

Building Operator Certification™ - BOC

BOC is a nationally-recognized professional education program for building operators offering improved job skills and more comfortable, efficient facilities. Operators earn certification by attending training and completing project assignments in their facilities. BOC certification provides a credential for professional development and opportunities for advancement in the workplace. Fifty percent of operators report increased compensation following achievement of their BOC certification.

BOC saves money for companies by improving the energy efficiency of heating, cooling and lighting systems, and enabling operators to be proactive in compliance with environmental regulations. The average BOC graduate saves \$15,000 annually in utility costs through efficiency improvements.

Employers with BOC credentialed staff report increased respect from building occupants and tenants. BOC improves the professionalism of facility departments by equipping operators with the skills to be more responsive to complaints about air quality and comfort control.

What Employers and Operators Are Saying

Government

"BOC has helped our Federal Facility operators meet the requirements of Executive Order 13123 to reduce energy consumption. This order, issued under the Clinton Administration, requires Federal facilities to reduce energy consumption by 35 percent by 2010. Operation and maintenance strategies presented in BOC will help us get there."

Federal Energy Management Program, Arun Jhaveri, Regional Technology Manager

Schools

"We believe commissioning validates a building was properly designed and constructed for efficiency. Appropriately trained and skilled operators of these complex and critical systems ensures continued efficiency throughout the life of the building."

National School Plant Managers Association, Dan Lea, Board Member

Health Care

"The hospital's building operators, some of whom are BOC participants, were an integral part of the commissioning crew. Now that their building is tuned up, they are taking pride in operating at an efficient level. In fact, they are using some of the things they learned about the building to improve operation beyond the commissioned state."

Puget Sound Energy, Bill Steigner, Account Representative

Utilities

"We are glad to include BOC in the resources we promote to our commercial/industrial customers. It really shows we're interested in our customers' welfare, as well as our being an active supporter of energy conservation."

Puget Sound Energy, Syd France, Market Manager of Business Account Services

Earning BOC Certification

Certification is competency-based and offered at two levels – Level I and II. To achieve certification, participants must attend classes, and complete written tests and on-the-job project assignments. Class topics include Building systems overview, HVAC systems and controls, Energy conservation strategies, Indoor air quality, and more. Take-home facility projects require participants to demonstrate competence in locating building equipment, distribution paths, and

control points; calculating facility energy consumption; critiquing HVAC systems operation; and, depicting facility electrical distribution.

Who to Contact

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BOC Sponsors

BOC is administered by the Northwest Energy Efficiency Council (NEEC), a trade association of the energy efficiency industry, with sponsorship from over 50 electric and gas utilities across the country.