

Views of the
Construction Industry Training Authority
on the
Factories and Industrial Undertakings (Loadshifting Machinery) Regulation

1. Standpoint

The Construction Industry Training Authority supports the Government in introducing legislation to provide for mandatory training and certification requirements for operators of specified loadshifting machines on construction sites. The Construction Industry Training Authority (CITA) firmly believes that provision of such training and certification to operators of loadshifting machines on construction sites will serve to enhance their safety knowledge and awareness, which in turn will prevent site accidents.

2. Collaboration from the CITA and the granting of grace period

The CITA considers that it is appropriate for the requirement on mandatory training and certification for operators of loadshifting machines to become effective 18 months after the Regulation is approved by the Legislative Council, so as to allow time for existing operators to receive such training and certification. The CITA also supports the introduction of the said requirement in two phases. The CITA is confident that it can provide the required training and certification to all existing earth-moving machines operators who have not yet received, but intend to receive such training during the 18-month grace period.

3. Provision of certification tests for operators of earth-moving machines

This Authority plans to conduct certification tests for operators of earth-moving machines, which will comprise a 2-day refresher course, a written test and a practical test. The fee for all the 3 parts of the certification test is proposed to be \$1,200. Details of the breakdown of the fee is as follows:

<u>All 3 parts</u>	<u>Refresher Course</u> (if taken separately)	<u>Written Test</u> (if taken separately)	<u>Practical Test</u> (if taken separately)
\$1,200	\$400	\$110	\$700

The refresher course and written test will be conducted by one examiner for each group of 6 candidates, whereas the practical test will be conducted on a one-to-one basis. The rate of charge was set to cover the actual cost incurred by the test and the overhead cost was not yet included. If the operators failed in the certification test, the CITA will advise them if they

can re-apply for the test or have to attend the 2-day course with test according to the level of competence shown by them. The operators concerned will have to pay the full fee for the 2-day course or pay the respective fee for the part(s) they have to re-take.

4. Recognition of the past graduates of CITA relevant training courses

It was generally observed that operators of loadshifting machines who have undergone proper training at CITA's training centres seldom caused accidents associated with these machines. This Authority has been offering training courses in the operation of earth-moving machines since 1989 and a total of 605 persons completed relevant training. It is our hope that these past graduates can be granted a valid certificate should they be able to produce proof/evidence of their having completed a relevant course. Please note that the 605 CITA-trained earth-moving machines operators were all required to pass a practical test, similar to the one to be introduced.