Dear Paul,

It may feel like ancient history but it's just three months since CONEXPO wrapped up, and the reports are still coming in. It was a remarkable event — as you know if you were there. And if not, our review in this issue of NCCCO's presence — as well as the education sessions we sponsored — should hold even greater interest . . .

There's still no federal requirement for certification and, if things go as planned, there may not be for a while. We summarize industry's response to OSHA's proposal to delay the effective date of this rule . . . Incidentally, next time you take a CCO written test you'll come away with a personal calculator courtesy of Sicklesteel Cranes, Mt. Vernon, WA, which has donated 20,000 of them for use by CCO candidates. Elsewhere in this issue . . . news of the spring NCCCO Commissioners meeting, a significant improvement to the CCO practical scoring system, and the release of a handy power line safety aid. . . . We also welcome more "committed" employers to the NCCCO Recognition Program . . . Don't forget: your thoughts and ideas are always welcome. Stay safe.

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**Industry Agrees with Proposed OSHA Rule**

**Final Rule to Postpone Operator Certification Expected Soon**

The industry sent OSHA a clear and unequivocal two-part message in April: Postpone the crane operator certification requirements, and change the crane rule to reflect industry's intent on the role that certification should play in an employer's qualification process.

The response to OSHA's request for comments on its proposal to extend the deadline for operator certification was overwhelmingly positive, and a further validation of prevailing industry opinion that
Thank you to the following companies who provided sponsorship at CONEXPO!

OSHA’s understanding of C-DAC’s original intent with respect to crane operator certification is flawed. Read More

36th Biannual Commission Meeting

The National Commission for the Certification of Crane Operators gathered in Dallas/Ft. Worth, TX, for its 36th biannual meeting, on April 14-17, 2014. Three days of committee meetings concluded on Thursday with the full Commission Meeting, sponsored by NationsBuilders Insurance Services (NBIS) and attended by nearly 70 Commissioners, Alternate Commissioners, and guests.

Several long-time Commissioners announced their retirement from the Commission including Walter Brumley, Skip Ohman, and Charles Sager. New Commissioners include Daniel Bishop, The Crosby Group (Tulsa, OK); Paul Mosley, Shell Oil (Deer Park, TX); and Gabe Strybos III, ExxonMobil (Baytown, TX). Read More

New Power Line Safety Card Available

NCCCO is making available Power Line Safety cards to help operators understand and apply federal OSHA’s new guidelines for operating cranes around power lines. The cards, issued in conjunction with the Florida Crane Safety Alliance, also provide references for best practices based on both consensus standard ANSI B30.5-2007 and OSHA 29 CFR 1926 Subpart CC. Read More and Order

CONEXPO - Quite a Show!

By any standard, CONEXPO —the five-day construction equipment exposition and conference that descends on Las Vegas every three years, and which wrapped up its 2014 appearance on March 8 — was a resounding success. Not only did the number of visitors significantly exceed the organizer (AEM)’s expectations, but most exhibitors confessed to a deep sense of satisfaction at the seriousness with which many of them discussed potential new business. Read More

CONEXPO Presentations a Huge Success

If you were there you knew. But the stats are now in and, yes, the
crane and rigging seminars held at CONEXPO were a huge success! Seven out of the eight crane seminars sponsored by NCCCO scored significantly higher than the average rating, and five of them placed in the top one-fourth of top-rated sessions. Coming in (almost tied) at the number 10 and 11 slots, respectively, were Hank Dutton (Travelers) with So You Think You’re A lift Director which scored 4.78 (with 5.0 as "excellent") and Joe Collins’ (Becht Engineering) Mechanics of a Super Lift just behind with 4.77. Congratulations and many thanks to all! And if you wished you were there but weren’t . . . Many of the sessions were recorded. Audio recordings can be purchased from AEM, the organizer of CONEXPO.

Congratulations to the CONEXPO Raffle Winners

Congratulations to Lisa Tetreault of Las Vegas, NV for holding the winning ticket for a Liebherr Tower Crane Model #160 HC-L 8/16 generously donated by Morrow, and a Grove Carry Deck Crane Model YB5515 kindly donated by Grove. And congratulations to Carl Simonye of Lamberville, NJ for selecting all correct answers in the Power Line Safety Quiz and being randomly chosen to win a Power Line Safety Pack consisting of an ARC Rated Lineman’s coat, a Power Line Safety video (generously donated by SC&RA), and a pack of 10 Power Line Safety Cards.

Power Line Safety Quiz Answers

The Lift Safety Zone at the 2014 CONEXPO focused largely on power line safety, and NCCCO held multiple demonstrations daily to illustrate key points covered in OSHA’s new crane rule. Observers were invited to complete a quiz about what was covered during the demonstration and enter a drawing. Take the quiz yourself and find the answers online.

Quicker Practical Exam Score Reporting Available

A new system for submitting CCO practical exam score sheets electronically that expedites the scoring and certification process has been introduced by NCCCO. Dubbed “eSubmit,” and introduced as part of NCCCO’s policy of continuing program improvement, the new system establishes a process that allows Practical Examiners to scan and email Practical Exam score sheets to NCCCO rather than shipping them using a traceable carrier. Read More
Sicklesteel Cranes Donates Calculators

In support of the National Commission for the Certification of Crane Operators' policy of providing calculators for certain CCO written exams, Sicklesteel Cranes (Mt. Vernon, WA) has donated 20,000 calculators for candidates' use.

“Sicklesteel Cranes is delighted to show its support of CCO certification programs and the safety benefits certification brings,” said Thom Sicklesteel, president of Sicklesteel Cranes.

What does it Mean to be CCO-Certified?

A certified crane operator is not necessarily CCO-certified. Only NCCCO can provide the widely adopted and recognized CCO certification. While there are other companies that seek to certify crane operators, only one organization — the National Commission for the Certification of Crane Operators (NCCCO) — provides CCO certification. For nearly twenty years, successful completion of the CCO certification requirements has informed the world that a crane operator is certified to the high standards of NCCCO. Both NCCCO and CCO are federally registered trademarks owned by NCCCO and used in connection with education testing and certification.

STATE WATCH

CT Postpones Additional Licensure Requirements

On May 16, 2014 Connecticut Governor Dannel Malloy signed into law a bill postponing parts of an expansion of the state's licensure requirement. The state's delay coincides with federal OSHA's own proposed extension of the operator certification deadline still in the rulemaking process.
NCCCO Recognizes new “Committed” Employers

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.

- Affordable Crane Care, Inc., Concord, NC
- All County Crane & Rigging, Calverton, NY
- American Crane Rental, Inc., Escalon, CA
- Bracken Construction Company, Inc., Jackson, MI
- Brownsville Public Utilities Board, Brownsville, TX
- CC Myers Inc., Elk Grove, CA
- GE Johnson Construction, Colorado Springs, CO
- Jerke and Sons Construction Co., Sioux Falls, SD
- NAC Steel Structures, Inc., Staten Island, NY

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

15th Annual CCO Fun Run

For the fifteenth year in a row, Buckner HeavyLift Cranes (Graham, NC) sponsored the annual CCO Fun Run at the Specialized Carriers & Rigging Association (SC&RA) Annual Conference on April 23, 2014, in Boca Raton, Florida. This year’s run/walk, entitled the “Boca Bolt,” sent more than 50 participants on early morning 5K circuits around the beautiful seaside Boca Raton Resort and again raised substantial funds to support NCCCO programs and initiatives.

Did You Know...

CCO Certification can be Verified Online?

Using the free Verify CCO Online (VCO) system you can instantly confirm the credentials of CCO-certified personnel using nearly any device with an Internet connection (i.e., computers, smartphones, tablets). The VCO is designed to assist employers who may only have access to a copy of a certification card rather than the card itself, and it also aids in maintaining documentation of employee certification(s).

Informational Bulletins Sent
NCCCO sent important updates to all Practical Examiners and Test Site Coordinators at the end of April. As part of its policy of continuous improvement, NCCCO makes periodic changes to the way its accredited certification programs are administered. These changes are developed after exhaustive discussion in NCCCO committees and final review by NCCCO’s Board of Directors. Changes affecting how exams are delivered are then distributed in the form of an Informational Bulletin. If you have any questions about the bulletins please email us.

NCCCO Wants to Hear From You!

What would you like to see in CCOntline? Would you like additional info available on the NCCCO website? NCCCO is interested in your feedback. Drop us an email with your thoughts.