



NATIONAL COMMISSION
FOR THE CERTIFICATION
OF CRANE OPERATORS (NCCCO)

CC Online News Alert

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The Gold Standard of Certification for the Crane IndustrySM

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OSHA to Revisit Crane Operator Certification Rule

The Occupational Safety and Health Administration has issued a [final rule](#) that extends the deadline for crane operator certification requirements in the crane standard by three years to November 10, 2017. During the three-year period, OSHA says it will re-address operator qualification requirements including the role of operator certification.

OSHA announced its much anticipated decision after holding a series of stakeholder meetings in April last year followed, in February, by a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking to extend both the deadline for operator certification and the employer's duty to ensure competent crane operation. OSHA finalized its decision to extend after analyzing industry's responses to the proposal, including those voiced at a public hearing in May. Comments from the hearing are available at <http://www.regulations.gov/#!docketDetail;D=OSHA-2007-0066>.

The final cranes and derricks rule, published in 2010, required crane operators on construction sites to meet one of four qualification/certification options by November 10, 2014. After the final rule was published, NCCCO became aware of OSHA's interpretation of certain aspects of this requirement and brought the matter to the attention of industry. Of particular concern was OSHA's apparent misunderstanding of the intent of the Cranes and Derrick Advisory Committee (C-DAC), that drafted the rule, to require certification "by type and capacity". Also at issue was whether certification was equal to qualification. NCCCO understands that OSHA's plan during the three years consists in part of developing requirements that, in addition to certification, an employer would have to meet in order for his/her operators to be considered qualified.

Employers are not "off the hook" during this extension period, however. The rule also extends by three years the employer's responsibility to ensure that crane operators are competent to operate a crane safely.

NCCCO's position remains that any delay in the implementation of a process which has been proven to improve safety on construction sites by reducing the incidence of injuries and fatalities is regrettable. However, it is necessary in order for OSHA to address industry's concerns and to bring all aspects of the crane operator requirements into line with C-DAC's original intent.

[Read More](#)

Additional Information and Resources

- [Industry Agrees with OSHA's Proposed Delay](#), American Cranes & Transport, May 2014.
- [OSHA Issues Proposed Rule to Extend Certification Compliance Date](#)

What Do You Think About OSHA's Decision to Delay the Rule?

If you have any questions or comments about this announcement or how it affects you, or you would like to provide your thoughts, [please email us](#).