

### 7.1.3 Environmental considerations

All aspects of the lifting environment shall be considered including, but not limited to;

- Specific environmental conditions including but not limited to:
  - Grade and flatness
  - Ground stability – allowable Ground Bearing Pressure, settlement & drainage
  - Night / Day
  - Weather conditions – raining – light showers – foggy – wind - lightning in area etc.
- Adjacent work teams.
- If the ground condition cannot be accurately established or are poor the lifts shall be treated as a category 3 (Complex) lift.
- All lifting areas to have suitable controls established and maintained throughout the lift.
- Route of load being transported.

### 7.3 Conducting lifting operations at night or in adverse weather

#### 7.3.1 Wind conditions

Where it is necessary to lift loads with large wind-catching surfaces, the lift shall be assessed taking full consideration of the wind loads likely to be experienced during the operation and their effect on the load intended to be lifted. The assessment is to include the likely effect a gusting or strong wind can have on the crane's stability even when the load being lifted is within its rated capacity.

An anemometer should be available at the working site, and located to provide an accurate wind load reading on the crane or load.

Where wind speeds exceed the manufacturer's operating recommendations, cranes operations are to stop until it is safe to resume. Where no manufacturer information is provided, a maximum of 8m/s for crane lifts and 12.5m/s for manual lifts can be used as a guide.

#### 7.3.2 Visibility conditions

Where adverse weather conditions such as fog and wind causing dust to have an adverse effect on visibility or the communication system, the crane and loads shall be made safe and are to stop until it is safe to resume.

#### 7.3.3 Wet conditions

Where it is necessary to lift loads in wet conditions the lift shall be assessed considering the hazards associated with lifting activities in wet weather.

If during a lift the conditions become wet the lift must be re-assessed before continuing.

#### 7.3.4 Lightning

In the event of a storm when lightning strikes are expected all outdoor crane operations shall be made safe and stopped in accordance with MAC's lightning management system.

#### 7.3.5 Dusk or night

Lifting operations that are conducted at dusk or into the night must be well illuminated through the use of adequate artificial lighting. Lighting plants are to be positioned to avoid shadows or shining into the crane operator's eyes obstructing the operator's vision.

When setting up the direction of lighting plants an assessment of whether or not the light may shine off-site shall be considered.