

CONSTRUCTION RISK MITIGATION THROUGH CONFORMITY ASSESSMENT

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National Commission for the Certification of Crane Operators (NCCCO)

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Key Concepts



- Construction is inherently "risky"
- Property and people are the ones at risk
- Inadequate risk mitigation = accidents and incidents
- NCCCO born out of a grass-roots initiative
- Conformity assessment was (is) core element of initiative: certification and accreditation

Construction in the '80s



- Personnel certification an "alien" concept
- No history of third-party evaluation
- ANSI (B30) & OSHA standards light on detail
- No federal requirement; 5 states had rules
- No pathway to compliance
- Lip service to personnel competency assessment widespread

ANSI Accreditation to ISO 17024





ISO/IEC 17024
Personnel Certification Body
#0756

Mobile, Tower, Overhead,
Articulating, and Service Truck
Crane Operator, Digger Derrick
Operator, Signalperson,
Rigger Level I and Level II,
Crane Inspector, and Lift Director
Programs Accredited

Where's the Value?



- Established credibility
 - Market
 - Employer adoption
 - Project owners requirement
 - Insurance industry approval
 - Industry membership associations endorsements
 - Federal/State/Local Jurisdictions
 - OSHA recognition
 - State adoption
- Redefined "Certification" for the Industry
- Distinguished it from Training

Industry Recognition

























Specialized
Carriers
& Rigging
Association





Where's the Value?



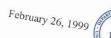
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U.S. Department of Labor

Assistant Secretary for Occupational Safety and Health Washington, D.C. 20210



VOLUNTARY AGREEMENT

BETWEEN THE

OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH ADMINISTRATION

NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR THE CERTIFICATION OF CRANE OPERATORS

This Statement of Agreement describes a voluntary cooperative action between representatives of the crane industry and OSHA to recognize crane operator certification issued by the National Commission for the Certification of Crane Operators, NCCCO. The NCCCO has been accredited by the National Commission for Certifying Agencies (NCCA). NCCCO certification is based on criteria that will contribute to our mutual goal of reducing the number of deaths and injuries resulting from crane related accidents. The ability of crane operators to safely operate mobile cranes plays a major role in overall safety on most construction sites. An accredited certification program that attests to the qualifications and experience of crane operators will provide employers and OSHA with a valuable tool in determining if crane operators are "qualified" to perform their tasks. The execution of this agreement with the NCCCO should have an immediate, significant and beneficial impact on safe crane operations.

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this agreement is to provide a non-regulatory means of recognizing a program that validates the competency and certifies the qualifications of crane operators. NCCCO has developed a validated certification program which meets the requirements of ANSI/ASME B30.5 (American National Standards Institute/ American Society of Mechanical Engineers) as referenced by 29 CFR 1926. 550 (a)(1) and (b)(2).

Establishment of a crane operator certification program through the joint efforts of the lifting industry and labor is an important step forward in promoting the common goal of safe crane operations. As this certification program becomes more widely used, education and training will become primary factors in developing and maintaining qualified crane operators in the construction industry. Certification will become the natural progression in crane operators' careers as they gain more education, training and experience working with the multitude of equipment in use today and the increasingly more advanced cranes of the future.

OSHA Recognizes Accredited Personnel Certification



"An accredited certification program that attests to the qualifications and experience of crane operators will provide employers and OSHA with a valuable tool in determining if crane operators are "qualified" to perform their tasks."

"The benefit to the employer is that the presence of NCCCO certified crane operators on a job site will be an indicator to [OSHA] compliance officers that the crane(s) is being operated by someone with demonstrated knowledge and ability."

"The execution of this agreement with NCCCO should have an immediate, significant and beneficial impact on safe crane operations."

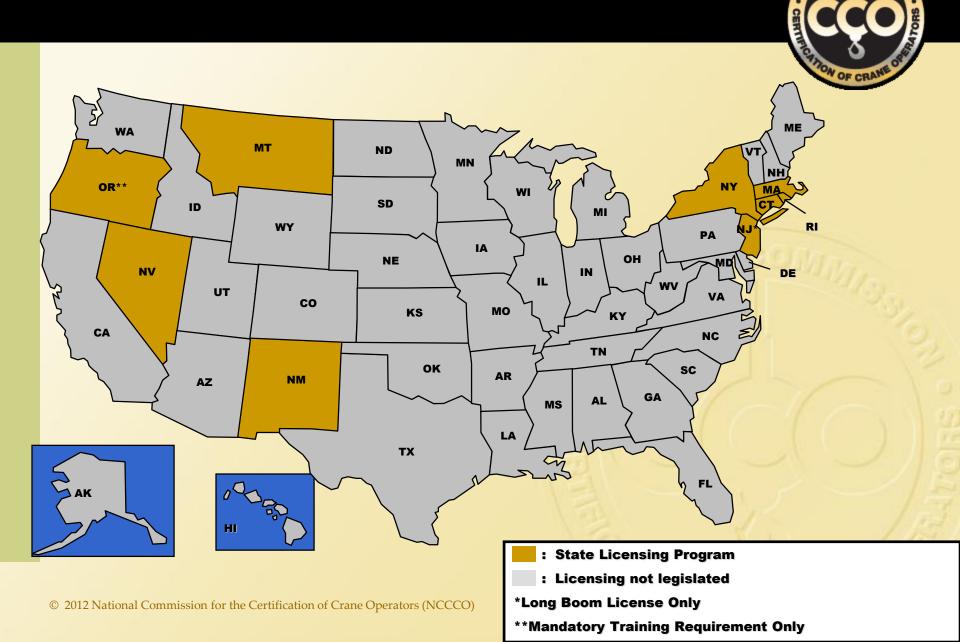
Voluntary Agreement between OSHA and NCCCO signed February 26, 1999

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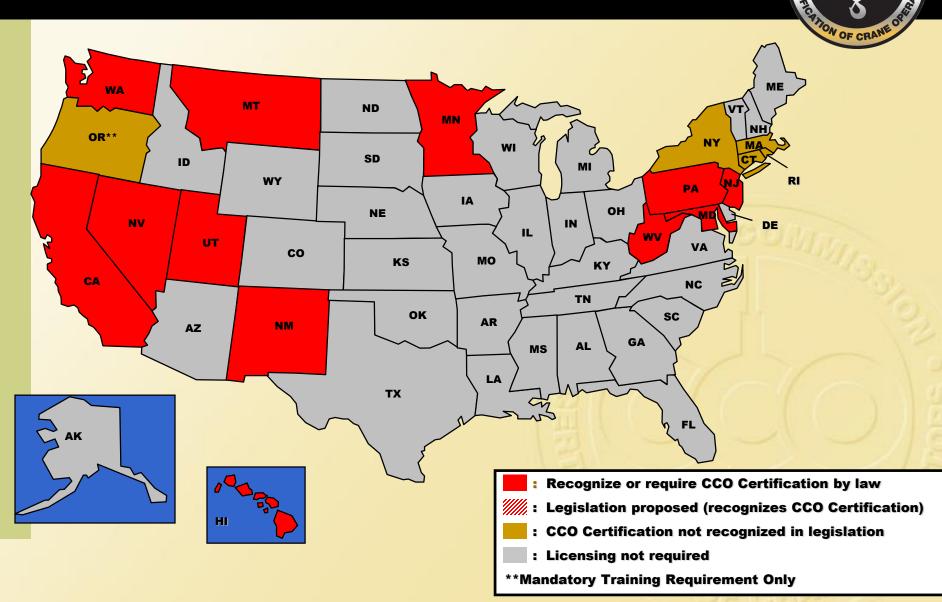


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U.S. Licensing Requirements 1995



U.S. Licensing Requirements 2017



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The Ultimate Test: Does it Work?



How to determine?

- Program Growth
- Follow the Data
- State Reports
- Insurance Position
- Survey Employers
- Poll Certificants

By the Numbers



- 150,000 individuals certified since inception
- 90,000 currently certified
- More than 350,000 certifications issued
- 1,000,000 written + practical tests administered
- 120+ training firms nationwide (unaffiliated)

The Ultimate Test: Does it Work?



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The Canadian Experience



Ontario Crane-Related Deaths

no. /year /100k workers

1969-1978 85 8.5 3.95

1979-2002 51 2.1 0.76

Death Rate down 80%



 Crane and rigging accidents as % of all construction accidents down 50%



The California Experience



CRANE ACCIDENTS, June '02-'05 vs. June '05-'08

FATAL ACCIDENTS		'02-'05	' 05-'08	
•	High-Voltage line contacts	5	1	
•	Struck by Loads	4	0	
•	Mobile Cranes Overturned	1	1	
•	Total Cases	10	2	80% decrease

NON-FATAL ACCIDENTS		'02- ' 05	6 '05-'08	
•	High Voltage Line Contact	7	4	
•	Struck by Loads	18	3	
•	Mobile Cranes Overturned	5	6	
•	Total Cases	30	13	57% decrease

The Ultimate Test: Does it Work?



How to determine?

- Program Growth
- Case Studies
- State Reports
- Insurance Position
- Survey Employers
- Poll Certificants

Insurance Industry









The Ultimate Test: Does it Work?



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Case Studies



- Large General Contractor (north-west):
 - Crane operators CCO-certified: 350
 - "To have qualified operators in the seat before making a lift reduces our risk tremendously. CCO certification has helped us reduce our crane incidents by 31% in one year."
- Large General Contractor (south):
 - Crane operators CCO-certified: 206
 - "By requiring CCO certification for all operators, we decreased our crane incident cost by 80% in the first year of implementation."

Case Studies



- Large crane rental company (north-east):
 - Crane operators CCO-certified: 365
 - "Having nearly 100% of our operators CCO certified has given our customers a high level of confidence in our employees' abilities to get the job done and get it done safely."
- Large general contractor (Gulf states):
 - Crane operators CCO-certified: 125
 - "By saving money on costly crane accidents, we have been able to spend money on the purchase of new equipment."

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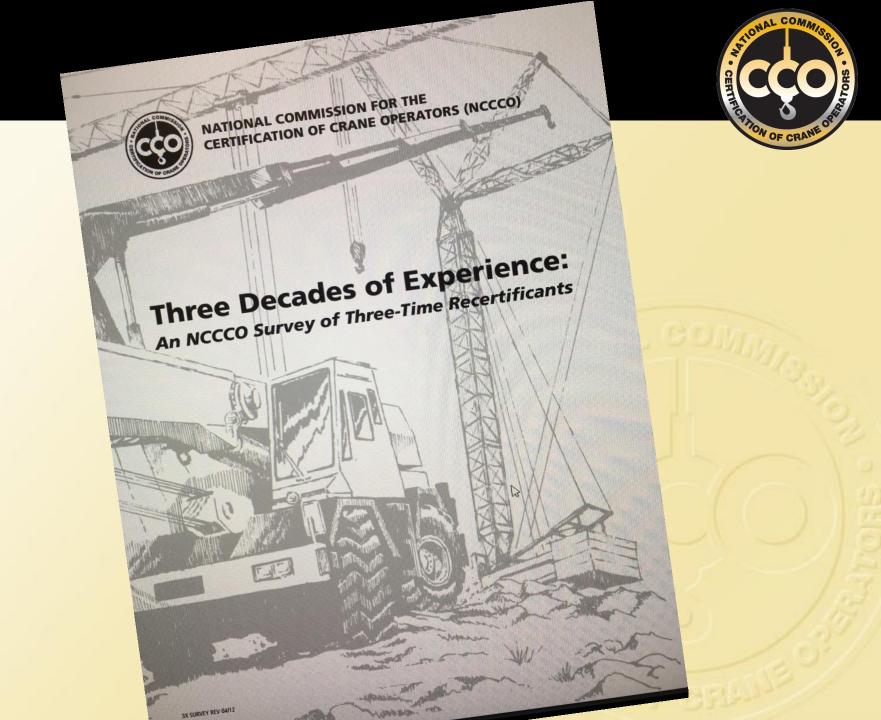
"CCO has helped me do my job"



"By staying certified it helps to keep me aware of the industry standards and regulations."

"The ability to quickly decipher **load charts** for any type of crane."

"Anybody can hop on a crane and start operating but to **do it safe** and know the fundamentals means going to school and learning the do's and don'ts of operating."



Survey Three-Time Recertificants



Certification has ...

made me a	"safer operator"	87%
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-- helped me "do my job better" 86%

-- made me "more professional" 89%



"CCO has made me a safer operator"



"It has made me more professional even though I have been operating cranes for 42 years."

"I'm more aware of power lines, outrigger pad setup, cribbing; just basically more aware of the hidden dangers."

"I feel that my ability to read and understand load charts has improved, and I've learned the importance of crane safety."

"I can foresee—and stop—likely safety problems before someone is hurt."







Other Observations



- Limitations of Conformity Assessment
 - "Tool in the Toolbox" not Panacea

- Collateral benefits
 - Engaging future workforce

Engaging the Next Generation





Filling the Skills Gap

