



# Rigger, Signal Person Qualifications: Impact of the New Federal Rule

**Graham Brent, *Executive Director***

**National Commission for the Certification of Crane Operators (NCCCO)**

**BUILDING TRADES EMPLOYERS' ASSOCIATION**

***Turner Construction Company, New York, NY***

***April 14, 2011***

# National Commission for the Certification of Crane Operators



- NCCCO formed January 1995
- Industry established and driven
- Independent, non-profit organization
- ANSI and NCCA Accredited Programs
- Recognized by OSHA since 1999
- 70,000 certified personnel nationwide

# Federal Proposed Rule (CDAC)



- 1926.1400 Scope
- 1926.1401 Definitions
- 1926.1402 Ground Conditions
- 1926.1403-1406 Assembly/Disassembly
- 1926.1407-1411 Power Line Safety
- 1926.1412 Inspections
- 1926.1413-1414 Wire Rope
- 1926.1415-16 Safety Devices/Operational Aids
- 1926.1417-1418 Operation
- **1926.1419-22 Signals**
- 1926.1423 Fall Protection
- 1926.1424 Work Area Control
- 1926.1425 Keeping Clear of the Load
- 1926.1426 Free Fall and Controlled Load Lowering
- **1926.1427-1430 Qualifications and Training of Operators, Signal Persons, Maintenance & Repair Employees**
- 1926.1431 Hoisting Personnel
- 1926.1432 Multiple Crane Lifts
- 1926.1433 Design, Construction and Testing
- 1926.1434 Equipment Modifications
- 1926.1435-1442 Tower Cranes, Derricks, Floating Cranes, Overhead Cranes, Pile Drivers, Sideboom Cranes, Equipment <2,000lbs capacity, Severability

# Signal Person Requirements



1926.1419(a)

- All workers who will participate in signaling or flagging a crane, giving direction as to where and what will be lifted, must be qualified
  - Point of operation not in full view of operator
  - View of direction of travel is obstructed
  - Site-specific safety conditions

# Signal Person Qualifications



1926.1428(a)

- **OPTION 1:**

- Third Party qualified evaluator

- Portable
- Documentation required

- Certification meets this requirement

- **OPTION 2:**

- Employer's qualified evaluator

- Non-Portable
- Documentation required

# Qualified Evaluator



1926.1401

- Qualified Evaluator (third party)
  - An entity that, due to its independence and expertise, has demonstrated that it is competent in accurately assessing whether individuals meet the Qualification Requirements in this subpart for a signal person.
- Qualified Evaluator (not a third party)
  - A person employed by the signal person's employer who has demonstrated that he/she is competent in accurately assessing whether individuals meet the Qualification Requirements in this subpart for a signal person.

# Qualification Requirements



1926.1428(c)

- Know and understand types of signals
- Be competent in application of types of signals
- Basic understanding of equipment operations and limitations, swinging and stopping loads, boom deflection
- Understand general requirements in OSHA
- **Oral or written test**
- **Practical test**
- Documentation must include which type of signaling the signal person is qualified
- **Effective Date: November 8, 2010**



# Signaling Requirements

- Method of signals must be agreed upon
  - Hand, voice, radio, audible, special signals
- Anyone can give a stop or emergency signal
- For voice signals, must be through a dedicated channel
- Operator, signal person and lift director (if there is one) must be able to communicate in the language used.





# Rigger Qualifications

- 1926.1401: Definitions: A *qualified rigger* is defined as a qualified person
  - Qualified Person: a *person who, by possession of a recognized degree, certificate, or professional standing, or who by extensive knowledge, training and experience, successfully demonstrated the ability to solve/resolve problems relating to the subject matter, the work, or the project.*
- A qualified rigger is required for certain conditions
  - During assembly/disassembly
  - Employees within the “fall zone” (1926.1401)
- **Effective Date: November 8, 2010**

# Training Requirements



- Who must be trained?
  - 1926.1430(d)
    - The employer must train each competent and qualified person applicable to their role
- Who are Competent and Qualified persons?
  - Operators, Signal Persons, Riggers, Maintenance and Repair employees, Inspectors, A/D directors
- How is this verified?
  - 1926.1430(g)(1)
    - The employer must EVALUATE each employee required to be trained under this subpart to confirm that the employee understands the information provided in the training.

# Certification/Training Costs



- Who pays for the certification?
  - 1926.1427(a)(4)
    - Whenever operator qualification or certification is required, the employer must provide the qualification or certification at no cost to operators who are employed by the employer.
- Who pays for the training?
  - 1926.1430(g)(3)
    - Whenever training is required, the employer must provide the training at no cost to the employee.

# Summary of Important Dates



- Effective Date of Rule: Nov. 8, 2010
- Signal Person Qualification Requirements: Nov. 8, 2010
- Rigger Qualification Requirements: Nov. 8, 2010
- Operator Training Requirements: Nov. 8, 2010
- State Compliance: February 9, 2011
- Operator Certification/Qualification Requirements: Nov. 10, 2014



# Federal Rule Resources

- <http://www.nccco.org/training/OSHARuleResources.html>
  - [NCCCO Guide to OSHA's Personnel Certification and Qualification Requirements](#)
  - Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)
- [www.osha.gov/cranes-derricks/index.html](http://www.osha.gov/cranes-derricks/index.html)
  - Compliance Assistance
  - Fact Sheets
  - OSHA Presentation
  - Final Rule documents
- Contact Us
  - Graham Brent, [gbrent@nccco.org](mailto:gbrent@nccco.org) or 703-560-2391 xt. 205



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