

# Crane Forks Cage Masonry Pallet Transfer JHA

Worked instructional example

## Work and worksite

A qualified lifting crew will transfer one secured pallet of brick or CMU from controlled ground staging to a released masonry receiving bay using an identified compatible crane-forks-and-cage system. The cage contains the suspended pallet; loading/unloading retain separate support and access controls. Actual equipment and receiving instructions govern the cycle. This fictional learning example describes planned controls; it records no actual inspection or work authorization.

- The current manufacturer instructions identify the permitted fork/cage combination, loading geometry, containment, complete equipment-plus-pallet weight and operating limits; the cage is not a standalone lifting device.
- The accepted lift plan covers initial pallet loading, the main transfer and stable landing. Receiving-bay capacity, protected access and the actual unloaded-pallet movement route are released.
- Both masonry delivery and material-handling links are partial. Road transport, ordinary forklift travel, personnel lifting, unrated baskets, masonry laying and unprotected edge unloading are excluded.

## Questions before work

- Which records verify the complete fork/cage combination and load against the actual crane arrangement?
- How will the pallet remain secured during the initial loading phase before the cage supplies containment?
- What stable landing and access conditions are required before opening the cage or unloading the pallet?

# Task Hazard Control

## 1 Release the combined lifting and receiving system

**Hazard:** A cage or crane rating considered alone can miss incompatible forks, attachments or an overloaded receiving bay.

**Control:** Lifting lead identifies the actual forks, cage, attachment arrangement and secured pallet. Confirm current compatible instructions and all load deductions in the accepted crane plan, including equipment self-weight. Obtain the receiving-bay support and access release. Resolve missing combination approval/instructions; no convenient cage part becomes an assumed lift point.

**Verification:** Lead records equipment identities, full load basis and the accepted loading/receiving arrangement.

**Reasoning:** Containment and lifting capacity depend on the complete compatible system.

## 2 Inspect equipment and prepare both zones

**Hazard:** Damaged closures, unstable staging or uncontrolled traffic can expose people to a moving or falling pallet.

**Control:** Qualified personnel inspect forks, lifting attachments, cage, pockets, doors/ramp and closures under actual criteria. Remove defective equipment from service. Establish stable ground loading and the protected receiving/unloading route with exclusion for the load's full travel and fall exposure. Confirm signals, weather limits and electrical controls under the lift plan.

**Verification:** Lead verifies inspection findings, separated zones, clear routes and effective signals.

**Reasoning:** The loading and unloading phases need protection before main transfer begins.

## 3 Load the pallet and complete containment

**Hazard:** A failed pallet or unsecured pack can fall while loading; mis-seated forks can destabilize the cage.

**Control:** Check the pallet and pack securement against the manufacturer's permitted loading method. Place the pallet into the supported cage through the accepted initial handling sequence, controlling the temporarily uncaged phase and keeping hands/feet clear. Establish the prescribed load position, fork width/engagement and complete door/ramp closure before the main lift. Packaging alone is not containment.

**Verification:** Rigger verifies pallet securement, correct pocket/load seating and every required closure before pickup.

**Reasoning:** A cage cannot protect a pallet that has not yet been loaded correctly.

## Complete the work and hand over

### 4 Transfer the contained load

**Hazard:** A swinging system, shifted pallet or people beneath the load can cause crushing and dropped material exposure.

**Control:** Use the accepted lift and guidance method with one designated signaler. Maintain the full exclusion zone, controlled travel and actual weather limits; no one rides or catches the load. Observe system attitude and containment from safe positions. Stop for unexpected tilt, movement, contact or lost signals rather than dragging or jolting the system to the destination.

**Verification:** Signaler and lead verify clear travel and stable contained movement throughout transfer.

**Reasoning:** Containment reduces fallout exposure but does not remove suspended-load hazards.

### 5 Land and unload from accepted support

**Hazard:** Opening a suspended or poorly supported cage can allow pallet movement or expose workers at an edge.

**Control:** Lower the complete assembly onto the instructed stable receiving surface and verify support before changing lifting attachments or containment. Follow the current system's unloading sequence using the accepted pallet-truck or other permitted method. Preserve protected access and receiving loads throughout. Keep people out of fork/pallet pinch paths; do not open closures while the assembly lacks the required supported condition.

**Verification:** Receiving lead verifies stable landing, permitted release sequence and protected pallet movement before opening.

**Reasoning:** Landing contact is not proof that the complete receiving arrangement is stable.

### 6 Secure the empty system and hand over materials

**Hazard:** An unsecured ramp, empty equipment or badly staged pallet can expose the next crew.

**Control:** Return doors/ramp and attachments to the instructed safe configuration before any permitted empty-system move. Inspect and report damage, then secure equipment against unauthorized use. Stage the delivered pallet under the masonry loading plan without obstructing braces, access or exits. Transfer material identity, observed damage and receiving restrictions; this supply handover does not authorize wall construction or scaffold changes.

**Verification:** Lead verifies equipment closure, pallet staging and the receiving supervisor's handover.

**Reasoning:** The safe cycle includes the empty equipment and the landed material.

### Pause and reassess

- Compatible current fork/cage instructions, full load weight, crane release or receiving-bay support cannot be verified.
- A pallet, closure, pocket or attachment fails inspection; tilt/load shift occurs; signals are lost or people enter the exposure zone.
- Containment would open before the required stable support, weather exceeds actual limits or receiving access/loading changes without review.

## Improve the controls

**Needs improvement:** The cage has enough capacity, so any crane forks will work.

**More useful:** Verify the manufacturer-approved combination and complete weight, fork engagement, closures and crane deductions under the actual lift plan.

**Needs improvement:** It touches the bay; open the gate.

**More useful:** Accept the instructed stable landing and supported unloading sequence, with protected access and the pallet movement route ready before containment changes.

### Decisions that change the analysis

#### Is this simply the existing forklift or crane resource with bricks added?

The forklift example excludes suspended loads; the crane example lifts a form panel. This controls matched crane forks, a non-standalone cage and a secured pallet through uncaged loading, pocket seating, closure and supported unloading. The masonry example supplies only a brief pallet-staging step.

#### What must the crew record for actual use?

Record the actual work boundary, governing documents, responsible people, acceptance criteria, control findings and unresolved actions. Communicate restrictions and obtain required project authorization; this fictional example records no completed inspection or installed-control acceptance.

### Training needs

- Specific fork/cage system instruction covering compatible equipment, pallet positioning, fork-pocket engagement, closures and permitted unloading methods.
- Qualified lifting/signaling roles, combined-load assessment, supported transitions, exclusion boundaries and protected receiving-bay handover.

Confirm applicable qualifications and actual training evidence for the people assigned. Related toolbox talks support discussion; they do not establish competence.

### References and adaptation

Conquip USA crane forks cage: compatible system information  
<https://cqegroup.com/us/product/lifting-equipment/crane-forks-cage/>

Conquip crane forks cage user guide, Issue 5  
<https://cqegroup.com/us/wp-content/uploads/sites/14/2018/11/Crane-Forks-Cage-User-Guide-Issue-5.pdf>

OSHA 1926.251 Rigging equipment for material handling  
<https://www.osha.gov/laws-regs/regulations/standardnumber/1926/1926.251>

References reviewed October 12, 2026. Use actual equipment and product instructions, project design and site requirements. This original draft supplies no fabricated inspection, signature or approval.