



# **HOISTING MACHINE OPERATOR'S ADVISORY BOARD**

## **2005-2006 Annual Report**

**Department of Labor and Industrial Relations  
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# HOISTING MACHINE OPERATORS' ADVISORY BOARD

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## PURPOSE

The Hawaii State Legislature created the Hoisting Machine Operators' Advisory Board to ensure the safe operation of hoisting machines in the State of Hawaii by establishing a certification program for operators. The Board is administratively attached to the Hawaii Occupational Safety and Health Division of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations for the purpose of developing rules for the certification of hoisting machine operators.

## GOVERNANCE

Established by the Hawaii State Legislature in 1998 through Act 165, the Hoisting Machine Operators' Advisory Board is comprised of five members who are appointed by the Governor. The advisory board began meeting in May 1999 and promulgated administrative rules that became effective December 6, 2002.

## FUNDING

The program has been funded by the Occupational Safety and Health Training Assistance Special Fund since 1999.

The fund is used to:

- > Cover personnel and operating expenses for the advisory board to ensure certification standards meet national standards for hoisting machines;
- > Prepare and disseminate information on hoisting machine operators' certification and training; and
- > Prepare annual reports on the program's accomplishments.

## **ADMINISTRATIVE RULES**

Under the Hawaii Administrative Rules, a hoisting machine operator certificate is required to operate any hoisting machine in the State of Hawaii with a lifting capacity of more than five tons and performing construction work. The certification process includes a written and practical exam and a current physical examination certificate. This program ensures public and worker safety by requiring operators to document training, experience and physical capacities before being certified to a hoisting machine in the State of Hawaii.

The certification process requires a prospective hoisting machine operator to submit an application along with a non-refundable \$50.00 application fee. Once approved, the applicant must pay a \$500.00 certification fee for a five-year certificate. Thereafter, the renewal fee is \$500.00.

The hoisting machine operator training is an integral part of an overall certification process. Worker and public safety is enhanced with effective training. The certification process ensures a minimum competency level for operators and provides assurance to employers that the crane operators they employ have received appropriate training. This process benefits workers, their employers and the public.

## **CERTIFICATION**

From January 1, 2003 to June 30, 2006, the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations has certified five hundred forty four (544) crane operators statewide and deposited \$261,340.00 in collected certification fees.

## FINANCIAL STATEMENT

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	<u>2003-2004</u>	<u>2004-2005</u>	<u>2005-2006</u>
Personnel	\$33,923	\$33,923	\$35,623
Fees/Equipment	\$ 1,168	\$ 1,168	\$ 1,168
Expenses/Supplies	\$ 3,427	\$ 3,427	\$ 3,427
Travel			
TOTAL:	\$38,518	\$38,518	\$40,218

## EXECUTIVE BOARD

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Five members comprise the Hoisting Machine Operator's Advisory Board. The Board is appointed by the Governor for four year staggered terms and includes representatives from both organized labor and management employers.

**Thomas S. Vendetta** is the Chairman of the Advisory Board. He has over 30 years of government experience. As a licensed civil engineer, he has worked in various capacities for the City and County of Honolulu in the areas of planning, design, construction and operations. Mr. Vendetta is currently the program administrator for the City's Division of Industrial Safety and Workers' Compensation.

**Ralph S. Cushnie** is presently the Island Superintendent of Goodfellow Brothers, Inc. for all field operations on Kauai and surrounding remote islands. He has extensive experience with and knowledge of maintaining quality and safety control, budgets and value engineering.

**Roy S. Akamine** has been a safety professional for more than 20 years, providing occupational safety and health consulting services to insurance companies and clients in the construction industry. He is currently employed by King & Neel, Inc. Insurance Company, and continues to be an advocate for the public's safety.

**Ernest Balatincz** has over 20 years of experience in the safety field. He is an OSHA Certified Instructor and the owner of a safety consulting business. Mr. Balatincz has extensive experience in and knowledge of safety policies and procedures for OSHA, as well as the COE EM 385 1-1.

**Daniel Nelson** is the representative from the Operating Engineers Local Union #3 and a union member since 1966. He has extensive years of experience in the construction industry, and currently serves as the Apprenticeship Coordinator/Instructor for Local #3.

## Personnel

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**Lora Lee P. Contreras** is the Executive Director for the Advisory Board. She has been appointed to various administrative positions for the past 25 years, including 10 years on various boards and commissions, and in the Hawaii State Legislature.