



WHAT IT TAKES TO BE A

# HEAVY HITTER

Your Guide to Top Jobs in the  
Heavy Lift, Heavy Haul Industry

**MAKE YOUR NEXT MOVE A HUGE ONE.** The crane, rigging, and specialized transport industry needs top young talent to keep our companies and customers moving forward. It's a fast-paced, high-tech world that pays well — even while you're learning — and demands sharp, hardworking, drug-free team members who bring a positive attitude to work every day.

Think you've got what it  
takes to join the next generation  
of HEAVY HITTERS?



*Read more and explore your options.*



The background of the image is a stylized, high-contrast illustration of a crane control panel. It features a yellowish-tan base color with dark brown and black geometric shapes. At the top, there are four vertical control levers, each consisting of a dark brown circle at the top and a smaller one at the bottom, connected by a thin vertical line. To the right of these levers is a grid of small, dark brown squares. The overall aesthetic is reminiscent of mid-20th-century industrial design or graphic art.

**CRANE OPERAT**

# BE A CRANE OPERATOR.

Crane operators work outdoors on jobsites wherever needed. They help put the largest pieces of a project into place, controlling cranes to lift, move, position, or place machinery, iron, bridges, and other large objects at construction or industrial sites, ports, railway yards, refineries, and other similar locations.

## THE DUTIES

- Assemble and disassemble cranes on jobsites
- Inspect cranes and calculate load capacities to get the job done right
- Operate cranes to lift, move, or place equipment and materials
- Perform routine crane maintenance such as cleaning and lubricating

## THE REQUIREMENTS

- High school diploma or equivalent
- Complete four-year apprenticeship program through local union\*
- NCCCO Certification
- Strong people skills; ability to communicate effectively with others
- Work in compliance with all applicable safety rules



\* Operator apprentices work as oilers earning \$40K+ per year while they train.





# BE AN IRONWORKER.

Ironworkers have various roles that stretch across all facets of the crane, rigging, and heavy haul industry. Working closely with operators and engineers, ironworkers keep our industry moving forward by fabricating equipment and structures, assembling and disassembling cranes, and connecting rigging components. Their workplace can vary from fabrication shops to outdoor jobsites in all kinds of weather and sometimes at extreme heights.

## THE CAREER OPTIONS

**RIGGERS** assist in assembling and disassembling cranes and connect the right rigging hardware to safely secure the load to the crane hook.

**WELDERS** cut, fit, and weld the components needed to manufacture all types of equipment, including cranes, to meet the needs of our projects.

**MACHINISTS** use drill presses, lathes, milling machines, and computer numerically controlled (CNC) machines to fabricate the precision components required in the manufacturing process.

## THE REQUIREMENTS

- High school diploma or equivalent
- Complete a three-year apprenticeship program through a local union\*
- Strong people skills; ability to communicate effectively with others
- Work in compliance with all applicable safety rules



\* Ironworker apprentices earn \$40K+ per year while they train.



# BE A HEAVY HAUL TRUCK DRIVER.

Heavy haul truck drivers climb into the cab and take responsibility for some of the heaviest loads on the road today. It's a big job that's a very important part of each project. Only experienced drivers can handle these loads.

## THE DUTIES

- Operate truck and trailer with a gross vehicle capacity ranging from 80,000 lbs. to 800,000 lbs.
- Assist in loading and unloading as needed
- Safely secure cargo for travel
- Read, understand, and follow city, county, and state permits

## THE REQUIREMENTS

- 3+ years of heavy haul driving experience
- Commercial driver's license (CDL Class A)
- Knowledge of state regulations regarding height and weight maximums and winch operations
- Strong people skills; ability to communicate effectively with others
- Work in compliance with all applicable safety rules

# BE A TRANSPORTER OPERATOR.

An SPMT is a self-propelled, modular hydraulic transporter — probably the biggest, most impressive remote-controlled vehicle you've ever seen. SPMT operators assemble, operate, and perform basic maintenance on these machines, which are used to transport equipment much too large for a conventional 18-wheeler. The SPMT's high-strength design and numerous tires allow skilled operators to safely transport extremely heavy loads through tight spaces and even over city streets, without damaging the pavement or bridges.

## THE DUTIES

- Assemble, disassemble, and configure SPMTs and other types of heavy haul trailers
- Operate the SPMT in various situations including in the plant, over-the-road, and on barges, transporting some of the largest loads in the country
- Safely navigate large loads through complicated and congested routes
- Perform routine maintenance and inspections on SPMTs and various types of heavy haul trailers

## THE REQUIREMENTS

- Basic knowledge of mechanics, hydraulics, and electronics
- Ability to understand technical documents relevant to SPMTs and transport operations
- Strong people skills; ability to communicate effectively with others
- Work in compliance with all applicable safety rules







**MECHANICS**

# BE A MECHANIC.

Keeping the tools of the heavy lift and heavy haul industry in top shape is critical. Mechanics put their skilled minds and hands to work performing preventive, routine, and emergency maintenance and repair on a variety of equipment, related systems, and components.

## THE DUTIES

- Read technical manuals to understand equipment and controls — how they work and how to repair and rebuild them
- Repair or replace broken or malfunctioning components
- Run tests and failure analyses to make sure machines operate smoothly
- Adjust and calibrate equipment to optimal specifications

## THE REQUIREMENTS

- High school diploma or equivalent
- Ability to operate equipment for repair purposes
- Work safely, skillfully, and easily with your hands
- Knowledge of tools and equipment used in the heavy lift and heavy haul industry
- Ability to work in a fast-paced environment
- Strong people skills; ability to communicate effectively with others
- Work in compliance with all applicable safety rules





# BE AN ENGINEER.

The heavy lift and heavy haul industry depends on civil, structural, and mechanical engineers for load-handling analyses, as well as the design and use of load-handling equipment such as cranes, gantries, and jacking systems, combined with the use of rigging equipment.

## THE DUTIES

- Research, design, and analyze safe, cost-effective solutions for lifting and moving large and heavy objects
- Prepare 2D and 3D drawings, plans, and specs that accurately describe the load-handling requirements
- Design and analyze versatile, durable, and practical lifting equipment

## THE REQUIREMENTS

- Bachelor's degree in civil or mechanical engineering
- Strong analytical and problem-solving skills
- Knowledge and experience of ASME, ASTM, and AISC codes
- Strong computer skills including 2D drafting and 3D modeling
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills
- Work in compliance with all applicable safety rules







# BE A PROJECT MANAGER.

Project managers plan, bid, and oversee the completion of the job. They represent the company, serving as the main point of contact for the client. And it's their responsibility to manage the tasks and labor/material resources necessary to finish jobs safely and efficiently.

## THE DUTIES

- Estimate and present safe, cost-effective solutions for lifting and moving large and heavy loads
- Assist in the preparation of 2D drawings, plans, and specs that accurately describe the load-handling requirements
- Work with clients and jobsite crew to ensure safe and efficient project completion

## THE REQUIREMENTS

- Bachelor's degree or progressive experience from within the industry
- Strong analytical and problem-solving skills
- Knowledge of tools and equipment used in the heavy haul and heavy lift industry
- Strong computer skills including 2D drafting
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills
- Work in compliance with all applicable safety rules







# BE A SAFETY PROFESSIONAL.

Heavy lift, heavy haul safety pros put safety first in their companies by working to minimize workplace hazards. They deliver the critical education and training employees need to be safe and successful, and they also conduct field audits that conform to federal Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) requirements.

## THE DUTIES

- Assist in the identification and mitigation of hazardous workplace conditions
- Supervise, develop, and facilitate employee training on safety policies, procedures, and regulations
- Ensure compliance with all applicable federal and state health and safety regulations
- Maintain and prepare necessary records that meet established guidelines
- Participate in OSHA inspections

## THE REQUIREMENTS

- Associate's or bachelor's degree in occupational safety & health, or similar studies, or progressive experience within the industry
- Knowledge and understanding of safety and environmental standards, including OSHA, Department of Transportation, Federal Motor Carrier and Transportation Administration rules and regulations
- Ability to interpret and explain regulations to others
- Strong written and oral communication skills; excellent presentation skills
- Work in compliance with all applicable safety rules





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CHECK OUT JOB OPENINGS, APPRENTICESHIPS, AND OTHER  
OPPORTUNITIES AT **DEEPSOUTHCRANE.COM/CAREERS.**

SCAN FOR SPECIAL  
HEAVY HITTERS  
CONTENT.





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