



**NATIONAL COMMISSION
FOR THE CERTIFICATION
OF CRANE OPERATORS (NCCCO)**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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AGC of California Endorses CCO Certification Program

Fairfax, Virginia, June 12, 2000--At their May 18, 2000 meeting in Ontario, California, the Associated General Contractors of California's Safety, Health and Environment Committee voted to endorse CCO's crane operator certification program.

This decision to formally endorse CCO was made following extensive debate on the program beginning in November 1998. "The Committee was impressed with the professional manner in which the program had been put together, and the fair and effective methods used in determining crane operator competency," said Committee Chair, Bo Bradley.

"The CCO program provides employers with a valuable tool in complying with the B30.5 mobile crane standard in ensuring only qualified crane operators operate cranes," Bradley added. "The Committee believes the CCO program is making a valuable contribution towards improving construction site safety."

AGC of California also announced it plans to sponsor CCO test administrations in the near future in order to provide greater access to the CCO program by crane operators and their employers throughout California.

The Associated General Contractors of America is the nation's largest and oldest construction trade association, founded in 1918. AGC represents more than 33,000 firms, including 7,500 of America's leading general contractors, and 12,000 specialty-contracting firms. Over 14,000 service providers and suppliers are also associated with AGC through a nationwide network of chapters. **The National Commission for the Certification of Crane Operators (CCO)** was formed in January 1995 to develop effective performance standards for safe crane operation to assist all segments of general industry and construction. The CCO crane operator certification program is recognized by federal OSHA as meeting OSHA and ANSI (ASME) requirements for crane operator competency.

The program is unique in that it is: third-party, independent of training; developed and supported by industry; a joint labor/management initiative; psychometrically sound;

validated through peer review; administered on a standardized, nationwide basis; and maintained under strict security.