



# NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR THE CERTIFICATION OF CRANE OPERATORS (NCCCO)



## *CCOnline*

*Certification in the News*

April 2013

*The Gold Standard of Certification for the Crane Industry<sup>SM</sup>*

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Become a Practical Examiner

OSHA Certification Meetings

Substance Abuse Policy

VCO System Launched

Dear Tara,

In this issue of *CCOnline*, you'll find ample evidence of NCCCO's commitment to representing the industry before national and international regulatory bodies. First, we provide an update about

Committed to Crane Safety  
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ANSI Appoints NCCCO to Key Role  
Crane Inspector Accredited  
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We Want to Hear From You!

### Examiner Accreditation Workshop Scheduled

Interested in becoming an NCCCO Accredited Practical Examiner? See our currently available workshops

[Overhead Crane Operator on May 7-9 in Spring Hope, NC](#)

[Mobile Crane Operator on May 22-24 in Pearland, TX](#)

### Supporter Spotlight



The National Commission for the Certification of Crane Operators gratefully recognizes the generous support of the National Precast Concrete Association without whom this program would not have been possible.

### Quick Links

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three meetings to be held by the U.S. Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) in April to solicit comments on the crane operator certification requirements in the Cranes & Derricks in Construction standard. Rest assured that NCCCO representatives will actively participate in these sessions and keep the industry informed about the discussions. Another article notes how NCCCO is tracking OSHA's November 10, 2014 deadline for construction crane operators to be formally qualified.

Additionally, two articles detail NCCCO's working relationship with the American National Standards Institute (ANSI). NCCCO has been appointed by ANSI to serve as secretariat of the ISO TC 96/SC 8 international crane standard subcommittee. Additionally, NCCCO's Crane Inspector certification has earned ANSI accreditation.

In other news NCCCO has reaffirmed its substance abuse policy, launched a brand new Verify Certification Online system, and welcomed further employers to its *Committed to Crane Safety* Employer Recognition program. These activities and others detailed in previous issues of *CCOnline* would not be possible without the vision of a dedicated NCCCO Board who, we note, will guide NCCCO over the course of the next year.

### OSHA Schedules Crane Operator Certification Meetings

The Occupational Safety and Health Administration has scheduled three informal stakeholder meetings to solicit comments on the crane operator certification requirements in the Cranes and Derricks in Construction standard. The first two meetings will be from 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. on April 2 and 3 and the final from 1:30-4:30 p.m. on April 3 in Washington, D.C.

The meetings will focus on the effectiveness of crane operator certification to ensure that crane operators can safely operate equipment, and the level of competence and safe operation that certification ensures. The agency seeks information from the public on:

- the usefulness of certifying operators for different capacities of cranes
- the risks of allowing an operator to operate all capacities of cranes within a specific type

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### NCCCO Stands Behind Substance Abuse Policy

NCCCO confirmed on March 13 that its substance abuse policy remains in full force and effect. The statement was issued in light of the recently passed initiatives in Colorado and Washington permitting the use of marijuana for so-called "recreational" purposes.

The NCCCO Substance Abuse Policy, as set forth in NCCCO's Candidate Handbooks, prohibits the use of illegal drugs, prescriptions, and any controlled substances that would impair the ability of individuals to perform their duties safely. This includes marijuana, whether used recreationally or prescribed for medical use.

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### NCCCO Launches Verify Certification Online System

NCCCO has launched an online system that allows the credentials of CCO-certified individuals to be instantly verified via the Internet. Access to the new system, known as *Verify CCO Online* or "VCO," is through the NCCCO website, [www.nccco.org](http://www.nccco.org), or via a special address, [www.verifycco.org](http://www.verifycco.org).



After registering and logging in, users simply enter a certification number and the system provides a listing of all associated certifications, together with their expiration dates. VCO can be accessed at any time from nearly every device with an Internet connection, including computers, smartphones, and tablets.

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### NCCCO Welcomes More "Committed" Employers

NCCCO's [Employer Recognition Program](#), known as *Committed to Crane Safety*, has proved quite popular among employers who have embraced CCO certification as an effective safety tool within their risk management program.

Since the program was launched last summer, the number of participants has more than doubled, said NCCCO Program Manager, Communications, Tara Whittington.

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NCCCO congratulates the following companies who have been recently recognized by the program:

- Allied Crane, LLC, Wichita, KS
- Altoona Neon & Sign Service, Altoona, PA
- Connelly Crane Rental, Redford, MI
- Fayette Erectors, Inc., Lexington, KY
- Galasso Trucking & Rigging, Inc., Maspeth, NY
- Hawkins Construction Company, Omaha, NE
- Heaton Erecting, Inc., Forest Park, GA
- Sterett Crane & Rigging, Owensboro, KY



### Industry Responds to OSHA Testing Ultimatum

Employers across the country appear to be paying heed to the approaching OSHA deadline for construction crane operators to be

formally qualified, and are signing up in record numbers for certification exams at test sites nationwide.

While the trend has been increasing for a number of years, the uptick was more pronounced in 2012 than ever before, said Manager of Program Development and Administration for NCCCO, Joel Oliva.



NCCCO now offers specific certifications for operators of articulating boom cranes (seen being used for practical exams at the recent World of Concrete conference and exhibition in Las Vegas), digger derricks and (shortly) service truck cranes.

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### **Shuttlelift Load Chart to Replace Broderson in Mid-2013**

As part of NCCCO's goal of continuously improving its certification programs, NCCCO will be adding a new load chart option for the CCO Telescopic Boom Crane-Fixed Cab (TSS) specialty exam by mid-2013. The new load chart is a Shuttlelift load chart based on a 25-ton carry deck crane load chart, although it has been modified for testing purposes. The new load chart more accurately reflects the current literature that accompanies cranes currently being manufactured and sold.

[Click Here to Download the New Load Chart](#)

[Read More](#)

### **NCCCO Elects Officers for 2013-2014**

The Board of Directors of NCCCO has announced the industry leaders who will serve the NCCCO Board during 2013-2014. Elected to the office of President for a further one-year term is Thom Sicklesteel, Sicklesteel Cranes, Mount Vernon, WA. Sicklesteel, who has been a member of the Board since 2009, has previously served as Secretary/Treasurer.

[Read More about the New NCCCO Officers](#)



## NCCCO Elected to Key National Standards Role

The American National Standards Institute (ANSI) has approved the appointment of NCCCO as its designated representative responsible for performing the secretariat functions of the ISO TC 96/SC 8 international crane standard subcommittee.

The approval followed the election by the international TC 96 committee of ANSI as the secretariat for the SC 8 subcommittee on jib cranes. The ANSI ISO Council (AIC) subsequently voted to delegate this work to NCCCO as its official representative.

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## Crane Inspector Certification Earns ANSI Accreditation

The American National Standards Institute (ANSI) Personnel Certification Accreditation Committee(PCAC) has announced that the scope of NCCCO's ANSI accreditation has been expanded to include the CCO Crane Inspector certification program. This means that the CCO Crane Inspector certification program is now accredited by ANSI to the ISO/IEC 17024 International Standard for organizations that certify personnel.

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## Computer-Based Testing Sets New Record

As the number of CCO certification written exams administered since testing began in 1996 passes the 400,000 mark, the percentage of candidates taking CCO tests via NCCCO's computer-based testing (CBT) option continues its record-setting pace. CBT test volume for 2012 was fully 40% above the previous year's record and almost eight times that recorded for 2009, the first full year that CBT testing was available nationwide.

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## Message from the PA Crane Operator Licensing Board

**ATTENTION TRAINEES!** If you are training under the immediate supervision of a licensed crane operator for the purpose of acquiring the experience necessary to obtain national certification, you must have passed the written examination of the National Commission for the Certification of Crane Operators (NCCCO) AND have applied and received a "Trainee Registration" from the Pennsylvania State Board of Crane Operators. Refer to the State Board of Crane Operators Act and Regulations regarding Trainees.

Questions about Pennsylvania State Crane Operators licensing can be directed to the state at 717-783-1404 or NCCCO at 703-560-2391 ext. 204, or [info@nccco.org](mailto:info@nccco.org).

## NCCCO Wants to Hear From You!

What would you like to see in *CCOnline*? Would you like additional info available on the NCCCO website? NCCCO is interested in your

feedback. Drop us an [email](#) with your thoughts.