



Dogger

Alternate Title Crane Chaser; Dogman; Lagger

Description Doggers attach slings and direct the movement of loads handled by cranes in locations such as manufacturing plants, construction and mining sites, and the maritime industry. Doggers work both in and out of view of crane drivers. They have to be continually alert for people, or objects which may come in the path of the load.

Job Prospects/Employment Opportunities

Opportunities for doggers depend on the state of the building and construction industry, as most employers are large construction and crane-hiring firms. Public sector (i.e. Federal and State Government) employment is declining as contract labour becomes more common. When the building industry is healthy, opportunities become available for doggers to advance to positions such as crane operator or rigger.

The vacancy level for doggers is moderate. Vacancies arising from job changing (Doggers changing employers) are expected to provide 42 per cent of vacancies, compared with 58 per cent from job openings. Given the high level of building activity in South Australia at the moment, demand is likely to be higher than usual.

- Typical Duties**
- Check loads to be moved, estimating size, shape, weight and centre of gravity, and make sure that loads do not exceed lifting capacities of cranes;
 - Attach lifting devices to hoisting equipment and items to be moved, using clamps, hooks, bolts and knots;
 - Choose and use slings and other grappling devices, covering sharp corners with padding to prevent damage to slings;
 - Where the load is not visible to crane or winch operators, hand signals, whistles or two-way radios are used; Doggers have to be continually alert for people, or objects which may come in the path of the load;
 - Guide loads into position as they are lowered;
 - Inspect chains, slings, ropes, cables, hooks and lifting gear for flaws and damage such as cracks, wear, mildew and corrosion, and report defects.

Personal Requirements

- Enjoy outdoor, practical work
- Good hearing and vision and physically fit
- Able to judge distances
- Be at least 18 years old
- Able to work at heights

Work Conditions

Doggers mainly work outdoors on construction sites, but can also work on ships and in factories and mines.

Entry Pathway To become a dogger you will need to obtain a certificate issued by SafeWork SA. This involves undertaking supervised training and then applying to a registered assessor who is authorised to carry out Certificate of Competency assessments. The Certificate of Competency is issued under the National Occupational Health and Safety Certification Standards. Employers usually prefer applicants who have finished Year 10.

You need to be able to work at height and have a basic knowledge of mathematics to work out formula for load and safe working loads of steel wire rope, synthetic rope and chains.

Course or Training Package

SafeWork SA Dogging Certificate (DG)

Some people may complete a pre-apprenticeship or pre-vocational course before entering the industry. If you are still at school, **doorways2construction™** is the best first step into this career. Ask your VET coordinator for more details.

Related Jobs

- Construction Worker
- Crane Operator
- Rigger
- Scaffolder

Further Information

- CITB [www.citb.org.au]
- Construction Industry Skills Board [<http://www.constructionskills.com.au>]
- **doorways2construction™** [<http://www.doorways2construction.org.au/>]
- SafeWork SA [<http://www.safework.sa.gov.au/home.jsp>]
- Construction Forestry Mining and Energy Union (CFMEU) [<http://www.cfmeu.asn.au/construction/states/sa/>]
- Big Plans [www.bigplans.com.au/]
- Be Constructive [www.beconstructive.com.au/]