

# **National Commission for the Certification of Crane Operators**

Committed to Quality, Integrity, and Fairness in Testing since 1995

#### December 2018

#### IN THIS ISSUE

**OSHA Operator Certification is Now in Effect!** 

**Certification Forum Exceeds Expectations** 

**Auditors Attend Annual Training** 

**Audits Set Record Pace** 

**Recertification Is the Hot Ticket in 2018!** 

**Texas Leads Signalperson, Rigger Surge** 

**International Activity Continues Apace** 

**CCO Lift Director Certifications Reconized by BCSP** 

**Advanced Notice of Holiday Closure** 

**CCO By The Numbers** 

**Morrow Hosts Board of Directors Meeting** 

**NCCCO Presents at Performance Testing Council** 

NessCampbell Lift and Move USA

**45th Biannual Commissioners Meeting** 

NCCCO Florida Office to Move

Commissioner Spotlight: Chuck Wigger

**Did You Know?** 

**Employer Quote of the Month** 

<u>Lift Director Recertification Exams Available</u>

**Employer Recognition Program** 

**OSHA Operator Certification is Now in Effect** 

November 10 has come and gone and with it the deadline for crane operators working in construction to be certified. NCCCO has published three (3) <a href="Employer Guides">Employer Guides</a> to the qualification requirements in the new <a href="Final Rule">Final Rule</a>, some of which have changed since the first Rule was published in 2010 and some of which are brand new. More information and background at the OSHA Crane Rule Resource Center.



## **Employer Guides Published on New Crane Rule**



Following the publication of OSHA's Final Rule on crane operator qualifications, and the triggering, on November 10, of the requirement for crane operators to be certified nationwide, NCCCO has published three Employer Guides, one each on the training, certification, and evaluation requirements covered by the Rule. Read More and find the Guides

### **Certification Forum Exceeds Expectations**



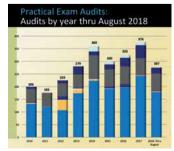
All the latest news and views on crane operator certification, program integrity and a host of related matters were the focus of NCCCO's *Third Annual Forum on Personnel Qualifications* that took place October 3 in Baltimore, MD. Read More

# **Auditors Attend Annual Training**

NCCCO Auditors from across the country descended on the certification body's Western Regional Office in Murray, Utah in October to undertake their mandatory annual training to ensure they remain current with recent changes to CCO practical exams. Read More



# **Audits Set Record Pace**



NCCCO Auditors have been conducting practical exam audits at a record pace in 2018, with 307 completed during the first three quarters of the year. The NCCCO Audit Program provides a systematic means of ensuring that CCO practical tests are delivered in a consistent and fair manner, wherever and whenever they are administered. Read More

### **Recertification is the Hot Ticket in 2018!**

NCCCO is rolling out recertification exams for its newest programs. Recertification exams for Service Truck Crane Operators were launched in April, Digger Derrick Operator was released in September, and Lift Director was launched last month. Read More

"Nearly half (45 percent) of those recertifying take advantage of the computer-based testing (CBT) option at one of the more than 400 test centers available nationwide."

# **Texas Leads Signalperson, Rigger Surge**



NCCCO Signalperson, Rigger Level I, and Rigger Level II programs are experiencing a surge in activity with year-to-date figures showing up to a doubling of examinations being administered over the same period. Through Q3, over 6,500 CCO Signalperson exams (written, practical, and recertification) and nearly 5,500 Rigger exams had been administered this year. Read More

## **International Activity Continues Apace**

NCCCO representatives continue to actively participate in the international certification and accreditation community with recent staff representation at the annual meeting of the International Accreditation Forum (IAF) in Singapore; a special presentation to the Singapore Ministry of Manpower; the annual conference of the Crane Industry Council of Australia (CICA); a workshop for Zambian government officials on regulatory decision making in Lusaka; and a keynote presentation at the 2018 International Vocational Education and Training Association (IVETA) conference hosted by the South African College Principals Organization in Cape Town, South Africa. Read More



NCCCO participated in a regulatory workshop for Zambian government officials organized by ANSI, USAID and the Standards Alliance.

### **CCO Lift Director Certifications Recognized by BCSP**



The Board of Certified Safety Professionals (BCSP) has officially recognized CCO Mobile Crane Lift Director and Tower Crane Lift Director certifications as meeting BCSP continuing education unit (CEU) requirements for Certified Safety Personnel (CSP) recertification. These two Lift Director certifications join CCO Mobile and Tower Crane Operator and Crane Inspector certifications as applicable toward CSP recertification. Like CCO certifications, CSP certification is accredited by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) and has a requirement that certificants recertify every five years.

# **Morrow Hosts Board of Directors Meeting**

The NCCCO Board of Directors met October 10 in Portland, OR courtesy of host, Morrow, headquartered in nearby Salem, OR. Among the topics under review by the Board were program recommendations from the Commission, the final pre-launch report of the Drill Rig Operator certification program, and modifications to NCCCO's Ethics and Discipline program.



## **NCCCO Presents at Performance Testing Council**



The Performance Testing Council (PTC) held its 41st Summit, November 5-6, 2018 in Austin, Texas. NCCCO Director Certification, Bob Mahlman (far right), and Wallace Judd from Authentic Testing presented "Does Virtual Reality Have a Role to Play in High-Stakes Certification?" NCCCO is currently engaged in a comprehensive study to determine whether virtual reality simulators are equally effective as actual mobile cranes in determining competency. Results of the study will be analyzed in early 2019.

# **NessCampbell Hosts Lift and Move USA**

Lift and Move USA continues to show young people the robust career opportunities available in the crane and rigging industry. Hundreds of high school juniors and seniors as well as career counselors attended the October event held at NessCampbell in Portland, Oregon.

Morrow Director of Operations, Peter Juhren, shares his career experiences in the crane and rigging industry with a group of engaged high school students at the event.



#### **Lift Director Recertification Exams Available**

Lift Director Recertification exams are now available at all paper/pencil testing administration. Candidates can find the recertification requirements and application in the **Lift Director Candidate Handbook**.

# **45th Biannual Commissioners Meeting**



The 45th biannual meeting of the Commission was held the week of October 1, 2018 in Linthicum Heights, MD, just outside Baltimore. The Commissioner meeting was preceded by meetings of the Crane Inspector, Pile Driver, Articulating Crane, Written Exam and Practical Exam Management Committees as well as the Crane Type Advisory Group (CTAG) and the Practical Exam Auditor Committee (PEAC). The

event was attended by more than 60 delegates and was graciously hosted by Gold Sponsor, TNT Crane and Rigging, as well as Silver Sponsors, Crane Inspections and Certification Bureau (CICB) and Lifting Solutions.

### **NCCCO Florida Office to Move**

The NCCCO office in Dunedin, FL is scheduled to move early in the New Year. The office, which houses most of NCCCO's largest unit, the Testing Services Department, will relocate a few miles away to Palm Harbor, FL and upgrade to some 8,000 square feet of space. The office move will be scheduled over a weekend to minimize disruption. Further details will be made available as the specific date is determined.

# **Commissioner Spotlight: Chuck Wigger**



NCCCO Alternate Commissioner Chuck Wigger has years of experience in the crane industry under his belt, most of them accumulated at non-traditional job sites. As safety director at Lamar Advertising Co., Wigger supervises billboard and sign lifting operations on the side of highways and other spaces where the general public are often close by. Read More

## **Advanced Notice of Holiday Closing**

The Holidays are just around the corner and NCCCO will be observing the following Holiday Closures:

Monday, December 24 - Offices will close at 2pm Tuesday, December 25 - Offices closed Wednesday, December 26 - Offices closed Monday, December 31 - Offices will close at 2pm Tuesday, January 1 - Offices closed

# **Employer Recognition Program**

NCCCO congratulates the following companies that have just been enrolled in

the Employer Recognition Program (ERP). All ERP member companies have demonstrated that they are committed to crane safety by employing CCO-certified personnel.

- Clear Channel Outdoor, Philadelphia, PA
- Phoenix Crane Rental, Mableton, GA
- Stafford Tower Crane of America, Phoenix, AZ

You can see the entire <u>directory of employers</u>, or find out how to <u>apply</u> <u>for recognition</u> for your company.



#### **Did You Know?**



NCCCO has a way to verify both certification credentials as well as practical examiner credentials online! The Verify CCO Online (VCO) system allows employers to confirm the current status of an individual's certification. NCCCO encourages all employers to utilize the free verification system on an ongoing basis, even when a certification card has been presented. All you need is a certification number. Individuals and employers seeking the services of an Accredited Practical Examiner (PE) can also verify that the PE is in good standing and accredited to

administer the practical exams in the area they need administered. The PE should be able to provide their Accreditation number; you will use that and their last name to verify credentials. It's easy, free, and a perfect way to ensure your NCCCO certified personnel and practical examiner credentials are current.

### **Employer Quote of the Month**

"We use NCCCO certification as a stepping stone to being a crane operator. The certification adds to our current training program and provides a baseline of knowledge and skill." Mike Knott, Phoenix Crane Rental



### **CCO By The Numbers**



Total number of exams administered in October 2018. Likely prompted by the November 10 effective date for crane operator certification, NCCCO is experiencing a steady surge in candidate applications.

### A Month that MADE History

Although we typically talk about things that happened this month *in history*, November marked such a historic event it couldn't go overlooked. For the Rule regarding Crane Operator Certification took effect on November 10. This rule was 25 years in the making and is based in large part on the hard work of the Cranes and Derricks Advisory Committee (C-DAC) assembled by OSHA in 2003. C-DAC met over the course of a year to completely revise the previous 30-year old standard. The Rule was initially published in 2010 and every section, with the exception of crane operator certification, has been in effect since then. The crane operator requirements were delayed twice before taking effect last month. That's not the end though. OSHA published a second Final Rule that fixes some of the issues with the first and added some new requirements such as employer evaluation. Read more at the OSHA Rule Resource Center.

#### **NCCCO** in the News

We're not the only ones who love talking about CCO Certification! Industry media outlets are abuzz with news and commentary about the nation's first and leading certification program for crane operators and related crafts. Take a look at what the press is saying:

<u>US certification on the way?</u> - NCCCO CEO, Graham Brent, talks about the OSHA Rule on crane operator certification and how the industry didn't stall on certification with the rule, *Cranes Today, September 18, 2018* 

<u>Building A New Future for Range Communities</u> - IUOE Local 49 describes how their 13,000 members help build communities, *Mesabi Daily News, October 31, 2018* 

<u>DICA to provide products for IUOE Training Center</u> - Brand new training site obtains material to administer NCCCO practical exams in Texas, *American Cranes and Transport*, *October 25, 2018* 

<u>Crane & Rigging Workshop unites industry members</u> - Highlights from the SC&RA Crane and Rigging Workshop, *American Cranes and Transport, November 1, 2018* 

## **Supporter Spotlight**



TNT Crane & Rigging offers an array of specialized lifting services to provide comprehensive and unique solutions to complex problems. We specialize in combining skilled personnel with an extensive fleet of specialized equipment to deliver customized solutions to satisfy your specific lifting requirements. Our services include operated and maintained cranes, heavy rigging, specialized lifting as well as transportation and are available 24 hours a day/7 days a week.

Did you enjoy reading this issue of CCOnline? We'd appreciate you <u>telling us what you think</u> and letting us have your suggestions for further improvements.

Sincerely,

Tara Whittington NCCCO

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