

Risk Assessment for safe use of Jibs

Scope:

This document gives general guidance on use of jibs in BBC STUDIOWORKS. At the end of the document you will find the generic risk assessment for use of these cameras in the studio. It covers all reasonably expected hazards from use of this equipment. If what you require from the operators is not covered in this document please speak to the Resource Manager to ensure that a suitable risk assessment is undertaken.

Cameras:

It's easy to become complacent about use of cameras in studios. Cameras can pose various hazards to both operators and others. The operator's manual handling is a concern with long periods of time in uncomfortable positions holding equipment.

For audience members and contributors who are not used to being in a studio camera cables and movement of cameras can be a hazard. Ensure that cables are bashed as necessary and that everyone is aware of the intended movement a camera is due to make.

Jibs:

Productions and Events use of the jib (particularly the Jimmy Jib) is very popular owing to their portability, cost and one-man operation. However, this can also give rise to their use by those not familiar with their safe operational or maintenance requirements.

The jib operators should be competent and trained in the safe operation of the jib along with ensuring the jib itself is safe. Extra consideration must always be given when passing over the heads of or near members of audience or people who are unfamiliar with studio environments.

All Jibs are also subjected to Statutory Thorough Inspections annually as define in the Lifting Operations and Lifting Equipment Regulations (1998) LOLER.

The people that might be harmed: Studioworks employees, contractors, public, artists

| HAZARD | CONTROL |
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| <p>Camera Crane/Jimmy Jib work</p> <p>Movement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Crane/jib may become unstable or overturn • Crane/jib may hit something • Camera may become detached from its retaining bracket/mount • Injury through manual handling <p>Operation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inexperienced operator may cause hazard • Crane/jib may become unstable or overturn | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Experienced and competent person in control of assembly and operation • Movement of crane/jib on base must only be undertaken with a minimum of two people, one person controlling the base and direction of movement, the other stabilising the arm. • A wire safety bond should be threaded through handle of camera and attached to camera bracket/mount to prevent camera falling <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The operator and others involved in the rigging and use of the crane/jib are experienced in the operation of this particular apparatus in the required configuration and in similar operating circumstances. • Brake operation, safety devices (incl. arm locking pins and safety catches) and cable guards should all be fit for purpose and functional. • Crane/jib should either be placed on a level platform constructed using approved materials and in an appropriate fashion. • Assistant operator must be used to help oversee the swing of the arm and movement of the base <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Crane/jib will only be located and erected/built in a position where there is no possibility of close proximity to such hazards, at any angle of operation. |

| HAZARD | CONTROL |
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| <p>Overhead obstructions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contact resulting in crane/jib becoming unstable <p>Audience / Spectators</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Injury from physical contact with moving parts of crane/jib • Injury from something falling from the crane/jib | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The arc of swing and rise checked to ensure the arm cannot come into contact with other items (e.g. overhead cabling or lighting). • Public to be kept outside area of operation • Avoid swinging over people where possible • If swinging over people cannot be avoided, arrangements in place to ensure they cannot be hit. • Camera and components should be fastened with double bonded and/or provide secondary safety. |
| <p>Camera Platforms</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trips, falls and injuries • Fall from heights • Dropping objects • Emergency evacuation | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Where camera platforms are required they must provide guardrails, toe boards, barriers and other collective means of protection of sufficient dimension to ensure a person cannot fall through or over them. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ In most cases, the dimensions will be top rail height of 1.1m, mid rail height so the gap is no greater than 470mm, and toeboard height of 150mm ○ Where camera sightlines may be affected by the height of the top rail, this can be reduced to a minimum height of 0.7m allied with other controls relating to access, supervision and protection of others (e.g. audience etc.) • Ensure that camera crew is comprised of experienced professional camera operators who are well used to working on platforms • Ensure that only authorized camera personnel have access to the platform • Provide signage to deter unauthorized access |

| HAZARD | CONTROL |
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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure access/egress routes including emergency escape routes are known by all and are not obstructed by equipment, people, cables, materials, etc. |
| <p style="text-align: center;">Maintenance</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jibs are regularly maintained by competent engineers • Jibs undergo statutory thorough examination testing at required intervals which are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Before use for the first time ○ Regularly whilst in service (annually) ○ Following exceptional circumstances such as damage or failure, being out of service for a long time or major change which is likely to affect the structural stability of the crane. |