# Introduction to API Specification 2C

# 6<sup>th</sup> Edition vs. 7<sup>th</sup> Edition



### Goals of API Spec 2C 7<sup>th</sup> Edition

- Address gross overload/supply boat entanglement issue
- Incorporate all types of offshore cranes, including:
  - Construction
  - Derrick Barges
  - Pipe Lay Vessels
  - Support Vessels
  - Shipboard Cranes
  - Knuckle Boom Cranes
- Provide design requirements for new crane uses without significantly affecting cranes currently covered by previous editions
- Differentiate between crane designs based on intensity or frequency of use



### Significant Changes from 6<sup>th</sup> Edition

- Gross overload / supply boat entanglement
- Duty cycle consideration (frequency / intensity of use)
- Wire rope design factors
- Structural design factors



# Background

- API Spec 2C 6<sup>th</sup> Edition and European standard EN 13852-1 and -2 both published 2004 addressing offshore crane sizing and safety requirements
- API Spec 2C 6<sup>th</sup> Edition
  - Focused on cranes for oil production and drilling facilities
  - Safety based on structural design and integrity
  - Increased safety factors are emphasized above instrumentation / gadgets as a means of providing safe cranes
- EN 13852
  - Covers cranes for all offshore applications
  - Safety focused on instrumentation / gadgets instead of increased safety factors
  - Main requirement is an Automatic Overload Protection System (AOPS) that takes control away from the operator and releases the brakes while over the supply boat



### Background

- API Spec 2C 7<sup>th</sup> Edition drafted to incorporate additional crane uses, expanding on previous versions and maintaining safe operations as governing theme
  - Designed as a superior international standard for offshore cranes based on more realistic criteria and more definitive guidance



# Gross Overload Conditions / Failure Mode Assessment

#### API 6<sup>th</sup> Edition

- Did not specifically address Gross overload conditions
- Failure mode calculations only required upon request of purchaser

#### **API 7th Edition**

- Addresses gross overload using failure mode assessment
- Requires failure mode results to be provided to the customer
- Protects the crane operator in the event of an unbounded gross overload (supply boat entanglement)
- If failure mode cannot be met, gross overload protection system (GOPS) required to assure that structure holding the operator does not fail in the event of a gross overload
- No AOPS required



# Supply Boat Entanglement Causing Gross Overload

 Not to be confused with exceeding the SWL of the crane



### Gross Overload Conditions (From Supply Boat Entanglement)

### EN 13852

- Seems to consider supply boat entanglement to be a common event
- Damage to equipment unacceptable in catastrophic events
- Accomplished through Automatic Overload Protection System (AOPS) which senses an overload and releases the load
- AOPS creates increased risk of malfunction and dropped loads

#### **API 7th Edition**

- Considers supply boat entanglement an extremely rare but serious event with special attention required
- Equipment damage considered acceptable in this rare catastrophic event
- Accomplished through failure mode assessment showing structure holding operator's cabin will not be first to fail in any condition
- Considers hazards created by AOPS to be worse than the potential benefits



# **Pitfalls of AOPS**

- AOPS requirements over emphasize protection of replaceable components/machinery to the extent of creating additional hazards to personnel.
- Examples of additional personnel hazards
  - Holds loads over supply boat personnel with brakes intentionally disabled
  - Loads supported only by retention or containment of hydraulic oil pressure
  - Can and have inadvertently dropped loads on supply boat
  - Complexity of components adds to number of parts that must be maintained, inspected, and tested
  - Numerous components increase likelihood of failure
  - Creates a false sense of security



# Example of Failure Assessment (From Supply Boat Entanglement)



# Example of Failure Assessment (From Supply Boat Entanglement)



### **Example of Supply Boat Entanglement**

- Crane on semi-submersible subjected to event while handling anchors
- Instantaneous overload in excess of 200% SWL
- Wire rope pulled off the hoist drum, hydraulic motor destroyed due to overspeed
- No personnel injuries
- Crane returned to service following replacement of wire rope and hydraulic motor
- Outcome acceptable under API 7<sup>th</sup> Edition but not EN 13852







# **Structural Fatigue**

#### **API 6<sup>th</sup> Edition**

- Structural fatigue requirement is 25,000 cycles at 133% of max SWL
- Crane structures expected to last 30-40 years
- \* EN 13852 and ISO assume machinery and structures have same useful life

#### **API 7th Edition**

- Structural fatigue requirement is 1,000,000 cycles at 50% onboard SWL
- Equivalent fatigue damage of 6<sup>th</sup> Edition
- Differentiates between structures and machinery\*
- Crane structures expected to last at least 30-40 years



### Machinery and Wire Rope Duty Cycle

#### **API 6<sup>th</sup> Edition**

 Did not address duty cycle, only structural fatigue

\* EN 13852 and ISO assume machinery and structures have same useful life

#### **API 7th Edition**

- Differentiates between structures and machinery\*
- Machinery expected to last 5 years before major overhaul / replacement
- API machinery is replaced or overhauled multiple times before crane structure is retired
- Duty classifications based on actual historical crane usage data



### **Duty Classifications Examples**









### **Crane Duty Classifications**

Crane Duty Cycle Classification	Typical Annual Operating Hours	Typical Applications
Production Duty	200	Offshore cranes on fixed production platforms
Construction Duty	1000	Offshore cranes on barges or vessels, heavy lift cranes
Intermediate Duty	2,000	Offshore cranes on fixed or floating platforms with temporary rigs or intermittent periods of intensive use
Drilling Duty	5,000	Offshore cranes on MODUs or floating production facilities with full-time, heavy-use drilling operations

Note: Where possible, purchaser specified data used in place of duty classifications



# **Historical Crane Usage Data**

	Year			
Usage (Hours)	2006	2007	2008	
Drilling Contractor Data: (based on logs & engine hours)				
Average of Jackups-Primary Crane	2340	2656	2550	
Max of Jackups-Primary Crane	6552	6300	6009	
No. of Primary Cranes	19	24	24	
Average of Semi/DrillShips-Primary Crane	1746	2208	2325	
Max of Semi/DrillShips-Primary Crane	3120	4868	4416	
No. of Primary Cranes	10	10	11	
		-		
Production Platform Data #1: (based on Eng	ine Hours)			
Average of Platform Cranes w/o Drilling			46	
Max of Platform Cranes w/o Drilling			312	
No. of Cranes			33	
Production Platform Data #2: (based on Hois	st Hour Meter	rs)		
Average of Platform Cranes w/o Drilling			46	
Max of Platform Cranes w/o Drilling			408	
No. of Cranes			164	

	Floating Production / Drilling Systems:	
	Spars/TLP with Drilling Rig (4)	Ave / Max 2315 / 5000 engine hr/yr
21	Spars/TLP w/o Rig (1)	650 engine hr/yr



### **Wire Rope Design Factors**

#### **API 6<sup>th</sup> Edition**

- Fixed design factor of 5 for running rigging without reeving efficiency
- Fixed design factor of 4 for standing rigging
- Impractical for larger cranes, such as construction cranes and derrick barges
  - Certifying authorities for larger cranes use design factor of 3 for lifts over 160 tons and account for reeving efficiency

#### **API 7<sup>th</sup> Edition**

- Little to no effect on cranes covered by API 6<sup>th</sup> Edition
- Sliding factor based on SWL that allows larger cranes lower factors in line with industry practice\*
- Reeving efficiency now considered due to high number of parts of line required for larger construction cranes
- Higher capacity cranes, such as derrick barges, have similar factors to current certifying authorities



### **Wire Rope Design Factors**



### **Structural Design Factors**

#### EN 13852

- Uses same factor of safety for pedestal / slew bearing as the rest of the crane structure
- No additional factor on the pedestal / slew bearing

#### **API 7<sup>th</sup> Edition**

- Uses higher factor of safety for pedestal / slew bearing compared to the rest of the crane structure
- Significant additional factor of safety applied to the pedestal / slew bearing to help ensure that the main crane structure and operator remain attached to the platform in a catastrophic event



### **Structural Design Factors**

#### **API 6th Edition**

- Minimum onboard dynamic coefficient (Cv) of 1.33
- Additional Pedestal factor of 1.5
- Impractical for large construction cranes, derrick barges or shipboard cranes in calm waters
- \* Certifying authorities use approximately 1.1 for Cv for lifts over 160 tons and many do not use a pedestal factor

#### **API 7th Edition**

- Little to no effect on cranes currently covered by API 6<sup>th</sup> Edition
- Sliding minimum onboard dynamic coefficient from 1.33 to 1.1 based on SWL
- Additional sliding pedestal factor from 1.5 to 1.2 based on SWL
- Offboard dynamic coefficients for typical oil production cranes have not changed
- Higher capacity cranes, such as derrick barges, have similar factors to current certifying authorities



### **API 7th Edition Structural Design Factors**



### **Minimum Hook Velocity**

#### **API 6th Edition**

- Calculations given but was not mandatory
- Minimum hook velocity of 20 ft/min at 0 ft significant wave height

#### **API 7<sup>th</sup> Edition**

- Mandatory for all offboard ratings
- If not met, load chart cannot be provided for the specific conditions
- Minimum hook velocity of 2 ft/min at 0 ft significant wave height
- Above 6 ft significant wave height minimum hook velocity is the same as the 6<sup>th</sup> Edition



# **Minimum Hook Velocity**



# **Other Changes**

- Cylinder design factors updated to include dynamic load factor Cv
- Hoist section updated to require separate dynamic and static brakes
- Load/moment indicators required on intermediate, drilling, and construction duty cranes
- Personnel capacity increased to 50% of SWL as opposed to 33% of SWL to more adequately align with OSHA and other standards and simplify ratings
- Align noise requirements with OSHA



# **Other Changes**

- Material requirements clarified and aligned throughout the standard
- Minimum toughness (Charpy) requirements provided instead of relying on crane manufacturer to determine ductility requirements
- Example calculations updated to reflect changes
- Default Dynamic Method (fixed Cv of 2.0) renamed Legacy Dynamic Method to discourage use
- Drastically reduced number of references to external standards for ease of use internationally



# Summary

- API 7<sup>th</sup> Edition is a viable international standard incorporating all offshore crane applications
- Failure mode calculations/GOPS ensure operator safety without increasing the risk of dropping the load
- In the rare event of supply boat entanglement, injury to personnel is prevented
- Cranes covered by the 6<sup>th</sup> Edition essentially unchanged while higher capacity cranes use similar to factors used by certifying authorities
- Entire standard reviewed and updated to match current technology and practice



# Summary

- API 7<sup>th</sup> Edition provides definitive technical guidance and unambiguous design rules to ensure cranes are designed to safely operate in the challenging offshore environment
- Cranes designed to API 2C 7<sup>th</sup> Edition provide a superior balance of safety and simplicity

