PALFINGER North America began in 1989 in Niagara Falls, Canada where a crane sales, service and manufacturing facility was established. Over the years, the North American product portfolio has been steadily expanded with products such as the truck-mounted forklifts, and Epsilon forestry/recycling cranes. PALFINGER North America has become a market leader in the design and manufacturing of knuckle boom cranes, forestry/recycling cranes and truck-mounted forklifts.

PALFINGER University was created to educate our product sales managers and dealer personnel to sell and service all PALFINGER products with efficiency and confidence through a dedicated training program of "Best Practices".

New OSHA crane regulations are on the books. Are you prepared? PALFINGER can help.
Where can I find the complete Cranes and Derricks in Construction rule? OSHA publishes the complete rule in the public Federal Register. On the OSHA website, www.osha.gov, follow links for Regulations; Construction; Subpart CC. A general internet search for “Subpart CC Cranes and Derricks in Construction” will also lead to the rule.

Do all knuckleboom cranes need overload protection to be excluded from the rule? No. An overload protection system is only required for the delivery of sheet goods or building supply packaged materials onto a structure using a fork/cradle on the end of the boom. A regular knuckleboom crane offloading material from the truck to the ground, overload protection is not required to qualify for the exclusion.

What should I get my operators certified? Construction activity does not necessarily have to be on a construction site. Including a sepatic tank in a homeowner’s backyard can be considered construction. A knuckleboom crane can only be considered construction only if its primary use is construction; if it is easily possible for a crane to fall under the rule one day and then be excluded the next day in a different application, whether in or non-construction in Delivery exclusion. For most knuckleboom crane operations, at least some of their work will fall under the rule, so they are encouraged to prepare for compliance with Subpart CC.

When should I get my operators certified? The deadline for full compliance with the operator certification portion of the rule is November 10, 2014. In the meantime several states that do not already have their own operator certification requirement have begun to adopt large portions of the rule, in some cases with tighter deadlines for compliance. Many employers across the U.S. are getting their operators certified now, taking advantage of the new NCCCO certification program. With a nationally recognized certification, operators are better prepared to meet special requirements on certain jobsites such as refineries, powerplants, or even certification requirements of states and cities.

Does operator certification in telescopic or lattice boom cranes count for knuckleboom crane certification? No. The certification must be based on testing on the actual equipment type. A knuckleboom operator must be able to operate a knuckleboom crane. The new rule will apply to all cranes, regardless of which rule applies to a given crane. The new certification may be used for knuckleboom cranes and telescopic/lattice boom cranes. For example, PALFINGER’s telescopic and lattice boom cranes are already certified for the material delivery exclusion. It is also possible for a crane to fall under the rule one day and then be excluded the next day. The deadline for full compliance with the operator certification portion of the rule is November 10, 2014. In the meantime, several states that do not already have their own operator certification requirement have begun to adopt large portions of the rule, in some cases with tighter deadlines for compliance. Many employers across the U.S. are getting their operators certified now, taking advantage of the new NCCCO certification program. With a nationally recognized certification, operators are better prepared to meet special requirements on certain jobsites such as refineries, powerplants, or even certification requirements of states and cities.

How does the NCCCO Articulating Crane Certification Program work? PALFINGER has taken an active role in NCCCO’s Articulating Crane Task Force to help develop the Articulating Crane Certification Program. The task force is composed of crane manufacturers, interested employers, and representatives from the safety & training community. Through this involvement, we were able to educate our dealers with up to date information. Several PALFINGER dealers have already become accredited practical examiners and are now able to certify knuckleboom crane operators.

All PALFINGER cranes have been equipped with overload protection as standard equipment since 2007. This set a true benchmark in the knuckleboom crane industry, and as a result there is a large population of PALFINGER cranes able to qualify for the material delivery exclusion for sheet-goods and building supply materials.