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Tips for Including Cranes in Your Project

When a crane or cranes will be included in your project, providing accurate information to American Buildings is an important part of making sure your project runs smoothly. There are important items to remember throughout the estimating, design and drawing, and purchasing stages. Check out our tips in each of these stages described below.



Estimating

When American Buildings estimates a project with a crane and complete information is not given, we must assume values to fill in the gaps. Crane data assumed by American Buildings is generally a good approximation but cannot be expected to be completely accurate for the crane that is being used on your project. Each crane manufacturer designs and produces using its own methods, resulting in differing end products. Each individual crane may also have specific requirements that affect its design. Obtaining actual (or preliminary) crane data from the manufacturer will result in an accurate estimate from American Buildings and reduced coordination issues during later stages of the project.

Design/Drawings

Once your project has become an order, it is extremely important to verify that the crane data as reported on American's crane confirmation drawings is correct. The final design of the crane runway beams will be based completely on the data shown once approved by our customer. If this data was assumed by American Buildings at the estimating or design stage, the crane to be installed must be ordered to meet those specifications to assure that the crane runway beams provided will be sufficient.

Purchasing

The material that American Buildings uses for crane beams must be ordered individually for each project as these beams are not kept in our on-site inventory. When the preliminary beam design is finished, American's purchasing department attempts to reserve a spot in the mill rolling schedule. Some beam sizes are rolled only a few times a year, so it is very important to have verified crane data and a final crane beam design as soon as possible to hold a place in the mill rolling. Any change made to the crane data resulting in a different design beam size may cause the mill rolling to be missed and your delivery schedule to be affected. If the delivery schedule of the crane runway beams is critical and mill rolling schedules do not fall correctly to meet your needs, the beams can be purchased from a warehouse. However, the cost of steel from a warehouse is higher than the cost of purchasing from a mill and will result in an increase to your project pricing.