

Hours Worked/Standard Shift Rotation

- 12- 14 hours per day, seven days a week (includes travel time to and from the worksite, as well as lunches and breaks;
- Shift rotation varies from 21 days on/4 days off, 24 days on/4 days off, or 28 days on/7 days off.


What is the Range of Pay?

Effective October 1, 2011 starting wage for industry newcomers is approximately \$12.50/hour. Most employers cover all accommodation costs while the employee is working, and a daily living allowance, called hotshot, of \$40.00/day is given to each employee to be used for food. When interviewing with companies it is best to inquire if this benefit is offered.

Accommodation and Travel While on Shift

Crews either stay in hotels/motels that are close to the worksite, or if the program is taking place in a remote area where hotels/motels are unavailable, camps may be used. Camps vary depending on the managing company, and location. All meals in camp are included; therefore the daily living allowance of \$40.00/day is not passed out. Camps typically include washroom facilities, recreation rooms (include exercise equipment, televisions, etc.) laundry, towels & bedding, and open kitchens.

Most of the time companies will provide transportation of workers from point of rest (hotel/motel or camp) to the worksite; however depending on your roles and responsibilities you may be required to drive yourself from point of rest to the worksite.



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Careers in Seismic



Line Crew Helper

Position Name: Line Crew Helper

Description of Position

A Line Crew Helper is responsible for lying out and picking up seismic recording equipment for the purposes of both 2D and 3D land seismic data acquisition. In preparation for recording activities, there may be as many as fifty or more helpers to lay out cables and plant geophones. Duties may include:

- Walking on uneven terrain;
- Carrying cables and geophones for pick-up or layout;
- Ensuring quality control on lay-out and pick-up;
- Participating actively in all company safety initiatives;
- Following all helicopter safety protocol;
- Loading and unloading of seismic equipment from seismic line vehicles or heli-bags;
- A valid driver's license is an asset and may be required by some companies in order to obtain employment. Potential candidates should also be aware that a driver's abstract may be required;
- It should also be noted that some companies will require drug and alcohol testing prior to employment.

Training Requirements

There are no minimum educational requirements for the position of Line Crew Helper on a seismic crew; however, a high school education is always a definite asset and is strongly encouraged. The following attributes are considered an asset:

- Previous experience with manual labour (including heavy lifting);
- A history of physical activity, (i.e. sports);
- Previous experience working long hours of work;
- Previous experience working in a field rotation situation or camp component;
- Class 3 drivers license with Q endorsement.

Career Path and Advancement from the Position of Faller

By starting in the industry as a Line Crew Helper, you gain valuable information on the initial processes of oil & gas exploration which can transfer into each area of operation (such as survey, line cutting, drilling, pipeline locating, and recording). If interests are in health and safety you may have the opportunity to advance into the role of a field safety supervisor or health and safety advisors, human resources, field administration, project management etc.

From the position of Line Crew Helper, you may have the opportunity to be promoted to:

- Line Boss (lead line crew of 2 to 4 line crew helpers, taking direction from Coordinators/Observers);
- Trouble Shooter (assist in quick repairs of damaged equipment in the field);
- Blaster (blasting dynamite in the ground to ensure equipment can read seismic waves);
- Coordinator (responsible for all field equipment, managing crews working in the field, managing production);
- Observer (responsible for recording seismic data, running field crews, dealing with clients & crew supervisor).

Is On-The-Job Training Provided?

Initial training for those new to the industry may include, but is not limited to:

- Company orientations (review of company policies, procedures, expectations etc.);
- Basic Safety Awareness (introduction to petroleum industry hazards, tasks, safe work procedures, emergency response planning, communication, tools, driving, etc.);
- WHMIS (Workplace Hazardous Materials Information System);
- H2S Aware (awareness training for hydrogen sulphide gases);
- Transportation of Dangerous Goods (TDG);
- First Aid/CPR;
- General Oilfield Driver Improvement (GODI) (awareness training for operating vehicles 5500kg GVW and over);
- Off Highway Vehicle Training (ATV's, UTV's, snowmobiles).

Additional Seasonal Training may be included such as:

- Wildlife Awareness (awareness training for dealing with wildlife);
- Cold Weather Awareness (awareness training for dealing with cold illnesses, clothing, blizzard conditions, appropriate footwear, industry hazards).

Generally most companies will provide their employees with up-to-date training in order to keep their skills current and up to the industry standard, however the responsibility may lie with the employee or potential employee to obtain some training courses on their own time.