



National Commission for the Certification of Crane Operators
Committed to Quality, Integrity, and Fairness in Testing since 1995



June/July 2019

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In Memoriam: Commissioner Kenny Shinn

It is with the greatness sadness that we report the passing of serving NCCCO Commissioner, Kenneth J. Shinn, Jr. Kenny has been associated with NCCCO from the very earliest days and took a leadership role from the outset. Over the past two decades, he notched up a remarkable list of achievements including membership of no less than nine (9) NCCCO Exam Management Committees and Task Forces (remarkably, chairing three of them), as well as, more recently, NCCCO's Crane Type Advisory Group (CTAG), and the NCCCO Practical Exam Audit Committee (PEAC) which he also chaired. [Read more](#)



Crane Safety is His Passion: An Interview with Incoming NCCCO CEO, Thom Sicklesteel



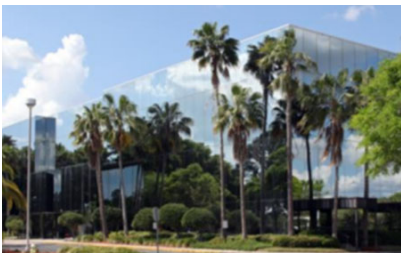
Thom Sicklesteel is a dyed-in-the wool crane guy. Profoundly and deeply ingrained in the industry, he is the ideal person to lead the National Commission for the Certification of Crane Operators (NCCCO) into the future. He will take the reins as chief executive officer on July 1, 2019. Sicklesteel's involvement in crane operations and crane safety goes back a long way. After earning a college degree in business management and accounting, he joined the family company. [Read More](#)

Make Plans Now to Attend CONEXPO 2020

If you thought it was too soon to start planning for CONEXPO 2020 - think again! The once-every-three-years international exhibition and seminar, North America's largest, is only 10 months away and that's close enough to start checking your calendars to carve out some quality time to make plans to attend the event, to be held in the second week of March next year. Registration for CONEXPO will open soon, but don't register without the exclusive NCCCO discount code that will be published in the August issue of *CCOnline*. [Read More](#)



NCCCO Florida Office Move



NCCCO's Florida Regional Office has moved to new, expanded offices in Palm Harbor. The new address, 34125 U.S. Highway 19 N, Suite 150, Palm Harbor, FL 34684 should be used for all standard USPS mail as well as all courier packages (UPS, FedEx). All telephone and fax numbers, as well as email addresses, remain the same. Please contact info@nccco.org or call 703-560-2391 with any questions.

Recruiting the Next Generation of Operators

More than 3,800 high school and middle school students from more than 90 schools across Michigan attended a remarkable demonstration of construction equipment, May 1-2, that showcased the extraordinary opportunities that crane and rigging, as well as related trades, can offer. The two-day *Michigan Construction Career Days*, held annually in the spring at IUOE Local 324's Howell, MI training center, featured education, hands-on activities, computer simulations, equipment demonstrations, and informational booths about careers in the skilled trades. [Read More](#)



Visit NCCCOs Lift Safety Zone at ICUEE!



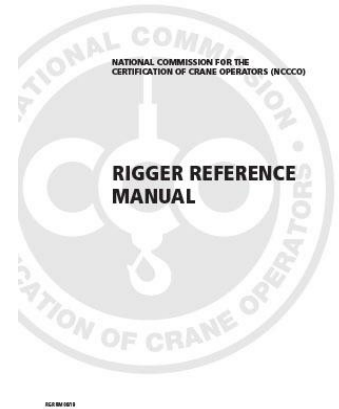
Visit the Lift Safety Zone at booth N2212 during ICUEE in Louisville, KY October 1-3, 2019. As well as having live demonstrations and industry experts on hand at the Lift Safety Zone, attendees will have the opportunity to take any of NCCCOs written certification exams on Wednesday, October 2, 2019. Hurry and [register for the show](#) using the NCCCO exclusive discount promo code **EXd98gurCST**; prices go up in August. For information on taking NCCCO certification exams during the show or to register for the exams, contact Kim Qualls at kqualls@nccco.org or 727-449-8525 ext. 487.

Rigger Reference Manual is Updated

An updated edition of NCCCO's *Rigger Reference Manual* is now available. The *Manual*, which is designed to be a resource for candidates preparing to take the NCCCO rigger certification examinations, contains excerpts from selected ASME B30 standards, including:

- ASME B30.5 - Mobile and Locomotive Cranes (2018)
- ASME B30.10 - Hooks (2014)
- ASME B30.20 - Below-the-Hook Lifting Devices (2018)

The updated *Manual* also includes the text of pertinent OSHA regulations as well as the full *NCCCO Rigger Reference Booklet*, which is provided to candidates on the Rigger Level II written exam. The *NCCCO Rigger Reference Manual* can be downloaded free of charge from the NCCCO website [here](#)



Cal-OSHA Holds Hearings



The Cal-OSHA Standards Board held hearings, June 20, on a proposed state standard for crane operator qualifications. The measure follows the publication by Federal OSHA last year of its new national requirement. NCCCO provided verbal and written testimony, which can be found [here](#).

Oregon OSHA Adopts Federal Requirements

On May 9, 2019, Oregon OSHA published an administrative order that adopted the revised federal OSHA crane operator provisions. These newly adopted rules included the changes to operator certification requirements and the new employer evaluation standards. Oregon's provisions went into effect on the date of publication (May 9, 2019), but the agency has stated that enforcement of the rules will be delayed until January 1, 2020. [Read More](#)



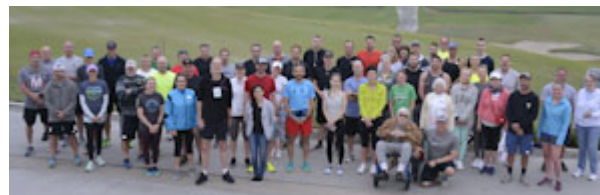
Independence Day Closure



NCCCO offices will be closed on Thursday, July 4, 2019 in observance of Independence Day. All offices will reopen at 8:00am in their respective time zones on Friday, July 5, 2019. We hope you have a safe and happy Holiday.

Buckner HeavyLift Cranes Sponsors 20th Anniversary NCCCO Fun Run

For the 20th year in a row, Buckner HeavyLift Cranes (Graham, NC) sponsored the annual NCCCO Fun Run at the Specialized Carriers & Rigging Association (SC&RA) Annual Conference on April 25, 2019, in Carlsbad, California. Beginning at daybreak in perfect Southern California weather, more than 50 participants ran and/or walked a 5K circuit around the beautiful La Costa Resort Champions golf course. [Read More](#)



NCCCO Certification Department Appoints, Promotes



NCCCO is pleased to announce the appointment of psychometrician **Claudia Güerere, PhD** (left), to its Certification Department. Dr. Güerere brings to NCCCO many years of experience in the personnel assessment industry and will assist in the maintenance and further development of NCCCO certification programs. Based in NCCCO's Florida Regional Office in Palm Harbor, FL, she reports to Director of Certification Programs, **Robert Mahlman**. NCCCO is also pleased to announce the promotion of **Yenny Caceres** to NCCCO Certification Manager. Ms. Caceres will expand her role to manage day-to-day activities within NCCCO's Certification Department, support ANSI accreditation activities, and work with NCCCO exam management committees. She is based at NCCCO's Headquarters Office in Fairfax, VA. Both appointments are a result of the growth and increasing diversity of NCCCO certification programs, noted Mahlman.

Upcoming Practical Examiner Workshops

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

[Rigger Refresher](#): July 22, Houston, TX

[Rigger Level I](#): July 24-25, Houston, TX

[Practical Examiner Refresher - Operator Programs](#): July 30, Salem, OR

[Tower Crane Operator](#): July 31 - August 1, Salem, OR

[Rigger Refresher](#): August 5, Salem, OR

[Signalperson](#): August 6, Salem, OR

[Signalperson Refresher](#): August 6, Salem, OR

[Rigger Level I](#): August 7 - 8, Salem, OR

[Rigger Level II](#): August 9 - 10, Salem, OR



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.

- [C&S Crane and Rigging, LLC](#) Odessa, TX
- [MACS Crane and Rigging](#) Savannah, GA
- [Adena Corporation](#) Lakeland, FL



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

Employer Quote of the Month



"When we began looking into certification for our operators, the name NCCCO came up with nearly everyone we talked to. We came to believe that CCO is the most recognized and respected accredited crane operator testing body in the US. Crane accidents have decreased so much since regulations and qualifications have become the standard that it would be hard to argue against a requirement for certification. In the 50+ years we have been in business, we have seen the industry and many of our customers become more concerned with safety. CCO provides a certification that is impressive and reassuring to even the most safety-conscious industry professionals." **Megan Sumner, J. Kozel &**

Son, Inc.

CCO By The Numbers

Total number of written exams currently available through and being managed across all NCCCO programs.

68

This Month in History.... 2000

2000 - West Virginia becomes the first state in the nation to require CCO certification. After a rash of fatal crane accidents in the late 1990s, the state begins a period of significant decline in crane-related deaths. No state has subsequently introduced crane operator requirements without recognizing or adopting CCO certification

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:

Terex Utilities Releases Edge Online Training - Terex Utilities offers an online training curriculum for operators seeking to increase their understanding of aerial device and digger derrick operation. The online training curriculum is a convenient and self-paced training tool. *Lift and Access, May 15, 2019*

Operator training: efficient learning - Liebherr has developed a new e-learning program for mobile crane training, that makes access to its theory training easier. The program wants to support existing initiatives, such as the NCCCO in the USA, in hopes to provide a structure to establish an international training standard. *International Cranes and Specialized Transport, April 30, 2019*

People on the Move - ANSI highlights NCCCO CEO's, Graham Brent, career as a trailblazer in the standardization field and his recent announcement to step down as CEO. Thom Sickelsteel will take his place as NCCCO CEO. *ANSI, January 11, 2019*

Student Operators Benefit From Excavator Advancements - ATS, a training provider that prepares students to take NCCCO certification exams among other things, discusses the benefits of offering training for heavy equipment operation, rigging and signaling and crane operation. *ForConstructionPros.com, April 25, 2019*

Supporter Spotlight



From the time of their founding in 1968, Morrow has focused exclusively on the tower crane and construction hoist industry. As an exclusive distributor of Liebherr-manufactured tower cranes and as a representative of Alimak Scando hoists, they have developed a unique expertise and knowledge of our product line. Their technical knowledge and foundational support, combined with the high quality of our product, has made Morrow one of the most successful in the lift equipment industry.

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

National Commission for the Certification of Crane Operators (NCCCO)

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