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SUMMER/FALL 2016

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# CRCA Leadership Message

## “Building a Safety Culture”

By George Riddiford



George Riddiford

In my early years, I started on the roofs along with the workers in the field. Back in the day, you would hardly ever have discussions involving the word “safety.” Within the last 15-20 years, this has *dramatically* changed. Initially, workers were trained by sticking them in a classroom for several hours talking *at* them about being safe. They rarely participated and this was not the best way for them to learn.

By the very nature of the roofing trade, these workers are active learners. They learn by *doing*. As a company, a decision was made that the method of safety instruction had to be changed. We had to make learning opportunities active. The first of many safety days was scheduled. Workers were divided into teams, which created a competitive environment. Each activity done included an incentive of points earned with the best team winning a prize. This fostered a higher level of participation from all workers. Through this method, we were better able to reach the workers with basic safety principles, as being taught through the activities done every day.

Our service providers were also involved in the development of a new safety culture including our insurance broker and carrier. They assisted in providing educational topics, as well as, analysis of our loss trends and exposure issues. A safety consulting firm was also hired on retainer, to inspect and assist with creating Job Hazard Assessments for each project. The firm now focuses on our EMR to make sure losses are low, as this translates directly to the bottom line. Insurance costs, by and large, are one of the top expenses for our company annually. Focusing on loss prevention, which lowers insurance costs and enhances our bottom line, allows the firm to be more competitive.

Loss prevention goes beyond just safety and compliance. It also goes toward making sure the workforce is healthy and capable of performing the job essential functions. Our insurance broker recommended an ergonomics specialist who went into the field for a week with workers to measure and weigh all of the items moved and activities performed. The specialist then developed a Job Essential Functions list of weights and lifts each worker must be able to perform in order to work safely in the field. A stretching program was also developed to help the employee improve overall health on a daily basis. Before being hired, workers receive a physical to determine if capable to perform the job’s essential functions. This investment in employee health reduced overall claims and losses to zero in the first year it was implemented! It has continued to be beneficial for our loss history. We, along with the Roofers Union Local 11, have instituted a drug testing program which is also beneficial in reducing loss exposure.

Annually, along with our carrier, the loss history and inspections are analyzed to determine areas for improvement. We found that employees working with the firm for three years or less needed additional focus and training. These employees were identified in the field with a different color hard hat. This helped the crew to watch out for these workers and assist them in remaining safe.

After looking at our firm's equipment, it was determined that this is an area of exposure as well. An instruction certification program was implemented relating to items such as deck saws, forklifts, and of course the CERTA training program for torches. All supervisors or managers hold at least an OSHA 30-hour card and all field personnel, a 10-hour OSHA certification.

Lastly, it was discovered that many of our employees have literacy issues and English is a second language. Training materials are now translated, to provide bilingual training. It is key that the worker learns in the language most comfortable with, such as Spanish and Polish.

Which of these many new programs is working? It is hard to tell, but collectively, we hope that by continuing to reinforce the safety culture, our firm ends up with all employees going home safely to their families every day, as well as, an improved bottom line for the company. The amount our firm spends annually on safety and health is enormous, but the benefit in the end far outweighs the expense. 🏠



(CRCA Photo)

George Riddiford is President of Riddiford Roofing Company. This long time CRCA member installs, maintains and repairs roof systems for large and small commercial, industrial and institutional buildings. To learn more, visit [www.Riddiford.com](http://www.Riddiford.com).

*Editor's note: Riddiford Roofing Company was awarded the CRCA Local 11 Gold Medal Safety Award in December of 2015. This CRCA Roofing Contractor Firm was recognized for an "Outstanding Safety Record and Appreciation of a Conscientious Effort to Promote Safe Working Conditions throughout the Industry". Congratulations!*



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# OSHA'S Fines Raised— Educate Workers Now!

By Frank J. Marino, CSP



Frank J. Marino, CSP

If you haven't yet heard the buzz, the U.S. Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) has raised its fines for the first time in over 25 years. How much are the fines increasing and what could this mean for your business?

While Congress passed legislation in November of 2015, requiring federal agencies to adjust their civil penalties to include inflation, the penalties actually took effect on August 2, 2016. It is important to note that all citations issued by OSHA after this date are subject to the new penalties, if the related violations occurred after November 2, 2015. These increases represent a whopping 78.2% increase in the maximum fines.

Below is a description of the new penalty structure:

Type of Violation	Current Maximum Penalty	New Maximum Penalty
Serious Other-Than-Serious Posting Requirements	\$7,000 per violation	\$12,471 per violation
Failure to Abate	\$7,000 per day beyond the abatement date	\$12,471 per day beyond the abatement date
Willful or Repeated	\$70,000 per violation	\$124,709 per violation

Why this huge move by OSHA? According to U.S. Secretary of Labor Thomas E. Perez, "Adjusting our penalties to keep pace with the cost of living can lead to significant benefits for workers." He also said that "Civil Penalties should be a credible deterrent that influences behavior."

What does this mean for businesses? In the past, companies did not see OSHA fines as deterrents to operating safely. Instead, some considered them simply a cost of doing business. They took risks and sometimes got caught and paid...and sometimes skipped through. This

new fine structure will have a significant impact on these practices, making the cost of worker safety more attractive.

What will the future bring? This legislation gives OSHA the authority to continue to raise fines annually, keeping up with inflation. These increases for OSHA violations will occur no later than January 15 of each year.

Moving forward, how do roofing contractor firms address OSHA's fine increase? It's a great time to take stock of your firm's safety culture. Are your programs up to date? Is your training effective? Are your employees accountable for their safety? All of these key elements are essential to reducing worker injuries, which at the end of the day, increases your firm's bottom line and keeps your workers safe. 🏠

*Frank Marino is a partner at Safety Check, Inc. He can be reached at [fmario@safetycheckinc.com](mailto:fmario@safetycheckinc.com). Safety Check has been serving CRCA Members as CRCA's Safety Consultant for over fifteen years.*



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The Chicago Roofing Contractors Association (CRCA) is the leading trade association of roofing and waterproofing contractors in Illinois.



# New Code Memorandum Clarifies City of Chicago Roofing and Insulation Rules

By CRCA Staff

CRCA efforts at the City of Chicago are on behalf of common sense and technical correctness for the customer—the building owner and manager—who has to live with the structure for a long period of time. The City of Chicago Department of Buildings (DOB) and CRCA have worked closely to get clarity in the Chicago Building Code as it relates to typical roofing questions.

Below is a sample of some of the terminology included in the DOB's "Code Memorandum". For the complete document, become part of CRCA. For more information, visit [www.CRCA.org](http://www.CRCA.org).

## Definitions

First, definitions are important to set up the questions for when existing buildings need to have a roof replaced. These definitions are very similar to the International Building Code (IBC) Chapter 2 and are from the Chicago DOB Code Memorandum:

- **ROOF ASSEMBLY.** A system designed to provide weather protection and resistance to design loads. The system consists of a *roof covering* and *roof deck* or a single component serving as both the roof covering and the *roof deck*. A roof assembly includes the *roof deck*, *vapor retarder*, substrate or thermal barrier, insulation, *vapor retarder* and *roof covering*.
- **ROOF COVERING.** The covering applied to the *roof deck*, *insulation*, or a *cover board* for weather resistance, fire classification or appearance.
- **ROOF COVERING REPLACEMENT.** Where an existing roof covering is removed, exposing insulation or sheathing and a new roof covering is installed.  
*(CRCA TODAY NOTE: This is a new definition. CRCA worked with the City on this definition to clarify that 'roof peel and replacement' happens. The intent was that this operation would not invoke moving the existing building to the minimum R-30 continuous insulation that's required in the IBC.)*
- **ROOF SHEATHING.** The flat or sloped surface constructed on top of the exterior walls and other supports of a building below and to support the roof covering and the other elements of the roof construction.

*(CRCA TODAY NOTE: This definition is unique to Chicago through the DOB Code Memorandum.)*

- **POSITIVE ROOF DRAINAGE.** The drainage condition in which consideration has been made for all loading deflections of the *roof deck*, and additional slope has been provided to ensure drainage of the roof within 48 hours of precipitation.
- **ROOF REPAIR.** Reconstruction or renewal of any part of an existing roof for the purposes of its maintenance.
- **ROOF REPLACEMENT.** The process of removing the existing *roof covering*, repairing any damaged substrate and installing a new *roof covering*.

As with any code requirement, the definitions are critical to understanding what can and cannot be done with roofing operations on an existing building.

## DOB Code Memo Covers Key Issues

The Chicago DOB's Code Memorandum goes on to address key issues that have come up in Chicago with both the Staff and CRCA's Office including, "How many roofs can be applied before a tear off is required? Is ice barrier required in the City of Chicago on steep slope roofs? If the flashing heights mean moving equipment, and it means big expense to raise the heights of HVAC equipment, hatches, gas lines, etc., do we still need minimum R-30 continuous insulation?"

- **Maximum number of layers on a roof assembly**—While the International Building Code states to tear off when there needs to be a roof recover, the Chicago Code may allow a third layer of roofing. This is only allowed if a licensed



*(CRCA Photo)*

structural engineer confirms the load capacity and condition of the structure to carry more load.

- **Steep Slope Ice Barrier**—The use of an ice barrier membrane is clearly specified in the International Building Code, section 1507.2.8.2: 1507.2.8.2 Ice barrier. In areas where there has been a history of ice forming along the eaves causing a backup of water, an ice barrier that consists of at least two layers of underlayment cemented together or of a self adhering polymer modified bitumen sheet shall be used in lieu of normal underlayment and extend from the lowest edges of all roof surfaces to a point at least 24 inches (610 mm) inside the exterior wall line of the building. Exception: Detached accessory structures that contain no conditioned floor area.

The Chicago Building Code is a more 'performance' based rather than 'prescriptive' based code. Therefore, it does not state as 'loud and clear' that ice barrier is required on steep slope roofs. Instead, Chicago's Building Code section 13-196-530 (c) states: 'The roof shall be tight and have no defects which admits rain and roof drainage shall be adequate to prevent rain water from causing dampness in the walls'.


According to the City of Chicago's Building Department's Memorandum, "The code requires that the building be kept dry, but does not specify how to do that". Instead, the City of Chicago states in the Code Memorandum, "Due to the winter freeze/thaw cycle in Chicago, the creation of ice dams is a common hazard for roofs. To protect the building and walls against water infiltration from ice forming along the eaves, a barrier consisting of a self-adhering polymer modified bitumen sheet that seals around nail holes shall be used and extending from the lowest edges of all roof surfaces to a point at least 24" inside the exterior wall line of the building".

The City continues to state that "other vulnerable areas such as valleys, ridgelines, penetrations shall be protected." This is consistent with their opening statement about

### **Constraints on installation of code required amount of R-value on existing buildings according to the City.**

"The energy conservation code acknowledges that existing buildings cannot always meet the requirements of the new construction code." For existing buildings, there is language in section C503.1 and R503.1 of the code that speaks to accommodations. "The City of Chicago has consistently interpreted this to allow for a reduction in the required amount of insulation if the height of the installation would require other elements of the building to be changed where there wasn't part of the scope of work already." The Memorandum further states that the DOB does require that the insulation be equal to or greater than the thickness that existed prior to the roof installation. The City also states that if the occupancy changes and energy use in the space increases, that the exception reducing insulation thicknesses acceptable, does not apply.

### **Conclusion**

CRCA salutes the City of Chicago Department of Buildings for the thought and effort that went into producing this 'Code Memorandum'. This brief summary in this *CRCA Today* issue gives readers a taste of what the entire document includes. Watch for more of the Code Memorandum in future issues or join CRCA now to get in its entirety! 



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# EPS Insulation & Code Compliance

By Jim Nugent



Jim Nugent

All of us involved in the commercial roofing business in Illinois by now are well aware of new 2015 International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) requirements. These new requirements are creating challenges for roofing contractors and also driving up the cost of new or replacement roofs for building owners and managers.

At the same time, we are learning new information about Polyisocyanurate insulation (polyiso), its R-value and how it is impacted by temperature. These two factors have created a "Perfect Storm" of higher costs for roof assemblies. Now, more than ever, would be a great time to look at the advantages of Expanded Polystyrene (EPS) in roof assemblies.

For over 50 years, EPS insulation has played an important role in the roofing industry. In the 1970's, as the use of EPDM single ply membranes grew, so did the use of EPS tapered and flat insulation. Since the early 1980's, how EPS is used in roof assemblies has changed. This was largely due to the membrane suppliers started manufacturing their own polyiso. While many membrane manufacturers have private label agreements with EPS insulation manufacturers, providing their own polyiso with their membrane is now the most common practice.

## Why Give EPS a Closer Look Now?

One of the changes in the latest version of the 2015 IECC (which has been adopted by the State of Illinois, with some amendments), is how to meet R-value requirements when tapered insulation is being used. A simplified explanation of the new code says that if the insulation is sloping 1/4" in 12", minimum R-30 continuous insulation (ci) must be met 4' from the drain. If the insulation is sloping 1/8" in 12" minimum, R-30 ci must be met 8' from the drain.

With this change, tapered systems certainly will be thicker and possibly have more layers of insulation, needed to meet the new code requirements. EPS roof insulation provides an ideal solution in two basic ways:

1. EPS can provide steep slopes to help minimize the insulation thickness at the drain, but can also easily reach the min. R-30 ci in 4' or 8', using only one layer of tapered EPS and one layer of coverboard.
2. A tapered EPS system can be designed using a single layer of tapered EPS and a single layer of coverboard (only two layers) over the entire roof. Keep in mind that the cover board could be 1.5" or 2" polyiso, if allowed by the membrane manufacturer to be direct applied to the polyiso. Limiting the overall tapered insulation system to only two layers can reduce installation and handling costs, as well as adhesive costs.

Another area where EPS roof insulation provides great value is in cold climate zones, such as seen in Illinois. In the past five years, it has been widely publicized that the published R-value of polyiso has been dropping.



(ACH Foam Photo)

The NRCA and other building science consultants have been stating that R-5 per inch is a more realistic long term R-value for polyiso. (Graham, 2015), (Building Science 2013). Looking closer at some of the published R-value testing results, you see that polyiso R-values drop

further in cold temperatures, as low as 4.0 per inch at 25 degrees. To the contrary, the R-value of EPS increases as temperatures get colder. A 15 psi EPS is R4.6 per inch at 25 degrees.

Why is this important? While it may be simpler to publish one R-value for an insulation, clearly in northern climates, we spend more money heating buildings than we do cooling buildings. Therefore, in the northern climate zones, choosing an insulation that performs better in colder temperatures may be very important.

**EPS Roof Insulation and Membrane System Compatibility**

A minimum of 13 psi Type VIII EPS insulation is preferred for “under roof membrane” applications. This is backed up by a recent NRCA Technical Bulletin. (Graham, 2016). EPS roof insulation products can be used with a wide variety of membranes and attachment methods.

First, EPS can be bonded to concrete and metal roof decks using low-rise foam adhesives or mechanical attachment. A subsequent layer of gypsum sheathing, high density insulation, regular polyiso and other coverboards can be bonded to EPS using the same low-rise foam adhesive. While typically EPS directly

have a membrane bonded to it using conventional bonding adhesive, certainly any of the above mentioned coverboards are acceptable as a break between the adhesive and the membrane that needs to be bonded and an adhesive that is compatible with EPS. In fact, using a base layer of tapered or flat EPS and a coverboard of polyiso is viewed as a universal way to accept any membrane attachment method. This “hybrid” insulation approach can be very cost effective.

Some roof membrane manufacturers offer fleece back membrane assemblies that can be adhered directly to EPS products. Manufacturers of inductive plate welding systems now offer an insulating disc that broadens the use of EPS products with this attachment method.

With mechanically attached membrane systems using inductive plate welding, a top layer of an EPS and fiberglass composite and a base layer of EPS meets project requirements and is a very cost effective insulation system.

**Using EPS and Meeting Code**

EPS can be applied direct to metal roof decks and meets Chapter 26 of the International Building Code. Most roof membrane manufacturers have several UL listed assemblies that include EPS products in a variety of applications.

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Most EPS manufacturers have their products listed as part of UL listings which provide code compliance proof. Many manufacturers also have listings at other organizations such as FM Approvals, Energy Star and others. Manufacturer material warranties and thermal warranties are also available with EPS roof insulation.

**Plazas, Inverted Roofs, Vegetative Roofs and Other Above Membrane Applications.**

While the use of EPS below roof membranes has been growing steadily, there are benefits using EPS **under** a membrane. There has also been a dramatic increase in the use of EPS **above** the waterproofing membrane. The City of Chicago is arguably the vegetative roof capitol of the US. The EPS Geofoam is making these dramatic roof top renovations into vegetative systems possible.

High profile projects, like Millennium Park or Maggie Daley Park in Chicago, shine a positive light on EPS Geofoam products helping make these beautiful urban landscapes possible. Don't forget, every day there are smaller projects happening in the Chicago providing the same benefits. The combination of light weight, large pieces and exceptional compressive strength makes EPS Geofoam a great choice as a lightweight fill material for vegetative covered roofs.



(ACH Foam Photo)

Please note EPS insulation and EPS Geofoam are the same material but are tested to a different ASTM standard, emphasizing the physical properties important to the two applications.

EPS rigid insulation is available in 13, 15, 25, 40 and 60 psi products. The growth and successful performance of EPS Geofoam in vegetative roofs has also resulted in architects specifying EPS rigid insulation in plaza's with pedestals and pavers, split slab applications, and other applications where the insulation is above membrane. Larger insulation piece sizes, lower cost, and superior performance handling bulk moisture, have made EPS a leader in above membrane applications.

**Summary**

Rising code required R-values and requirements for tapered systems have arrived. EPS insulation provides solid solutions to help minimize these challenges, and should be in every roofing professional's tool box, when choosing the right insulation for a particular project.

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# Three Components of Effective Work Comp Claims Management

By Bryan Adams



Bryan Adams

**B**ent at the knees to lift 50 pounds... injured back and a slipped disc.

Carefully stepping down off a ladder...twisted knee and torn cartilage. The frustration of workplace injuries can be exhausting, especially with so much attention and effort taken to prevent them. While the sophistication of safety

programs has drastically improved in the last 20 years, many claims seem unavoidable. Employers can be left searching for answers when an injured worker develops an infection, requires a second surgery, or is unable to return to their pre-injury job duties. The costs of such claims can be enormous and will impact a business for years after the injury occurs. In 2012, the last year for which data is available, \$61.8 billion was paid out in workers' compensation medical benefits and lost wage compensation (Applied Underwriters 2016). Is there a way to reduce these costs and get injured employees back to work sooner? There are three key areas an employer can focus on to keep injured employees engaged with the goal of getting them back to work as quickly as possible:

1. Frequent Contact with an injured employee
2. Engaging with the Occupational Healthcare System
3. Utilizing a Return to Work Program

## Contact with Injured Employees

Regardless of the circumstances surrounding an injury, there are often feelings of negativity between employer and employee. The employee may be frustrated they are hurt, have uncertainty around their medical bills, whether they'll continue to receive a paycheck, or if their job will still be there once healed. The employer may question the legitimacy of an injury or harbor ill will toward the employee for what they view as a careless act. Employers can also become frustrated due to the disruption in their project and the need to replace a qualified worker.

These factors weigh on an already difficult situation, but can be greatly reduced by having up front and honest communication with the injured worker at the outset, regarding the claim process. Employers should designate a staff member to provide specific details of the injured employee's benefits and rights under the Workers' Compensation Act—what they'll be paid while off work and who will cover their medical bills. If a company representative doesn't provide the information to the worker, there are attorneys in this state longing for that chance! It's important to gather statements from the employee, their supervisor and witnesses regarding the circumstances of the injury. Document this information and maintain it throughout the life of the claim. Remember, when a claim drags on, the injured employee will need encouragement. Stay in contact with them throughout their recovery process. Call to check up on how they are doing. Let them know they are valued and wanted back as quickly as possible.



(CRCA Photo)

According to a University of West Virginia study of Midwest companies, there is a strong correlation between supervisor communication and job satisfaction (Madlock 2008). It's better to be open and honest with an employee rather than having them wallow in uncertainty about their job. Even a small amount of positive reinforcement can go a long way in supporting the healing process. Employers can also communicate

on other work related issues and keep the employee informed about what's going on at the company as if no injury had occurred.

A common misconception is that when your employee is represented by an attorney, you're no longer able to communicate with them in any way. In fact, most employee attorneys will instruct their client not to communicate with their employer and they attempt to halt any communication from the employer to the employee. However, the employer can and should communicate with their employee to make sure benefits are being paid correctly, timely medical treatment is provided, and the return to work policies are clearly outlined. Frequent communication can help the claim go more smoothly and encourage the worker to return sooner. Nevertheless, *there are limits on what an employer can communicate to the represented employee.* The employer cannot communicate anything that would get in the way of the attorney/client relationship or address specific areas of dispute in the case.

### Occupational Healthcare

While the groundwork of communication can remove frustration and establish trust between the employer and the injured employee, the employee must be healthy enough to get back to work. In order for proper healing to take place, the doctors and healthcare providers must do good work. Unfortunately, an employer's control over this is limited.

In Illinois, employees have the right to choose their physician when treating their work related injuries. However, having recommendations for specific doctors, therapists, and surgeons who have proven themselves in the past can be immensely helpful. Employers should consider developing a relationship with an occupational healthcare provider that has a reputation for effective outcomes and understands the construction industry. According to a study about workers' compensation published by the Journal of Occupational Rehabilitation in 2014 "Outcomes were enhanced when an injured worker has a supportive environment, understanding service providers and a cohesive rehabilitation team" (Kilgour 2014). After such an arrangement is in place, success with a few employees can help build trust between you and your injured workers. While healthcare professionals have a legal role in determining when an employee returns to work, employers should be engaged to ensure reasonable return dates are set. Having this information can help keep the employee motivated and allows the company to properly plan for the final element of managing a workers' comp claim—utilizing a return to work program.

### Return to Work Program

The final key to improving outcomes of workers' compensation claims is to utilize a Return to Work (RTW) program. It is important to recognize that not all injuries can be accommodated under a RTW program. However, having a program in place offers an opportunity for the employee to be productive, remain engaged with the company, and demonstrate that they are needed for the company to be successful.

For a Return to Work program to be effective, it should be a formalized company policy and tied into corporate philosophy. Creating structure around this program will help with buy-in from employees, and close monitoring of their progress (with the input of the physician) is critical to its' success. There are several keys in creating an effective RTW program.

1. The first is to develop a library of modified duty tasks that can be assigned to an injured employee.
2. Secondly, identify supervisors who can provide transitional work assignments and facilitate the process.
3. Finally, educate all employees on the existence of the program before injuries occur, and have them sign off with their agreement to follow the program. These components not only get employees back to work sooner, but can also help reduce the direct claims costs, limit the need for temporary employees, and lessen the need for additional training.

### In Conclusion

As most businesses have experienced, workplace injuries are costly, emotionally taxing, and can hinder the morale of a company. Workers' compensation claims will have an impact on the Experience Modification Rate (EMR) for multiple years after the incident; therefore, keeping costs down for every claim is critical. Every injured employee is different, as are the circumstances surrounding most injuries. Having an established process for frequent communication, occupational healthcare engagement, and an effective return to work program will be significant for getting employees back to work quickly and staying positively engaged with the company. 🏠

*Bryan Adams is a Risk Management Specialist with CRCA Member Firm, DSP Insurance Services in Schaumburg, Illinois. In his 2<sup>nd</sup> year at DSP, he works with middle market businesses to provide Insurance, Bonding and Employee Benefit solutions. He serves on the CRCA Contracts and Insurance Committee and Co-Chairs the Safety and Insurance Committee for the ASA (Association of Subcontractors and Affiliates). Bryan received his Construction Risk Insurance Specialist (CRIS) designation in March, and is now working towards his CPCU (Chartered Property Casualty Underwriter) certification. He can be reached at badams@dspins.com.*

# Caution—Bicycle Ahead!

By CRCA Staff

In efforts to benefit pedestrians, transit users, motorists and especially bicyclists, Chicago has launched a 'Chicago Streets for Cycling Plan 2020'. Mayor Emanuel's vision is to "...make Chicago the most bike-friendly city in the United States." The plan calls for a 645-mile network of on-street bikeways, that includes intersection redesign and more.

As the plan is completed, Chicagoans will see an increase of bicyclists. How does this affect the roofing community? To perform roofing work, CRCA Member Contractors and Suppliers need materials delivered to jobsites, sometimes on a daily basis which involve trucks and hoisting vehicles. CRCA cautions all drivers, including roofing vehicles, to be aware of Bike Safety.



(CRCA Photo)

Accidents occurring between vehicles and bikes may include:

- **Opening Doors into a Bicyclist**—If a driver does not check the rear view mirror to assure that there is no car or bike coming, the bicyclist can hit the door and be severely injured.
- **Turns**—Large vehicles making turns can have the rear of the vehicle clip a bicyclist. A vehicle being

'waved in' by a car, stopped for a left hand turn, may not see an oncoming bike, right of the car, cruising along legally passing the cars.

- **Intersections and Bike Lanes**—Keep an eye out for bikes and stay within the speed limit. Navigating the bike lanes and crosswalks can be tricky for drivers, pedestrians and bicyclists. Obey signals, stop and yield signs, even for bikes, especially when intersecting bike lanes and barriers. Note that some intersections include traffic signals specifically for bicyclists They may receive a green signal before autos.
- **Bicyclists' Error**—The June 2016 death of a Chicago bicyclist was caused by the bike turning in front of and into a double decker bus, violating the law. Bicyclists weaving in and out of traffic can cause accidents. So can the bicyclist who blows through stop signs and traffic lights or is on a phone or texting. Be aware!

Chicago bicyclists are here to stay and will increase as access grows. Be alert. Watch for bikes, motorcycles and pedestrians. Watch for other cars making mistakes. Assume you don't have the right of way all the time while driving and eliminate distractions. Extra vigilance is needed as many bicyclists don't abide by the rules as well. Avoid interactions with bicyclists that could easily be tragic

Below are additional links to safety information. Familiarizing yourself will help keep the Roofing Community educated on Chicago's bicycle initiative and the safety needed to drive around the city. 🏠

## Safety Links for Bicycles and Vehicles

- <http://www.cityofchicago.org/content/dam/city/depts/cdot/bike/general/ChicagoStreetsforCycling2020.pdf>
- <http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/opinion/commentary/ct-bicyclist-death-red-lights-traffic-laws-perspec-0617-md-20160616-story.html>
- <http://www.cityofchicago.org/content/dam/city/depts/cdot/bike/general/ChicagoStreetsforCycling2020.pdf>
- <http://www.idot.illinois.gov/home/bicycle>



# CRCA Special Report—CRCA Meets City of Chicago on Crane Operator Licensing Issues

By CRCA Staff

In October, 2013, CRCA commented at Chicago's City Council Meetings regarding the Chicago Crane Ordinance. CRCA's points were that rules are needed to keep Chicago safe. We complimented the City and the Chicago Construction Industry for its safety record.

CRCA also mentioned that the new rules should result in an operator certification process that recognizes The National Center for the Certification of Crane Operators (NCCCO) curriculum and exams to prevent duplicate examinations. Maybe a NCCCO exam with additional questions added could be created? CRCA also requested a third party judge for the practical exams.

For the past three years since the ordinance passed, CRCA has provided input at the City's rulemaking process that the concept of the exams be based on the equipment operated in the roofing industry—boom trucks and knuckle-booms vs. tower cranes. CRCA has also tried to have the City recognize the NCCCO Exams as equal to the City's written exam.

In December 2015 and August 2016, CRCA's Executive Team of George Patterson, President, Rod Petrick, Industry Affairs Chair, Troy Wormley, Vice President and Tony Roque, Past President, met with the City of Chicago's Building Commissioner, Judy Frydland about the Crane Operator Regulations.

Currently, the City of Chicago requires that a crane operator pass a written exam developed by the City and the Board of Operators and Continental Testing. The members of the board, that created the exam, consist of members of the International Union of Operating Engineers, Local 150.

The roofing industry uses 'boom trucks' and 'knuckle-boom trucks' for hoisting roofing material ground or rooftop. This equipment uses multiple levers to lift and position materials or equipment on a roof or the ground.

These boom trucks are used by roofing contractors, roofing distributors and many other trades as well.




*Knuckle-boom Truck (Runnion Equipment Company Photo)*

CRCA's leaders reported that there are questions on the city's written exam and actions required on the practical exam that are more relevant to tower cranes and other larger more complex equipment. The reason being is that the knuckle-boom truck is classified with much larger equipment than roofing industry workers would typically not be operating. For example, the city's exam had questions about rigging and tower cranes, completely outside the scope of the roofing industry work with boom trucks and knuckle-booms. More complex equipment such as tower cranes use a 'joystick' rather than multiple control points and levers to position the load. This causes a disadvantage for the industry using boom trucks. In addition, the City of Chicago Exam requires a timed exam with an increase in the number of placements using the equipment and a reduction in the time to do it.

As a result of CRCA's Meetings with the City this winter, the City's Staff studied the crane industry guides and actually took the Crane Operator Licensing Exam. Adjustments were made to some of the questions according to the City.

To address the current concerns that the exam for a knuckle-boom truck operator has questions about larger equipment outside the scope of the roofing industry crane operator, the City agreed to revisit the exams again to understand better the issues.

The City of Chicago was very receptive to CRCA's point that the exams should focus on the equipment roofing industry workers use daily. We also requested that the City review their classifications as well. Based on that, the City has requested more information from CRCA. CRCA's Industry Affairs committee is looking for information about the experiences roofing industry workers have had with the City of Chicago Crane Operator Licensing process. Comments are needed to allow CRCA to forward them to the City.

As with all new requirements, it takes time for the rulemaking process to work itself out. Thankfully, the City of Chicago's Department of Buildings is working with CRCA through this process. Stay tuned for more info. 



*Boom Truck (Runnion Equipment Company Photo)*

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# CRCA Industry News



## **CRCA Meets with Chicago**

**DOB**—CRCA's Industry Affairs team met with the Commissioner at the Department of Buildings (DOB) recently. Energy, building codes and crane regulations were discussed.

Check out both articles in this issue of *CRCA Today*.

CRCA efforts at the City of Chicago are on behalf of common sense and technical correctness for the customer—the building owner and manager. CRCA's membership has diversified significantly over the past 10 years and includes steep slope and low slope commercial, industrial and institutional, as well as, residential buildings. CRCA Membership dues support what CRCA does at the City of Chicago and other venues for Chicago, Suburbs and downstate areas. Join CRCA today to help advocate for the best value for customers—a great leak free functioning roof that complies with Building and Energy Codes.

## **CRCA at ICC's Energy Code Development**

**Process**—CRCA's Industry Affairs Committee submitted a public comment to the International Code Council's Code Development Process (cdpACCESS.) The proposal requires insulation manufacturers of all types to test their insulation at various temperatures that the materials are expected to be exposed to using ASTM C518, *Standard Test Method for Steady-State Thermal Transmission Properties by Means of the Heat Flow Meter Apparatus*.

Why is this important? It seems insulation R-values vary, based on the temperature they are tested. The R-values are lower at both high and low temperatures, with the best value reported at 75°F for some insulations.

The Building Owner and Managers HVAC Consultants design the system, based on the building envelope's insulation R-values. If that's off, what happens to the HVAC System? Will the new Energy Benchmarking Requirements, now being enacted in large cities like Chicago, Portland and Philadelphia, find that insulation isn't doing what it was advertised to do? Read on to see CRCA's proposal and reason statement.

## **Public Comment CE66-16 MCHUGH-CRCA:**

**Proponent: Chicago Roofing Contractors Association requests Approve as Modified by this Public Comment.**

### **Modify as Follows:**

#### **2015 International Energy Conservation Code 303.1.4.2 Building Thermal Envelope Insulation.**

*R-values of Insulation to be measured at the lowest value from ASTM C 518 testing at 40°F, 75°F, and 110°F.*

*Add new reference standard; ASTM C518 Standard Test Method for Steady-State Thermal Transmission Properties by Means of Heat Flow Meter Apparatus.*

**Modify standard(s) as follows:** *ASTM C518-15 Standard Test Method for Steady-State Thermal Transmission Properties by Means of the Heat Flow Meter Apparatus*

**Commenter's Reason:** At the Committee Action Hearings in Louisville, KY, the ICC Energy Conservation Code Development Committee reason given included moving the requirement from a chart to section 303.1.4. Based on the committee reason statement, the requirement is in a new section of 303.1.4, 303.1.4.2. Secondly, the underlying reason for this proposal is to bring the code requirements to a much more accurate requirement for testing R-values of various insulation types that can be used at the Building Envelope. In order for the designer, engineer, building owner and manager to evaluate performance and get the value they are paying for, R-values of insulation in the building envelope need to be reported at resistance to varied temperatures as can be expected. This is critical to measure the actual heat flow through the insulation. This allows the mechanical engineering community to design heating and cooling system capacity to the environment that the insulation will resist heat flow. Current measurement of insulation at the 75°F level means that some insulation types are performing at a temperature that optimizes their performance over other types of materials. These may perform better across the wide range of expected temperatures seen throughout the seasons. Temperatures need to be measured at 25°F, 40°F, 75°F, and 110°F through the whole temperature range expected to provide

the full performance levels of the material. Also, the 75°F exposure temperature is not achievable in many places in real world exposures.

The National Roofing Contractors Association and Canadian Roofing Contractors Association have researched and found that the R-values of insulation types can vary greatly. Some perform well at 75°F while others perform through a range of temperatures at 110°F and above, as well as at below 40°F. With this ASTM C518 testing requirement in the energy codes, the designer, engineer, building owner and manager will be better able to judge the performance of all insulation types across a wide range of temperatures. Requiring insulation to be tested to this standard means optimum matching of both the HVAC Systems and Building Envelope Systems.

The resistance testing of all insulation types at various temperatures provides testing environments simulated conditions. These conditions are able to demonstrate how a building is exposed in the environment, all year long throughout the globe.

The ICC's International Energy Conservation Code needs to communicate the rules for product testing and acceptability using the wide consensus of code officials and others participating in the ICC code development process.

## LEGISLATIVE—ILLINOIS



In February this year, CRCA Legislative Consultant Margaret Vaughn worked with Sen. Noland (IL-D) to sponsor Senate Bill 2982, that clarified when an owner (or his/her employees) can perform roofing work on the property. This important amendment stated that a person can perform emergency or temporary "roof repair" on his employer's property and not be required to be licensed by the State of Illinois. An important clarification was added to require an Illinois Roofing Contractor license for those who perform "Roof Recover" or "Roof Replacement" on their own commercial or industrial properties or for this person's employees to do the same. Noland and Vaughn's thinking was to protect public safety, as building owner employees do not possess the proper safety training, mandated by OSHA, or the technical training to install or recover roofs in Illinois.

Unfortunately, Governor Rauner vetoed SB 2982 on August 19, 2016, asking Illinois Financial and Professional Regulators, who monitor licensing, to go back to the drawing board on this issue. CRCA's Vaughn is already hard at work to have this important legislation looked at during the Fall veto session. More to come....

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**CRCA Launches Membership Initiative**—Learn more about CRCA Contractor or Associate Membership! Join now and receive four months for free! Already a CRCA member? Refer a friend! Any current members recommending new contractors or associates that join are eligible to win a 2017 membership renewal for free. For more, contact [alyssa@crca.org](mailto:alyssa@crca.org).

**CRCA's Trade Show & Seminars**—It's warm and nice out now but fast forward to January 19 & 20, 2017. As tradition holds, this will likely be the coldest week of the year, just in time for Roofing Week in Chicago! Mark your calendars now for CRCA Trade Show & Seminars at Drury Lane, Oakbrook Terrace, IL. Great speakers on key industry issues of the day are part of this program. Watch [www.CRCA.org](http://www.CRCA.org), Trade Show, for continued updates on speakers and events.



**CRCA Emerging Leaders**—CRCA's Emerging Leaders group have met several times this year. One of the Committee's goals has been to get more people involved at CRCA. So far, this has been a big success with

CRCA's Board and Committees now populated with Emerging Leaders who are involved in the CRCA's activities. The August event had great attendance. Attendees were able to discuss how technology can streamline their business with **Allied Building Products, Dataforma, Drone Infrared Imaging, Eagleview Technologies, International Leak Detection and Systech**. Watch [www.CRCA.org](http://www.CRCA.org) / event for information on the October event.

**CRCA's Committees**—CRCA is nationally known for what it does in its CRCA Trade Show and Seminars, Membership Meeting Educational Programming, and other committee activities. CRCA's President appoints members to committees. Planning for the 2017 CRCA Committees is an ongoing activity.

Do you want to be part of a CRCA Committee? Now is the time to get your name on the radar so you can attend the CRCA Committee Day in December. How? First, check out CRCA's Committee Pages to see what committee you want to be appointed to. Second, Email [Alyssa@crca.org](mailto:Alyssa@crca.org) with your committee interest. That's all it takes.

**CRCA Social Media**—CRCA's Alyssa Milazzo has been working on CRCA's LinkedIn and Facebook pages as well as Twitter. Become a 'Friend' to CRCA on Facebook to keep up with CRCA Members.



We've also launched a new 'CRCA Text' messaging notification program. Text CRCA to 77948 to get the latest CRCA info.


**CRCA E-News**—CRCA Members, watch your email each month for CRCA's E-News. This concise electronic tool is an important way to keep members in the loop with "hot topics" pertaining to the roofing industry. Not a member? Contact [Alyssa@crca.org](mailto:Alyssa@crca.org) for an application!

**CRCA Leaders Active**—The NRCA's Charter from the late 1800's has signatures from CRCA leaders. CRCA Members continue to serve nationally and regionally, in addition to being active at CRCA. CRCA's President George Patterson, Bennett and Brosseau Roofing, Inc., is on the NRCA's Board of Directors. Alex Hernandez, Clark Roofing, is a Vice Chairman while Rod Petrick, Ridgeworth Roofing Co, Inc., is on the Board of Directors and also the Chair of the Technical Operations Committee. Rod also serves on the Alliance for Progress of the NRCA. At MRCA, Larry Marshall, L. Marshall Roofing & Sheet Metal, Inc., is Chairman of the Board, with Laurie Moore, Kreiling Roofing Company and Jim Peterson, Peterson Roofing, Inc., on the MRCA Board of Directors.

**CRCA Industry Day Golf Outing a Big Success**—Thank you to everyone who participated in the 2016 CRCA Industry Day Golf Outing and a special thanks to all CRCA's sponsors. This event always brings 300+ for a day of relationship building and fun. Don't miss next year's CRCA Industry Day Golf Outing.



**CRCA Recognizes Baseball Event Sponsors**—Thank you to A.C.T. Metal Deck Supply, ABS Inc. / Carlisle, North Coast Roofing Systems and Prate Roofing & Roofing Installations, LLC for support at the August Event at the Kane County Cougars!

**Safety Requirements Take Effect NOW**—The Occupational Health and Safety Administration, (OSHA), has launched two major rules and initiatives. OSHA's new Crystalline Silica Rule took effect on June 23, 2016 and Reporting Procedure requirements also changed. 

# CRCA Contractor Members

The Contractor Members of the Chicago Roofing Contractor Association install all types of roofs, including reflective single ply, modified bitumen, built up, gravel, reflective coatings, shingle, shake, slate and tile, vegetative garden or photovoltaic coverings. From formation following the Great Chicago Fire of 1871, CRCA Members have moved with the times and technology, yet continue to maintain some of the same goals set forth over 140 years ago. To find a CRCA Professional Contractor, visit [www.CRCA.org](http://www.CRCA.org).

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## **Sept. 29–Oct. 1, 2016**

National Roofing Legal Resource Center Annual Seminar  
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[www.NRCA.net](http://www.NRCA.net)

## **Dec. 2, 2016**

CRCA Awards Dinner\*  
Chicago Sports Museum  
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## **Dec. 13, 2016**

CRCA Committee Day\*\*  
[www.CRCA.org](http://www.CRCA.org)

## **Oct. 4, 2016**

ALA Midwest Architecture Conference  
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Oakbrook Terrace  
[www.alatoday.org/](http://www.alatoday.org/)

## **Jan. 19–20, 2017**

CRCA Trade Show & Seminars  
Drury Lane Conference Center  
[www.CRCA.org](http://www.CRCA.org)

## **Oct. 16–25, 2016**

ICC Annual Conference and Public Comment Hearings  
Kansas City  
[www.ICCSAFE.org](http://www.ICCSAFE.org)

## **Feb. 27–March 3, 2017**

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## **Oct. 24, 2016**

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The Clubhouse, Oak Brook  
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\* CRCA Members only and their guests.

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## **Oct. 27, 2016**

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## **Nov. 4, 2016**

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