



*Safety Team*

## Job Training and Safety: 2025 Program Highlights



## Program one: Digger derrick and aerial lift device safe operations

The 2025 Job Training and Safety (JTS) programs will focus on the safe operation of digger derricks and similar equipment.

The first training session in the series will cover the “basics” of aerial lift devices and digger derrick operations. Proper and safe operation of the equipment requires that operators have a good understanding of the essential elements of how the equipment operates, which means we need to have an understanding of the equipment’s specifications.

This program will cover those basics, as well as best practices and the regulations that apply to operating this equipment.

Course topics include:

- Standards and regulations overview
- Personal protective equipment
- Vehicle pre-trip inspection
- Boom mechanical and hydraulics inspection
- Hydraulics inspection and hazards
- Daily, monthly, and yearly maintenance
- Equipment failure accidents
- Worksite evaluation and tailgate
- Proper truck setup
- Ground personnel safety around powerlines
- Load capacity of booms and jibs
- Pulling trailers
- Vehicle backing and parking



## Program two: Digger derrick operations—phase one: slings and rigging\*

### Proper use of slings and rigging is essential to safe equipment operation.

While inspecting a digger derrick before operation is always necessary, there is more to be done when the inspection is complete. It is equally important to understand how the object being lifted, and what is being used to lift that object, will impact equipment operation. This program will cover inspection, care, and maintenance of lifting equipment, with an in-depth focus on the fundamentals of lifting and rigging including:

- Qualified rigger requirements
- Proper rigging and control of loads
- The rigging triangle
- Sling configurations and capacities
- Load weight and center of gravity
- Rigging hardware selection, inspection, and use
- Use and inspection of chain, wire, and synthetic slings



\*This program must be completed prior to taking the next program.

### About the Job Training and Safety Program

The Job Training and Safety (JTS) program is MMUA's longest running training program. More than 100 utilities participate in the JTS program each year.

The program is designed to help lineworkers of all expertise become more proficient at their jobs. The curriculum varies, adapting annually to meet the evolving needs of member utilities. JTS programs are presented three times throughout the year. Your JTS instructor will provide advance notice for scheduling.

For more information on MMUA's JTS program, contact Jay Reading, Assistant Director of Technical Services, at [jreading@mmua.org](mailto:jreading@mmua.org).

## Program three: Digger derrick operations—phase two\*\*

The two previous programs provided a good foundation on safe equipment operation and the fundamentals of slings, rigging, and load control.

In this program we will put each operator's knowledge to the test. We will set up an obstacle course using your equipment where operators will practice and demonstrate their digger derrick skills.

Topics to be covered include:

- Site safety
- Communication/hand signals
- Pre-operation: truck set up, outriggers, boom inspection
- Operation basics
- Auger operation
- Post-operation

JTS program participants will complete a hands-on obstacle course experience with an instructor providing feedback in real time.

Please have the following items available for the duration of this training:

- Digger derrick
- Copies of the manufacturer's load chart
- Sixteen (16) traffic cones
- Pole mount or pad mount transformer



\*\*Whenever possible, each operator should complete program one and program two in succession. Program three is designed so that each operator has the opportunity to demonstrate the skills and understanding they gained in each of the previous two programs.