OSHA DESIGNATIONS

COMPETENT • QUALIFIED • DESIGNATED • CERTIFIED



When you're about to make an overhead lift, you want the most trained personnel making the decisions. To help make that determination, OSHA lists four classifications for trained personnel; competent, qualified, designated, and certified. Understanding the designations you need to use and when, will assist your company's documentation, training, and records management programs.

DEFINITION

HOW IS IT COMPLETED?

COMPETENT PERSON One who is capable of identifying existing and predictable hazards in the surroundings, or working conditions which are unsanitary, hazardous, or dangerous to employees, and who has authorization to take prompt corrective measures to eliminate them.

[OSHA 29 CFR 1926.32(F)]

Competency is demonstrated by a person's knowledge, skills, and training.

An employer is responsible for:

- Creating and documenting a plan with specific requirements for employees to be deemed competent
- Giving authorization to an individual to remove questionable or damaged equipment
- Determining and documenting what a recognized degree or certificate is
- Defining and documenting what extensive knowledge and training means

Examples of who this is for: Personal Fall Arrest Systems (1910.140), Powered Industrial Trucks (Forklifts) (1910.178), Scaffolding Installer (1910.28)

QUALIFIED PERSON A person who, by possession of a recognized degree, certificate, or professional standing, or who by extensive knowledge or training and experience, successfully demonstrated the ability to solve / resolve problems related to the subject matter, the work, or the project. [OSHA 29 CFR 1926.32(M)]

An employer assigns a person to perform a specific duty or duties or to be at a specific location or locations at a job site.

Examples of who this is for: Respiratory Protection (1910.134), Personal Fall Arrest Systems (1910.140), Crane Signal Person

DESIGNATED PERSON

Means "authorized person" as defined in paragraph (d) of section OSHA 29 CFR 1926.32(i).

Authorized Person: a person approved or assigned by the employer to perform a specific type of duty or duties or to be at a specific location or locations at the job site. **IOSHA 29 CFR 1926.32(D)**

An employer creates and documents a plan with specific requirements to determine if a person can be tasked to perform a specific task or action.

An employer creates and documents a plan with specific requirements to determine what makes an employee certified.

Examples of who this is for: Designated Assured Grounding Conductor Manager (NFPA 70), Designated Asbestos Manager (EPA)

CERTIFIED PERSON

NOTE: OSHA / ASME does not define what a Certified person is or certify employees, trainers, or training programs.

OSHA does require that an organization providing certification exams to be accredited through American National Standard Institute (ANSI), or the National Commission for Certifying Agencies (NCCA). However, receiving certification through an accredited organization doesn't guarantee, or even imply, that a crane operator or rigger is a qualified person, or even a competent person to perform every task.

An employee completes a certification exam accredited through American National Standard Institute (ANSI), or the National Commission for Certifying Agencies (NCCA).

SCAN THE CODE TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE OSHA DEFINITIONS OF COMPETENT, QUALIFIED, DESIGNATED, & CERTIFIED PERSONS





Examples of who this is for: First responders (First Aid, CPR, AED), Safety Professionals, Commercial Drivers (CDL)