

April 2015

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OSHA Removes Capacity From Operator Certification



After four years of protests by crane users and manufacturers about OSHA's position that crane operators should be certified according to the capacity of the crane, the federal agency has removed this requirement. In its draft regulatory language issued last month, OSHA

has left the certification requirement and process essentially unchanged, except for the removal of the requirement for certification by capacity. "Certification still includes a written and practical exam, but certification will only be by type of crane--not by capacity", OSHA states in its summary of the rule. [Read More](#)

ACCSH Reviews OSHA Draft Rule

The Advisory Committee on Construction Safety and Health (ACCSH) met March 31-April 1 in Washington, DC to review OSHA's draft proposed regulatory text for crane operator qualification (see above story). OSHA had indicated late last year that it would publish draft language for public review prior to issuing a Proposed Rule. NCCCO was among 18 organizations and private individuals who spoke at the one-and-a-half day meeting. "We complimented OSHA on listening to the industry and addressing both the 'certification by capacity' and 'certification = qualification' issues," said NCCCO CEO, Graham Brent. However, as a certification body, NCCCO had reservations about OSHA's plans to significantly expand the employer requirement to "evaluate" employees. It wasn't clear, Brent said, how in practice this could work given the almost endless number of configuration permutations that many of today's cranes are capable of. [Read More](#)

Mobile Crane Exams Available in Spanish



**MANUAL DEL CANDIDATO SUPLEMENTO
PARA EXAMENES EN ESPAÑOL**
*Candidate Handbook Supplement for
Spanish Language Testing*

OPERADOR GRÚA MÓVIL	MOBILE CRANE OPERATOR
NCCCO ha diseñado sus exámenes escritos para el programa de Operador de Grúa Móvil disponible en español. Se ha creado este suplemento con el fin de que los candidatos comprendan las políticas y procedimientos básicos del programa NCCCO. Después de leer todas las políticas y procedimientos relacionados con el programa CCO, por favor revise todos los manuales y formularios disponibles en www.nccco.org .	NCCCO has made its written exams for the Mobile Crane Operator program available in Spanish. In order to provide candidates with an understanding of the basic policies and procedures of the NCCCO program, this supplement has been created. Note that in order to see all of the policies and procedures relating to the CCO program, please review all the NCCCO Handbooks and forms available at www.nccco.org .
Las políticas incluyen:	The policies include:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planes de Certificación • Proceso de Aplicación • Inscripciones, cancelaciones y retiros • Las cancelaciones de emergencia o retiros • Plazos de solicitud • Ejemplos contenidos de los exámenes • Ejemplos de preguntas • Lista de referencias 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Certification Time Frames • Application Process • Rescheduling, Cancellations and Withdrawals • Emergency Cancellations or Withdrawals • Application Deadlines • Exam Content Outlines • Sample Questions • Reference List
ELEGIBILIDAD Personas elegibles para la recertificación	ELIGIBILITY Eligible persons

In response to numerous industry requests to serve the growing Spanish-speaking construction labor force, and in light of its 20th anniversary commitment to refine and evolve its safety mission, NCCCO is making available its CCO Mobile Crane Operator written certification exams in Spanish. The Spanish-language CCO exams are direct translations of the English-language exams, based on identical content outlines and have the same number of questions. [Read More](#)

May 3-9 is Safety Week

Every year, more than 80,000 workers suffer an injury on construction job sites across the U.S. Any one incident is one too many; life is too precious to not make safety the number one focus in the U.S. construction industry. That's why over 40 national and global construction firms comprising **The Construction Industry Safety (CISI) group** and the **Incident and Injury Free CEO (IIF) Forum** have joined forces with a single aim: to inspire everyone in the industry to be leaders in safety. The second US Industry Safety Week runs this year from Sunday May 3th to Saturday May 9th. Learn more at www.safetyweek2015.com.



CCO Recertification Sets New Records



Candidates are signing up in record numbers to take their CCO recertification examinations, the National Commission for the Certification of Crane Operators (NCCCO) reports. "2014 was an exceptionally active year for recertification," said NCCCO CEO Graham Brent. "We recorded

our highest volume of recertificants since the recertification program was introduced in 2001, surpassing the previous record set in 2012 by over 13 percent." [Read More](#)

Calling All 4-Star Operators!

Have you been CCO-certified since 1996? Still operating cranes? Congratulations! You'll soon be able to recertify as a 4-Star CCO Operator, meaning you will be embarking on your *fifth* five-year certification period. That's quite an achievement. And in recognition of the 20-year commitment you have made, NCCCO is offering a special 4-Star Recognition Package absolutely free of charge to the first 20 operators who recertify each month from now until the end of the year. Just register for the exams, complete the brief 10 question survey you'll receive via email, pass the recertification exams and you're on your way to receiving a limited edition NCCCO 20th Anniversary merchandise pack including



a ball cap, lapel pin and a 5-pack of hard hat decals. It's just our way of saying "happy anniversary" and "job well done"!

38th Biannual Commissioners Meeting Held in Fort Worth, Texas



More than 60 NCCCO Commissioners, committee members, and guests gathered in Fort Worth, TX, for the Commissioners 38th Biannual Meeting on April 2, 2015. The nearly week-long event concluded with the full Commission meeting which featured news of the latest CCO certification program developments, the federal OSHA operator certification delay, and Committee recommendations.



The Commissioners Meeting as well as the week of committee meetings that preceded it were sponsored by the ITI Fundamentals of Rigging Engineering Program (riggingengineering.com).

Pictured (left to right): Graham Brent, NCCCO CEO; Zack Parnell, ITI President; Ellis Vliet, NCCCO Commission Chairman; and Joe Kuzar, ITI Instructor.

NCCCO Appoints California Manager

NCCCO is delighted to announce the appointment of Richard (Dick) Thompson as NCCCO's Manager, California Affairs. He succeeds Bob Hornauer who retired at the end of last month after nine years in that role. Dick is a veteran of the construction industry, with a safety and risk management record spanning three decades. He has worked throughout California liaising closely with all operational levels to manage effective safety programs to identify and mitigate hazards in heavy construction and mining environments. Dick will act as NCCCO's primary point of contact with California employers and state jurisdictions such as Cal-OSHA. Dick can be reached at rthompson@nccco.org and via phone at 209-206-5359. [Read More](#)



Upcoming Practical Examiner Workshops

Are you interested in being able to administer CCO practical exams? Why not apply to become a Practical Examiner by attending an upcoming Practical Examiner Accreditation Workshop?

Signalperson

April 27
Woodland, WA

Rigger Level I

April 28-29
Woodland, WA

Rigger Level II

April 30-May 1
Woodland, WA

Mobile Cranes

May 13-15
Salt Lake City, UT

Signalperson

May 4
Spring Hope, NC

Rigger Level I

May 5-6
Spring Hope, NC

Rigger Level II

May 7-8
Spring Hope, NC



NCCCO Employer Recognition Program

NCCCO congratulates the following companies recently enrolled in the Employer Recognition Program. All have demonstrated that they are Committed to Crane Safety by employing CCO Certified personnel. You can see the entire [directory of employers](#), or find out how to [apply for recognition](#) for your company.

- [Austin Crane](#), Leander, TX
- [Hardman Construction](#), Ludington, MI
- [Ironhorse Crane Service](#), Hawley, MN
- [Midwest Equipment Company](#), Cleveland, OH
- [Southern California Aviation](#), Victorville, CA



Engineering News-Record
AWARD OF EXCELLENCE 2000

Millennium  Celebration

McGraw-Hill Construction
Information Group

Engineering News-Record (ENR) Magazine confers its Award of Excellence on NCCCO for its groundbreaking mobile crane practical exam introduced earlier that same year. Within 15 years the number of practical tests administered would grow to 220,000.

Did You Know?

In order to assist candidates attempting to locate a location to take the practical exam, NCCCO maintains a list of [Open Practical Exam Sites](#). But this isn't the only resource for finding practical exams. Candidates can also contact [Accredited Practical Examiners](#) near them to find out if they are administering exams in the area or can come to the candidate location to administer the exam on a crane more familiar to the candidate. For more information on finding Practical Exam locations email [Makeda Evans](#).

From the Seat: Kiewit's Doug Welchert Talks About CCO Certification



"Through the process of certification, we gain knowledge, which in return makes us better and safer operators." So says, Doug Welchert, a 24-year veteran crane operator and a two-star recertified CCO crane operator. Doug, an Equipment Superintendent for Kiewit Building Group responsible for the maintenance and assembly and disassembly on all types of cranes, has been a crane operator for over 20 years and will be recertifying as a CCO mobile crane operator for the

second time later this year. "Recertification is helpful in making sure you refresh your skills on different load charts, as well as general crane responsibilities," he adds. [Read More](#)

Employer Quote of the Month

"We have seen a significant reduction in the number of crane related incidents, an increased knowledge and skill level of operators, a better understanding by the operators of their responsibilities and authority, and a reduction in insurance premiums. Over time, this has also produced a higher quality operator in the seats of our machines and has improved customer satisfaction and confidence." **Chip Pocock, Safety and Risk Manager, Buckner Heavy Lift**



NCCCO's 20th Anniversary: What's Your Story?

It's 20 years since NCCCO was founded and we'd like you to help us tell our story. If CCO certification has had an impact on you or your company we'd like to know about it. To start, just tell us briefly [here](#) what you'd like to share, and if you'd like us to follow up with you about it. We'll be offering special, limited edition CCO merchandise for any stories we use.

CCO By the Numbers

1,950

Active CCO Practical Exam test sites approved for testing in 2015.

Supporter Spotlight

The National Commission for the Certification of Crane Operators gratefully recognizes the generous support of its industry sponsors.

"NBIS delivers premier Construction and Transport Risk Management Products and Services. Our goal is to be recognized as a market



NBIS™

leader in Specialty Construction and Transport Insurance through customized programs with carriers, trade groups, and distribution partners. Our focus is Heavy Construction Equipment, related Specialty Transport Operators and related trades. Our distribution is exclusively administered with independent producers to build loyalty with the insured by making obvious the differentiated value NBIS provides."

Did you notice? We've redesigned CCOonline for greater readability! We'd appreciate you [telling us what you think](#) and letting us have your suggestions for further improvements.

Sincerely,

Tara Whittington
NCCCO

National Commission for the Certification of Crane Operators (NCCCO)

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