FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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NCCCO Elects 2003 Directors, Officers

Fairfax, Virginia, January 27, 2003--The Board of Directors of the National Commission for the Certification of Crane Operators (NCCCO) has announced the Directors and Officers who will serve NCCCO during 2003.

Elected to fill second terms in their respective offices are President, Ronald Schad, Essex Crane Rental Corporation, Buffalo Grove, IL., and Vice President, Garry M. Higdem, Granite Construction Co., Watsonville, CA.

Newly elected to the position of Secretary/Treasurer is John Kennedy, Manitowoc Crane Group. Kennedy replaces Leon "Skip" Johnson, AMECO, Canyon Lake, TX, who is stepping down from the Board after eight years' service.

Newly elected to three-year terms on the Board of Directors are J. Chris Ryan, Boh Bros. Construction, Baton Rouge, LA; and Dale Daul, The St. Paul Companies, St. Paul, MN. Daul has just completed the remaining one-year of the three-year term of Davis J. Lauve who became Immediate Past President last year and continues to hold that position. Both Ryan and Daul previously served NCCCO as Commissioners.

Continuing their first three-year terms on the Board of Directors are Stephen Brown, Training Director, International Union of Operating Engineers, Washington, DC; and Robert Steiner, Vice President, Kelley Equipment Company of Florida, Clearwater, FL.

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

The National Commission for the Certification of Crane Operators (NCCCO) was formed in January 1995 to develop effective performance standards for safe crane operation to assist all segments of general industry and construction. Since NCCCO began testing in April 1996, almost 20,000 crane operators have been tested through over 1,000 separate test administrations conducted in 48 states.

The NCCCO crane operator certification program is the only program to be 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.