



CRANE OPERATOR CERTIFICATION AND LICENSING

*ARTBA 2004 Work Zone Conference
Baltimore, Maryland, November 4, 2004*



CCO Certification Program History

- Early 1987: user group meeting convened
- Unacceptable number of crane accidents
- Many apparently attributable to operator
- Real cost much higher than realized
 - ▼ Personal Injury/Property Damage
 - ▼ Workers' Comp./Lost Time
 - ▼ Safety Record/Mod. Rate
- Training only effective if learning verified
- Verification through operator certification



Commission for Crane Operator Certification

- NCCCO formed January 1995
- Independent, non-profit 501(c)6 organization
- Task: develop effective performance standards for crane operators
- Provide a fair, independent and reliable assessment of operator knowledge and skill



Current Status

Since April 1996:

- More than 27,000 operators tested
- Through 1,600+ test administrations
- 100,000+ exams administered
- In 49 states



State Adoption

- West Virginia
- Hawaii
- New Jersey
- California
- Montana
- New Mexico
- Pennsylvania, Utah, Colorado, Alaska



Perceived Benefits of Operator Certification

- Improve Safety
 - ▼ reduce accidents
 - ▼ fewer deaths/injuries
 - ▼ less property damage
- Industry needs to be proactive, self-policing
- Professional status of operator
- Improve public image of industry



Why Certification?

- Identifies “bad actors”
- Aid to employer when hiring
- Fewer accidents=reduced risk of loss
- Lower equipment repair costs
- Improved safety records
- More productive, efficient operations
- Favorable insurance rates



Why CCO Certification?

- Third-party, independent testing
- Industry developed & supported
- Joint labor/management effort
- Psychometrically sound
- Validated through peer review
- Standardized; Nationwide; Secure
- Net result: Increased training



Participants in Certification Program Development

- Operators
- Equipment Inspectors
- Operator Training Companies
- Insurance Carriers
- Safety Specialists
- Construction Companies
- Consultants
- Contractors
- Trade Unions
- Crane Manufacturers
- ASME/ANSI B30 & B30.5 Members
- Crane Rental Firms
- Industrial Corporations
- Educators
- Military Agencies
- OSHA



CCO Teams With Psychometricians

- Assist in development and administration of CCO certification
- Established track record in certification
- Provide licensing & certification services to professional associations and licensing boards
- Ensure test is fair, valid and reliable
- Legal defensibility



Mobile Crane Examinations

WRITTEN EXAMS

- Four Knowledge Areas
 - ▼ Site
 - ▼ Operation
 - ▼ Technical knowledge
 - ▼ Load charts
- 200 multiple-choice questions

PRACTICAL EXAMS

- Nationwide exam sites
- By crane type

MEDICAL EVALUATION

- By certified physician
- CCO form or DOT medical examiner's certificate



Written Specialty Exams

- SMALL TELESCOPIC:
Grove RT59S *or* Manitex 1768
- LARGE TELESCOPIC:
Grove TMS 750B *or* Link-Belt RTC-8050
- LATTICE BOOM TRUCK:
Link-Belt HC 238H *or* Manitowoc 777
- LATTICE BOOM CRAWLER:
American 5300 *or* Manitowoc 888-II



Written Test Administration

- Tests given on demand, anytime
- Groups with 15 candidates request test administration 4 weeks prior
- Expedited testing available
- Convenient for work schedules & operator availability
- Chief Examiner ensures integrity, security, standardization



Practical Examination

- Tests essential skills
- Standardized format
- Fair, objective and reliable
- Examiner Accreditation Program
- Tests given on demand, anytime
- Expedited scheduling/application
- Candidate video available



Certification Fees

- Core Exam + 1 Specialty \$165
- Each Additional Specialty \$ 10
- First Practical Test \$ 60
- Each Additional Practical \$ 10
- Total Fees
 - ▾ Basic 5-Year Certification \$ 225
 - ▾ Full 5-Year Certification \$ 275



Recertification Requirements

- Every 5 years
- Written Recertification Examination
- Experience Documentation in lieu of Practical Exam
- Medical Requirements



Further Information:

www.nccco.org

703/560-2391



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