



## National Commission for the Certification of Crane Operators

*Committed to Quality, Integrity and Fairness in Testing Since 1995*

May 2016

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### CCO Recertificants Step Up in Record Numbers



OSHA may still be deliberating as to exactly what the final crane operator certification requirement will look like, and when it will take effect, but that isn't deterring operators taking steps to ensure they retain the certifications they have already earned.

NCCCO continues to experience a rate of recertification far in excess of expectations. The number of CCO-certified Mobile Crane operators taking recertification exams in 2015 exceeded the previous year's record by 13%, said Director of Operations and Program Development, Joel Oliva. [Read More](#)

### Auditing Program Remains Central to NCCCO Test Integrity

NCCCO reports that it conducted some 300 audits of its practical exam sites and practical examiners last year, underlining the critical role they continue to play in NCCCO's test integrity program.

While some deviations from established procedure were noted--and appropriate action taken--the vast majority of audits confirmed the standardization of CCO tests necessary for them to be deemed valid and reliable according to ANSI accreditors. [Read More](#)

### 2015 Audits by NCCCO Program



### Two More Lift & Move Career Events



Building on the momentum generated by successful Lift & Move USA career events in Chicago last summer, and Houston this past February, employers continue to express interest in hosting additional events.

Bucker Companies just finished hosting a one-day event at its offices in Graham, NC, while the L&M team moves to the west coast for a fall gathering hosted by Bragg Crane in Long Beach, CA, on November 2.

[Read More](#)

### United Association Members Recertify

Five years after the United Association of Journeymen and Apprentices of the Plumbing and Pipe Fitting Industry adopted the CCO Signalperson certification as the recommended standard for all its members involved with cranes and lifting operations, the first group of certificants is stepping up to be recertified for a further five years. Through April, more than 5,500 UA members had completed all of the CCO Signalperson certification requirements and become CCO-certified. While adoption of the program is nationwide, the top five states with the most CCO-certified UA members are (in order) Ohio, Michigan, Wisconsin, California, and Illinois. [Read More](#)



### NCCCO Commission Travels to California for 40th Biannual Meeting

More than 60 NCCCO Commissioners, committee members, and guests gathered in Sacramento, CA in April for the Commission's 40th Biannual Meeting.

The nearly week-long event concluded with the full Commission meeting, which featured updates to the rulemaking process for several pending OSHA regulations (including crane operator qualification and technical amendments, and communication tower safety), reports on recent activities by the NCCCO Exam Management Committees, and a report of recent actions taken by the NCCCO Board of Directors.

[Read More](#)



Ellis Vliet, Commission Chairman (extreme right) and Graham Brent, NCCCO CEO (extreme left), present a certification of appreciation for hosting the Commissioners 40th biannual meeting to Dan Reding, President of IUOE Local 3 (center right), and Jim Jacobs, IUOE Local 3 Crane Specialist (center left).

## IUOE's Treml Joins Commission, Others Reappointed



Chris Treml, Director of Training at the International Union of Operating Engineers (Washington, DC), has been appointed to the NCCCO Commission. He will serve as Alternate Commissioner to Bill LaFlamme (IUOE Local 4).

Although he now works out of the IUOE international headquarters in Washington, DC, Treml has been an active member of IUOE Local 57 since 1988, where he served as training director for nine years.

## Certification Provides Career Pathway at Lift & Move

The role that certification can play in charting a career path in the crane, rigging, and specialized transport industries was a major theme of the second Lift & Move USA careers event, held in February at the Houston, TX headquarters of TNT Crane & Rigging. More than 650 high school and college students and military veterans learned how vocational training and certification can provide a viable career path as an alternative to four-year collegiate degrees. [Read More](#)



## Lift Director Certification Exams Now Available Via Computer

NCCCO's Lift Director certification exams have just been made available via computer-based testing (CBT). The tests are identical in content to the paper-and-pencil versions which were introduced last year. They include all the lift plan drawings that are used in the Specialty Exams to test lift directors' abilities to identify hazards and resolve issues related to the lift. Some 300 CBT locations nationwide are available for candidates eager to earn the CCO Certified Lift Director credential. [Learn more about Lift Director Certification.](#) [Register Here for CBT exams.](#)

## Morrow Hosts Board of Directors Meeting



Morrow Equipment Co., Salem, OR, hosted the winter meeting of the NCCCO Board of Directors as well as the meeting of the NCCCO Executive Committee that proceeded it. The venue was Morrow's state-of-the-art 10,000 sq. ft. Training Center at its international headquarters in Salem. Shown receiving a Certificate of Appreciation from NCCCO President, Thom Sicklesteel and NCCCO CEO, Graham Brent (extreme left and right, respectively) is Morrow Chairman, John Morrow (center left) and Morrow Director of Operations,

Peter Juhren.

*Note:* NCCCO was saddened to learn of the death, shortly after this meeting, of Rick Morrow who co-founded Morrow Crane Co. with his brother John in 1968. We offer our sincere condolences to his family.

### Commissioner Spotlight: Brian Haight

Brian Haight, Cranes Technical Specialist/Crane Certification Program Supervisor at the Washington State Department of Labor and Industries (L&I), Division of Occupational Safety and Health (DOSH), has been an NCCCO Commissioner since 2014. Currently serving the Commission as a Government representative, Brian brings a unique regulatory perspective to the Commission so he understands how CCO certifications and potential new programs work within the government's regulations. [Read More](#)



### Sam Rogers Joins NCCCO as Technical Coordinator



NCCCO is delighted to announce the appointment of Sam Rogers as NCCCO Technical Coordinator/Manager, Texas Affairs. In this new staff position, Sam will apply his 35+ years of crane and rigging industry experience to a wide range of issues from NCCCO's practical examiner and auditor programs, to the CCO item bank and exam content, and ethics and discipline process. No stranger to NCCCO, Sam has served as Alternate Commissioner on the NCCCO Commission, as well as on various exam management committees, and is an NCCCO-accredited Practical Examiner and Auditor. Sam is based in NCCCO's Texas Regional Office in San Antonio, Texas, and serves as the primary point of contact for all CCO certification matters in the state.

### Practical Examiner Workshops Scheduled

Are you interested in being able to administer CCO practical exams? Why not apply to become a Practical Examiner by attending an upcoming Practical Examiner Accreditation Workshop?



### Operator Refresher and Mobile Operator

June 9 - 12, 2016  
Woodland, WA

### Operator Refresher and Mobile Operator

June 27 - 30, 2016  
Birmingham, AL

### Operator Refresher and Tower Operator

July 11 - 13, 2016  
Salem, OR

### Signalperson

July 14, 2016  
Salem, OR

### Rigger Level I Refresher

July 15, 2016  
Salem, OR

### Rigger Level I

July 15-16, 2016  
Salem, OR

## Employer Recognition Program Company: Deep South Crane & Rigging

Deep South Crane & Rigging, headquartered in Baton Rouge, LA, employs over 130 crane operators who are CCO-certified as a requirement for employment, as well as more than 30 CCO-certified riggers.

As a result of its commitment to CCO certification, and its membership in NCCCO's Employer Recognition Program, Deep South has been able to take advantage of numerous opportunities to work at facilities that require CCO-certified operators.

"CCO certification has created a standard by which we can measure our operators' knowledge and skill," said Deep South's Houston Operations Manager Kerry Hulse. "We've also found CCO certification to be a highly valuable risk-management tool and that, by employing CCO-certified operators, we have a level of confidence about a new operator's knowledge and skill." [Read More](#)



## Annual Renewal for the NCCCO Employer Recognition Program

It's time for all employers enrolled in NCCCO's *Committed to Crane Safety* Employer Recognition Program to renew for another year. As with initial enrollment, there is no fee for renewal.

Companies that participate in the program, and achieve recognition, enhance their standing in the industry and are nationally recognized for their commitment on the NCCCO website, the *CCOnline* newsletter, and in other industry media. NCCCO strongly encourages all eligible employers to apply for recognition.

All companies currently enrolled in the *Committed to Crane Safety* program should update their information [here](#).

Companies that employ CCO-certified operators, riggers, and/or signalpersons wishing to be considered for inclusion, should apply [here](#).



## Training Providers to Complete Annual Listing Renewal

All Training Providers currently listed on the NCCCO website are reminded that it's time to renew and update their listing. All providers must resubmit the [Application for Listing as a Training Provider](#) and required documentation in order to continue being listed in 2016. A Certificate of Recognition for 2016 will be mailed to all renewing companies. Not yet applied to be listed on the NCCCO Training Providers website? [Apply here](#).



## This Month in CCO History . . . 1996

In the second quarter of 1996, after almost 10 years of industry study and development, the first CCO Certification examinations became available. Over the course of that first year, more than 800 operators become certified; of those, over 300 maintain their credential to present day.

## Did You Know?

Although we are still awaiting the final Federal Rule on crane operator certification to be revised and published, there are [17 states and 6 cities](#) that already have requirements in place ranging from simply being certified to being certified and licensed through the state. Most of these jurisdictions require or recognize CCO Certification. If you have questions about these requirements email [Matt Shaw](#), Program Coordinator, Regulatory Affairs. We are happy to help you navigate the requirements.

## From the Seat:

"This certification process has enabled me to broaden my crane knowledge through study. By having the written and operational knowledge it has broadened my confidence level." **Tim Jones, Two-Star Recertificant**

## Employer Quote of the Month



"Since utilizing CCO Certified operators, riggers, and signalpersons, B&G Crane has been able to significantly reduce incidents and injuries related to crane operations." **Dudley Williams, B&G Crane Service, LLC**

## CCO By the Numbers

Number of written CCO certification exams administered since testing began in April 1996

**1,000,000**

## NCCCO In The News

It's not just us that talks about CCO Certification! The industry press is abuzz with news and commentary about the nation's first and leading certification program for crane operators and related crafts. Here's a recent sampling.

**Candid in the Cab** -- Four CCO Certified Operators "open up", *Crane Hot Line, April 2016, p.30.*

**Operator Training and Certification** -- International concerns over skilled labor recruitment and retention, *International Cranes and Specialized Transport, April 2016.*

**Has the Mission Been Achieved?** -- 20 Years of Certification: What have we learned so far?, *ACT, April 2016.*

**The Tip of the Licensing Iceberg** -- Certification pushing on throughout delayed rule, *Crane hotline, May 2016, p.23.*

## NCCCO Staff Contact Updates

NCCCO staff members who work in the Testing Services Department (formerly International Assessment Institute (IAI)) have new email addresses. Although emails sent to the old email addresses will be forwarded, we encourage you to update staff members contact information as appropriate. You can find a complete list of new email

addresses in the [Contact Us](#) section of the NCCCO website. All phone, fax, and mailing addresses remain unchanged.

## Supporter Spotlight

The National Commission for the Certification of Crane Operators gratefully recognizes the generous support of its industry sponsors.



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Are you working on a cool project? Do you have neat, high quality photos of people in and around cranes? Working a large job where CCO Certification is required? [Let us know!](#) We'd love to write an article about your project or use your photos and if we do we'll send a token of our appreciation.

Sincerely,

Tara Whittington  
NCCCO

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