

Occupational Safety and Health Standards Board
ATTN: Mr. Mike Manieri
2520 Venture Oaks Way, Suite 350
Sacramento, California 95833

Dear Mr. Manieri,

The American National Standards Institute (ANSI) is petitioning to have ANSI added as an approved accrediting agency for certification of crane operators, Section 5006.1 (c) Mobile Crane and Tower Crane-Operator Qualifications and Certification. The ANSI Personnel Certification Accreditation Program has been in operation for five years and uses the American National Standard and International Standard, ANSI/ISO/IEC 17024, Conformity assessment – General requirements for bodies operating certification of persons.

ANSI has accredited 21 certification bodies to date with 32 certification bodies actively pursuing accreditation. One of the crane operator certifications that has successfully been accredited by ANSI is the National Commission for Certification of Crane Operators which certifies crane operators in California in accordance with Section 5006.1. Some of the related accredited certification bodies by ANSI to the crane industry are: Board of Certified Safety Professionals, National Inspection Testing Certification Corporation, and the Construction Manager Certification Institute.

The ANSI Standard is the most comprehensive accreditation standard in the personnel certification industry. The requirements cover the following:

- Development and maintenance of a certification scheme (requirements/criteria)
- Qualifications of the certification body personnel
- Policies and Procedures that ensures fair and equitable treatment among all candidates
- Organizational Structure to ensure independence, impartiality and integrity of the certification system
- Independence of training from the evaluation and certification of persons
- Examinations shall be fair, valid and reliable and evaluated at least annually
- Management system for continual improvement, corrective and preventive actions
- Monitoring of any sub-contractors
- Records
- Confidentiality
- Security
- Requirements for examiners (individuals who evaluate performance of tasks)
- Application requirements for the Applicants

Requirements of ANSI/ISO/IEC 17024 cont'd

Decision on certification
 Recertification
 Use of certificate and logos/mark

The ANSI accreditation process is governed by ISO/IEC 17011 – General requirements for accreditation bodies accrediting conformity assessment bodies. This process ensures that the following general requirements are met by ANSI:

Separation of the assessors (who evaluate the material) and the decision-makers (the accreditation committee)
 Assessors are approved by the certification body to ensure no conflict of interest
 An on-site evaluation is conducted to determine:
 General policy and procedures are implemented
 Records are complete
 Security is maintained as described
 Performance examinations is conducted appropriately and according to policies and procedures
 Certification body personnel are knowledgeable and demonstrate understanding of their positions
 Examiners following appropriate policy and procedures

Evaluation of assessors and the accreditation process by the certification bodies
 An annual surveillance is conducted:
 Year one and Year three have a one day focused on-site based on document submitted.
 Year two and four are document reviews but can trigger an unscheduled on-site
 Year five is a reassessment – the same as the initial accreditation process

The following ANSI accreditation documents have been attached for your review:

ANSI/ISO/IEC 17024 – General requirements for bodies operating certification of persons

IAF GD:2004 – IAF Guidance on the Application of ISO/IEC 17024:2003

ANSI-PCAC-CA-501 – Policy and Procedures for Accreditation of Personnel Certification Programs

ANSI-PCAC-CA-502- Manual of Operations for Accreditation of Personnel Certification Programs

ANSI-PCAC-CA-503-Operating Procedures of the Personnel Certification Accreditation Committee

ISO/IEC 17011 – General requirements for accreditation bodies accrediting conformity assessment bodies

If possible, ANSI would like to address the Board at its "Open Public Comment Period" at your June 19, 2008, meeting in Oakland, CA to give a brief overview of its accreditation program and to answer any questions from the Board. Your consideration of this request is appreciated.

Sincerely,

Roy A. Swift

Roy A. Swift, Ph.D.

Program Director

Personnel Certification Accreditation Program