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Industry Forum Focuses on Personnel Qualifications

Operators, Lift Directors, Inspectors all need to be Qualified, Experts Say

The first NCCCO Industry Forum on Personnel Qualifications was an "unqualified" success according to those who attended the event in October.

The *Industry Forum on Personnel Qualifications*, hosted by the National Commission for the Certification of Crane Operators (NCCCO), was the first of its kind in the industry to focus entirely on the qualification of personnel working in construction. Held in Washington, DC, it featured



presentations by senior staff from Federal OSHA and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers as well as industry experts in their field. [Read More](#)

Operator Qualifications "Resolution" in 2016



OSHA continues to work on a Proposed Rulemaking on the crane operator qualifications issue, and there will be a "positive resolution" in 2016. So said Jim Maddux (pictured left), Director of OSHA's Directorate of Construction, speaking at The Industry Forum on Personnel Qualifications, hosted by the National Commission for the Certification of Crane Operators (NCCCO) in October.

Asked whether OSHA's proposed language would be based on the draft submitted to the Advisory Committee on Construction Safety and Health (ACCSH) committee earlier this year, Maddux stated that the ample feedback OSHA had received at--and following--the ACCSH meeting would ensure "without a doubt" that "what we propose will be different." [Read More](#)

Industry Professionals Applauded for Contributions to Crane Safety

NCCCO's "Difference Makers" Take a Bow

Crane industry experts from across the country were recognized for their contributions to crane safety in October at the NCCCO 20th Anniversary Recognition Gala hosted by the National Commission for the Certification of Crane Operators.

The event, held October 15, 2015 in Washington, DC, brought together for the first time many of those who had helped shape the nation's first-ever professionally developed crane operator certification program more than two decades ago, with those who had made their contributions to the maintenance and development of CCO certification programs more recently. [Read More](#) [Gala Gallery](#)



New York City Approves CCO Rigger, Signperson Certifications

CCO Certification Meets Building Code Requirements

The New York City Department of Buildings has announced it has approved CCO Rigger and Signalperson certifications for use in the City. Specifically, the Department has stated that members of a rigging crew who possess valid CCO Rigger Level I and Signalperson certifications issued by the National Commission for the Certification of Crane Operators (NCCCO) fulfill the requirements of Section 3316.9.2 of the New York City Building Code. [Read More](#)



Washington State Extends Contract with NCCCO



The Department of Labor and Industries (L&I) of the State of Washington has extended its contract with NCCCO for the development and maintenance of written exams for the state's crane certifier program. NCCCO was first contracted by the state's L&I in 2008, since when more than 330 crane certifier exams have been taken. Under the agreement, which extends the contract through 2017, NCCCO works with the state's subject matter experts to review and analyze test performance

data on an ongoing basis, and provides consultation as needed on certification and psychometric issues.

39th Biannual Commissioners Meeting

More than 60 NCCCO Commissioners, Committee Members, and special guests attended the 39th Biannual Commissioners Meeting on October 15, 2015, just outside of Washington, DC. The meeting was preceded during the week by meetings of several of NCCCO's exam management committees whose task is to review the performance of CCO certification exams to ensure they remain fair, valid and reliable measures of candidates' knowledge.



[Commissioner Meeting Gallery](#)

NCCCO Launches 4-Star Recertificant Program



NCCCO has introduced its 4-Star Recertificant Program recognizing crane operators who have recertified four times. NCCCO 4-Star certificant are operators who have been continually certified since 1996, the first year that CCO certification became available. "It's a remarkable achievement for anyone to be entering their 20th year of certification," said NCCCO Director of Operations, Joel Oliva. "Our hat goes off to all who qualify for this recognition." [Read More](#)

Webinar Scheduled

NCCCO's Safety Information and Research Division is pleased to announce a complimentary webinar scheduled for Wednesday, January 13, 2016, 12:00-12:30pm ET:

- **Hosting Your Own CCO Exams-Part 2: Practical Exams**

[Read more and register](#)

NCCCO Around the World

CONEXPO Latin America and NCCCO Crane & Rigging Safety Conference

NCCCO held its first ever Crane and Rigging Safety Conference at CONEXPO Latin America, held October 21-24, in Santiago Chile. The event assisted industry professionals in adopting the latest safety innovations and technologies. Attendees heard from industry experts on topics that included trends and causes of crane accidents, best practices and global perspectives on crane inspections, crane block concepts, and about global certification. NCCCO also exhibited at the show. [Read More](#)



World of Concrete - February 1-5, 2016

At World of Concrete, NCCCO will showcase its ANSI-accredited certification programs for the following crane-related personnel: Articulating Crane Operators, Signalpersons, and Riggers. On Tuesday, February 2, at 1 p.m. CCO

Articulating Crane Operator written and recertification exams will be administered; on Tuesday and Wednesday Overton Safety Training will also be offering CCO Articulating Crane Operator practical exams. On-site scoring of all written and practical exams means attendees will get their test results before they leave the show. Pre-registration for all exams is encouraged. For more information, contact Matthew Eckstine at meckstine@nccco.org or (703) 560-2391 ext. 203.

Two Decades of Crane Operator Certification

What we can learn from 20 years of credentialing in construction was the subject of a presentation NCCCO was invited to make at the National Safety Council's Congress and Exhibition in Atlanta in September. NCCCO CEO, Graham Brent, identified 10 key conclusions drawn from an analysis of the certification body's data and experiences gathered over two decades. Also discussed were the effects of the aging workforce and what can be done to attract youth to the construction trades. To hear an audio version of the presentation and watch a PowerPoint [click here](#) (product number 201521161).



AGC of California Conference



NCCCO was proud to be a Gold Sponsor of the AGC of California's Annual Fall Conference held in Rancho Mirage in October, as well as an exhibitor at the Conference Expo. The Expo highlighted some of the latest construction technologies, and provided an excellent opportunity for NCCCO to meet with other Conference attendees and share its experience in the lifting industry with some of the AGC Student Chapter attendees.

Second Lift & Move USA Careers Event Comes to Houston

The Lift & Move USA careers event moves to Houston, Texas, on February 10, 2016, following the success of the inaugural event in Chicago in June this year. The conference is an industry initiative to promote job opportunities in the crane, rigging, and specialized transport industries and is targeted at

high school students, college students, and military veterans. Lift & Move USA is jointly organized by the Specialized Carriers & Rigging Association (SC&RA), the National Commission for the Certification of Crane Operators (NCCCO), and industry publisher KHL Group, owners of American Cranes & Transport magazine. [Read More](#)



Pile Driving Rig Operator Certification Taking Shape



NCCCO's Pile Driver Task Force continues to make significant progress working out the details of a new CCO certification for operators of dedicated pile driving rigs.

Numerous questions for the written exam have been pilot-tested by the task force members, and development of the practical exam is well underway with the main tasks identified. The task force is made up of industry experts from pile driver manufacturers, users, trainers, and distributors, as well as program development and psychometric experts from NCCCO. [Read More](#)

Consolidated Crane Rules Due Soon from Cal-OSHA



NCCCCO continues to work with Cal-OSHA and other industry members of the Crane Safety Orders Consolidation Advisory Committee on the consolidation of the state's Construction Safety Orders, "Cranes and Derricks In Construction" (Article 15), into the General Industry Safety Orders, "Cranes and other hoisting Equipment" (Article 13). In October, the Committee wrapped up its work, and the Consolidated Safety Orders should be ready for public comment during the second quarter of 2016. The Advisory Committee

also added language to the proposed Safety Orders to be consistent with the proposed language in Federal OSHA's 1926.1400 Subpart CC.

International Crane Experts Meet in Australia

The annual meeting of the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) committee that oversees development and revision of the international crane standard TC 96 took place in Sydney, Australia in September.

Hosted by the national standards setting body, Standards Australia, and sponsored by The Crane Industry Council of Australia (CICA), the meeting attracted delegates from many parts of the world to review progress on standards covering all types of mobile, tower and overhead cranes, as well as wire rope, design principles and test methods. As usual, the US had a strong representation with 10 delegates from crane manufacturers and consultants present. [Read More](#)



NCCCCO 'Gives Back' at ICUEE Veterans Benefit Auction



As NCCCCO's popular Lift Safety Zone took center stage as part of its 20th Anniversary Program at the International Construction and Utility Equipment Exposition (ICUEE), held September 29- October 1 in Louisville, KY, NCCCCO was also proud to participate in the ICUEE Benefit Auction. The Auction, which ultimately raised more than \$29,000, was designed to help connect military veterans with quality jobs. [Read More](#)

Practical Examiner Workshops Scheduled

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?

Tower Crane Operator

January 14-15, 2016

Refresher: January 13, 2016

Pineville, NC

Signalperson

January 15, 2016

Refresher: January 15, 2016

Woodland, WA

Rigger Level I

January 16-17, 2016

Refresher: January 16, 2016

Woodland, WA



This Month in CCO History . . . 1989

The effects of a jib of a hammerhead tower crane being jumped in the center of San Francisco's financial district at morning rush hour crashing to the ground and killing five, were still being felt weeks after the November 28, accident. Although it will be 15 years before California requires crane operators to be certified, the incident provides major impetus to an existing industry initiative that, in 1995, leads to the establishment of the National Commission for the Certification of Crane Operators (NCCCO) and the country's first professionally developed national certification program.

Did You Know?

As a courtesy, NCCCO sends out reminders to those whose certification expiration date is approaching. Notices go out to the last address of record when a certificant enters the "recertification period" 12 months before expiration, and another reminder if they haven't recertified 6 months prior to the expiration date. This is one of the reasons it is so important to complete a [change of address](#) form when certificants move. Certificants don't need to have this packet to recertify. If they have moved and didn't receive a packet, recertification information can be found on our [website](#) or by contacting Customer Service via phone at 703-560-2391 ext. 202, or email at mevans@nccco.org.

From the Seat: Blair Carlton of W.O. Grubb Talks Certification

Originally a mechanic, at 6'6" tall, Blair Carlton realized that he was better suited to be in the cab operating cranes than he was working in confined spaces.

An apprentice friend with IUOE Local 147 invited Blair to help him and his friend's father--a crane operator--on a job where they had to recover a flipped excavator with a crane. Blair was hooked: after that he knew he wanted to operate cranes, and joined the crane operator apprenticeship program at Local 147. Today he's W.O. Grubb's field operations coordinator, aka "yard supervisor", at the company's headquarters location in Richmond, Virginia, where the fleet consists of mobile, all-terrain, and rough-terrain cranes. [Read More](#)



Employer Quote of the Month



"Our operators take pride, show accountability for, and take ownership in their work. Our operators pay greater attention to detail and condition of the crane and other lift related equipment." **Clark Jones, Allied Crane, LLC**

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

The number of individuals who have successfully completed the NCCCO Accredited Practical Examiner Program in order to administer CCO practical exams

2,006

Supporter Spotlight

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



Specialized Carriers & Rigging Association

The Specialized Carriers and Rigging Association (SC&RA) is an international trade association of nearly 1,300 member companies from 43 nations. Members are involved in specialized transportation, machinery moving and erecting, industrial maintenance, millwrighting, crane and rigging

operations, manufacturing and rental. SC&RA helps members run more efficient and safer businesses by monitoring and affecting pending legislation and regulatory policies at the state and national levels; researching and reporting on safety concerns and best business practices; and providing four yearly forums where these and other relevant member issues can be advanced.

Holiday Closure

NCCCO offices will be closed for the holidays at the following times:

December 24 - Closing at 2pm
December 25 - Closed
December 31 - Closing at 2pm
January 1 - Closed

We wish our readers a safe and Happy Holiday.

Did you notice? We recently 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

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