



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

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **OSHA Ponders Small Business Impact of Draft Crane Rule**

OSHA is currently conducting an economic analysis of its draft rule on cranes and derricks to determine if further study of the potential impact on small business is needed before publication of a proposed rule.

If the agency decides that a study is necessary, it will form a so-called SBREFA panel (after the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act of 1996) possibly as early as September. Should the SBREFA process not be needed, a proposed rule would be the next step.

The rule in question, 29 CFR 1926, forms part of Subpart N of the standard and addresses hazards associated with various types of hoisting equipment used at construction sites. The existing rule, which dates back to 1971, is based in part on industry consensus standards from 1958, 1968, and 1969. In recognizing the considerable technological changes that have taken place since then, OSHA established a negotiated rulemaking committee in 2003 to develop a draft proposed rule.

The so-called C-DAC committee (Cranes & Derricks Advisory Committee) completed 11 meetings before it was disbanded in July 2004 after it submitted a recommended revision of the crane standard to the Assistant Secretary of OSHA.

Among the changes called for the revised standard is certification of crane operators, either through a nationally accredited certification organization such as NCCCO, or an employer program audited by such an organization.