspected for deformation, cracks or other defects. A report of the load test is provided and stamped by a Professional Engineer.

## *What is Equipment Certification?*

Typically, a general arrangement drawing of a lifting device, with its capacity, is stamped by a Professional Engineer verifying its structural adequacy and compliance with any applicable codes and/or standards.

## *Why perform a Load Test?*

A load test verifies the structural and mechanical integrity of the lifting device. The ASME standard B30.20 recommends a load test of up to 125% of the rated capacity for Below the Hook devices. CSA standards B167-96 and B167-64 recommend a load test of up to 125% for cranes.

## *Who can perform Load Test?*

A Load Test qualified person, which is usually a Professional Engineer.

## *When should a Load Test be done?*

- After installation of a new equipment, a Load Test can be done
- A Load Test should be done after a piece of equipment has had major overhaul or modification

## *What is the cost of having a Load Test done?*

Pricing of a Load Test is based on various factors, such as the type of machine or equipment, type of installation being reviewed, and technical documentation available. Typically, a quote outlining the scope of the Load Test is provided before proceeding.

## *For Your Reference*

- For a list of additional reference standards, visit:
  - [www.asme.org](http://www.asme.org) for ASME.B30.20
  - [www.csa.ca](http://www.csa.ca) for CSA B167-96 & B167-64 standards