Berea, Ohio (April 16, 2013) NOSHOK proudly announces our certification with U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) agency's employment compliance program IMAGE, or "ICE Mutual Agreement between Government and Employers."

"We view IMAGE certification as added value to the entities that participate in the program," said William Hayes, acting special agent in charge of HSI Detroit, which covers Michigan and Ohio. "This certification adds a level of distinction to the company that says not only is NOSHOK committed to quality products, but they are also committed to maintaining a quality and capable workforce."

“NOSHOK is proud to participate in the IMAGE program, and to do our part in promoting the importance of valid and legal employment in the United States,” stated Jeff Scott, President of NOSHOK. “We’ve always been a pioneer in our industry with our products and new technologies, and hope that NOSHOK’s IMAGE certification will inspire others to take part in this important program. We feel strongly that our dedication to our customers, our country and our employees is served by this partnership, by ensuring a trained, qualified and legitimate workforce."

**IMAGE program**

Undocumented workers create vulnerabilities in today’s marketplace by presenting false documents to gain employment, completing applications for fraudulent benefits and stealing identities of legal United States workers. To combat this, ICE initiated the IMAGE program in 2006. As part of the IMAGE program, ICE provides employers with education and training on proper hiring procedures, including use of employment screening tools such as E-Verify. IMAGE certified employers also undergo an audit of their I-9 forms to ensure current employees are eligible to work in the United States. Employers that are certified with ICE through the IMAGE program pledge to maintain a secure and stable workforce and curtail the employment of unauthorized workers through outreach and education. ICE recently revamped IMAGE, simplifying program requirements. HSI also works with the private sector to educate employers about their responsibilities to hire only authorized workers and how to accurately verify employment eligibility, through such tools as the IMAGE program.

**E-Verify**

All IMAGE members must participate in the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) E-Verify employment eligibility verification program. Through this program, employers can verify that newly hired employees are eligible to work in the United States. This Internet-based system is available throughout the nation and is free to employers. It provides an automated link to the Social Security Administration database and DHS immigration records.