



EUROPEAN CRANE OPERATORS and EUROPEAN TRAILER OPERATORS LICENCE

Ton Klijn, ESTA Director.

GIS conference - Piacenza



1. History of ECOL

In 2013: Initial warning signal:

Manufacturers complained to ESTA about deteriorating skills found during operator instruction when picking up new cranes from the factories .

**And at
ESTA we
knew : →**

- ***Big differences in national laws and regulations between European countries lead to different educational requirements and acquired skills***
- ***Crane operators can drive on the road all over Europe but can legally operate the crane only in their home country.***
- ***No clear operator knowledge and skills requirements in some of the certification systems.***

(Crane operator training duration in Europe varies between 2 years and 22 hours)





www.ecol-esta.eu

European Crane Operators Licence

2. Licence development

2014 ESTA Workgroup started to develop training and examination scheme

2018 ECOL foundation established, and pilot runs performed

2019: EQF recognition for ECOL

In December 2019, ESTA received confirmation that our European Crane Operators Licence project - ECOL - had been approved by the **European Qualifications Framework**.



erasmus+
meer perspectief



NLQF
Nationaal Coördinatiepunt





3. What is ECOL ?

- *Aimed at Crane operators for mobile cranes under EN 13000*
- *Sets a standard for the training and examination of operators*
- *Training and examination itself is done by local schools – institutes*
- *A licenced operator is required to register his experience*

To take part in an ECOL training and examination you must be at least 18 years old and hold a valid EU class-C driving licence [truck driving licence].





4. Why is ECOL different ?

- **ECOL is unique because :**
 - ***ECOL specifies both the examination as well as the educational standards.***
Admission requirements and training duration and content
 - ***ECOL registers the experience of a licenced operator***
enables every site manager to check the qualifications and experience of any crane operator who enters their construction site or plant.
 - ***ECOL allows a credential check to verify the validity of an operator's licence***





5 . What has ECOL achieved so far?

ECOL is recognised in Belgium, Denmark, the Netherlands, Switzerland and British Columbia in Canada. This means that ECOL-qualified operators will be able to work in all those territories without further training or testing. Mutual recognition talks ongoing in Germany, Spain and Ireland.

Training and examination institutes:

Available in four countries: Germany, The Netherlands, Belgium and Denmark.

Training and examination:

Available in four languages:
English, German, Danish
Dutch

Certified operators and trainers / examiners

Presently 80+ operators and 25 trainers and 14 examiners have been certified by ECOL.





www.ecol-esta.eu

European Crane Operators Licence

6. To learn more about ECOL :



European Crane Operators
or
Trailer Operators Licence,
go to:

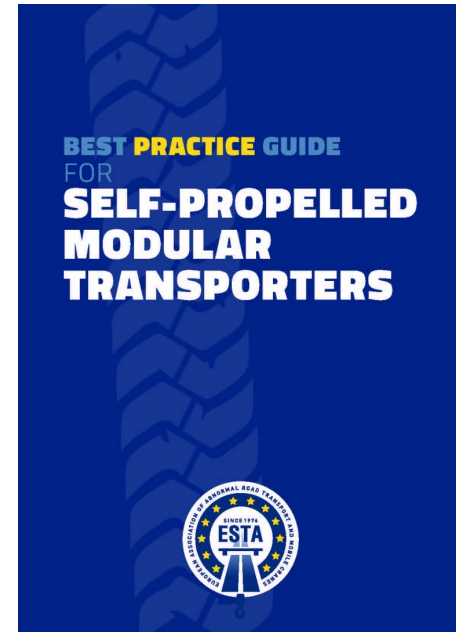
www.ecol-esta.eu





7. ESTA's wish list - what next?

The ESTA members decided to start a revision of the best practice guide for SPMT operations, published in 2018.



Download available in 7 languages from ESTA website



8. The goal is to avoid this in the future



9. Current operator qualifications

- 18 years of age
- Physically able
- Any other qualification deemed useful by the employer





10. ESTA's wish list - what next? II

The BPG revision is aimed at addressing the following developments:

- Increasing number of lines and operating companies
- New insights on stability of hydraulic trailers and transports
- Major clients using bare lease trailers and 'hired hands' for complicated operations

ESTA members decided to make operator training a top priority.





11. New licence for trailer operators

ESTA Board of Directors decided:

- to fund the development of a training for trailer operators
 - to incorporate this under the ECOL umbrella
-
- New acronym will be: **ETOL** : European Trailer Operator Licence
 - The program is aimed at operators of **all** hydraulic trailers
 - Training will be a combination of school and in-company training





12. How will ETOL be developed?

ESTA workgroup established to develop a training for trailer operators

Collett Group Ltd.	Operating company
Cometto S.p.A.	Manufacturer
DNV AS	Warranty surveying company
Fagioli S.p.A.	Operating company
Goldhofer AG	Manufacturer
Mammoet B.V.	Operating company
Sarens N.V.	Operating company
Tii Group GmbH Scheuerle/Kamag	Manufacturer
Siemens Gamesa	Industrial client
Technip	Industrial client
Wagenborg Nedlift B.V.	Operating company

Develop a generic training design and learning outcomes.

Training will be combination of school and in-company training





13. Industry advantages from embracing ETOL

Or: Why would you be involved ?

- **ETOL** raises the overall level of operator training in Europe to a large extent; in all 27 EU countries the qualification threshold will be raised.
- Operator shortages in Northern Europe are imminent; ETOL facilitates the labor mobility.
- Qualifications and experience of an operator can be checked and verified when arriving at your site or during a job-interview.
- **All the above will raise the safety standard in this industry**





www.ecol-esta.eu

European Crane Operators Licence

Feel free to join us in this and other ESTA projects !



Register as ESTA supporter : www.estaeurope.eu/supporter





Thank you for your attention !

Thank you for your attention

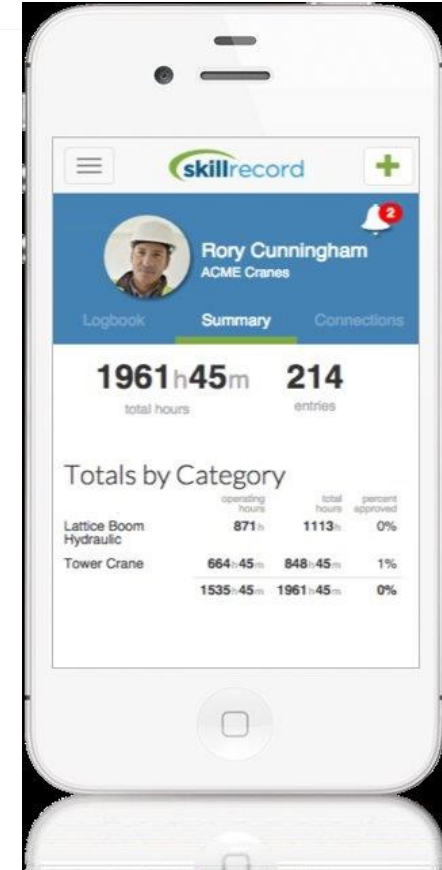
Extra slides for sampling or elucidation if needed



Experience registration

Operator registration under the ECOL system:

- Online application www.skillrecord.com
- Experience and operating hours logged
- Pictures / comments can be added
- Validated by employer
- Logging of hours required for recertification





www.ecol-esta.eu

European Crane Operators Licence

Licence



EUROPEAN CRANE OPERATORS LICENCE



Validity is confirmed by checking licence number against the register on the ECOL website

www.ecol-esta.eu

Name: **Richard Jansen**

Date of birth: **19.05.1985**

ECOL #: **2022-00118**

Licence #: **MCW-100056NL** Expires: **23.05.2027**





8. How to get an ECOL licence as an operator

A. Novice Operators

120 hours theory
120 hours practice

School based or
'apprentice' training
possible

B. Experienced Operators

Reduced training time
duration based on level of
experience demonstrated.

Also recognition of prior
learning.

Licence recognition:

Operators with a
"recognised licence" can
apply for recognition by
ECOL.

Content of the generic training design and certification requirements for operators is under permanent review of the "Expert board"





6. How to join ECOL as a trainer or examiner ?

To join ECOL a participant must take the following steps:

Agreement

- sign a participant's agreement with ECOL;
- have your training/examination scheme “validated”

Trainers / Examiners

- register their trainers and/or examiners to take the ECOL examination

Certification

- arrange certification of their training/examination facilities, equipment, and training design by Lloyd's Register

