A suspended load is an object that is temporarily lifted and hangs above the ground.

Working or walking immediately under / close to a suspended load is unsafe as the load can fall on you.

To ensure compliance with this rule you should:
- Never cross a barrier controlling an area with a suspended load without authorization
- Follow the instructions of the Person In Charge of the lift

If you are the Person In Charge of the lift you should:
- Mark the unsafe area and put barriers in place
- Ensure that nobody walks under a suspended load
- Stay on site until the lifting activity has been completed
Do not walk under a crane or a suspended load - clip

Internal:

External:
• Every “routine” lift must have a generic lifting plan (less 5t lift)
• Every “non-routine” lift must have a specific lifting plan (5t and above)
• Persons In Charge shall ensure lift area is cordoned during the lifting operations
• No one should ever be under / close to any working crane or suspended load

The above is simplified; for more info see
PR-1709 Lift Planning/Execution
Example of breaking Life Saving Rule:

- Walking under a tower crane, which collapsed (2010). Six persons died.
Do not walk under a crane or a suspended load

Supervisor Tips

- Pose Question to your group
- Allow 5 minutes for discussion on each Question
- Summarize what you have heard before moving to the next Question
- Split big groups up into smaller discussion teams
- Take your time
- Encourage everyone to take part
- Look for real examples from your own workplace
- Find and use real examples of incidents related to this rule from your site
- Link the discussion to real work on site involving the people in the tool box talk
A crane operator is busy unloading tubing from a lorry, when suddenly a visitor walks into the working area passing under the load. The Person In Charge tries to draw the attention of that person, but he does not seem to hear it.

What is the right thing for the crane operator to do?

a. Do nothing
b. Blow the crane’s horn

c. Warn the Person In Charge
d. Swing the load out of harm’s way
The supervisor of the lifting company cannot believe it: the operator of the new crane has suddenly taken ill! The PDO supervisor was counting on the lifting company to fit a large compressor into place. Everyone and everything else in the lift plan is ready. The crane company’s roster looks at the roster and sees that another crane operator is available. He has no experience with the new-model crane but has been operating an older model of the crane for five years. But what difference can there be between operating the new and the old cranes?

What is the right thing for the crane company supervisor to do?

- Call in the available crane operator
- Call off the lifting operation  **correct answer**
- Operate the crane himself
- Source a competent crane operator  **correct answer**