

# CERTIFICATION NEWS

FROM



## NCCCO Elects Directors, Officers for 2009 *Sicklesteel Joins Board*

*Fairfax, Virginia, March 16, 2009--* The Board of Directors of the National Commission for Directors of the National Commission for the Certification of Crane Operators (NCCCO) who will serve NCCCO during 2009.

Elected to the office of **President** for a one-year term is *John Kennedy*, Manitowoc Crane Group. Prior to being elected President in 2005, Kennedy served two terms as Secretary/Treasurer.

*J. Chris Ryan*, Boh Bros. Construction, New Orleans, LA, has been elected to the position of **Secretary/Treasurer**. Ryan, who has been a member of the Board since 2003, was also elected to a new three-year term on the Board.

Elected to a one-year term as **Vice President** is *Garry M. Higdem*, CH2M Hill, Englewood, CO. Higdem has been a member of the Board since 1999 and has served as Vice President since 2002.

*Ronald Schad*, Essex Crane Rental, Buffalo Grove, IL, continues as **Immediate Past President**. Schad served the Board as President from 2002-2004.

*Kerry Hulse*, Deep South Crane & Rigging, Houston, TX, continues to serve the Board in the capacity of **Chairman, Commissioners**.

Newly elected to the Board for a three-year term is *Thom Sicklesteel*, Sicklesteel Cranes, Mount Vernon, WA. Elected for an additional three-year term is *Dale Daul*, McGough Construction, St. Paul, MN.

Other members of the Board are: *Stephen Brown*, International Union of Operating Engineers, and *Robert Steiner*, Barcelona Equipment, Clearwater, FL.

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The National Commission for the Certification of Crane Operators (NCCCO) is a non-profit industry organization formed in January 1995 to develop effective performance standards for safe crane operation to assist all segments of construction and general industry. Since NCCCO began testing in April 1996, more than 365,000 written and practical exams have been administered to over 65,000 crane operators in all 50 states. Two-thirds of the states that have requirements for crane operators, require or recognize CCO certification. CCO certification has been nationally accredited by the National Commission for Certifying Agencies (NCCA) since 1998, and both nationally and internationally (to ISO 17024) by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) since 2007. The NCCCO crane operator certification program is also formally recognized by federal OSHA as meeting OSHA and ASME (ANSI) requirements for crane operator competency. The program is unique in that it is: third-party; independent of training; developed and supported by industry; a joint labor/management initiative; psychometrically sound; validated through peer review; and administered on a standardized, secure, nationwide basis.

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