

**USACE Interim Change #17**  
**Effective 13 June 2008**

**BACKGROUND:** USACE presently requires load testing of cranes be performed under certain conditions, to include “every 4 years”. This standard has been debated for years and it has been determined that the benefit of performing these tests at this required frequency does not provide value-add to our Crane Safety Program.

Based on this rationale, USACE has decided to change this requirement and details are provided below. This change is being published now as an interim change to EM 385-1-1, Nov 03 because publishing now may affect scheduling and budgeting of tests between now and the time the new 2008 EM 385-1-1 is published.

**Replace existing “16.C.13.c (2) Load performance test”, in it’s entirety with the following.**

**16.C.13.c.(2) Load Testing.**

- a. Load tests, shall be performed in accordance with ANSI/ASME and the manufacturer's recommendations by, or under the direction of, a qualified person. If the manufacturer has no procedures, reference Appendix I for procedures.
- b. Test loads shall not exceed 100% of the manufacturer's load rating at the configuration of the test, except for manufacturer testing of new crane and hoisting equipment, which shall be conducted in accordance with the ANSI/ASME standards B30.1 through B30.17 as appropriate for the crane and hoisting equipment.
- c. Load testing shall be performed:
  - (1) Before initial use of crane or hoisting equipment in which a load bearing or load controlling part or component, brake, travel component, or clutch has been altered, replaced, or repaired;
  - (2) Every time the crane or hoisting equipment is reconfigured or reassembled after disassembly (to include booms); and
  - (3) When the manufacturer requires load testing.

(a) The employer shall specifically research, identify and document manufacturer required load-testing frequency for each USACE-owned/operated and/or Contractor owned/operated crane or hoisting equipment and maintain and/or provide this information to the GDA;

(b) Under conditions (1) and (2) above, a selective load test (testing only those components that have or may have been affected by the alteration, replacement, repair, reconfiguration, or reassembly) may be performed;

(c) The replacement of the rope is specifically excluded from this requirement. However, a functional test of the crane or hoisting equipment under a normal operating load shall be made prior to putting the crane back in service.