PCA P2

Third Party Inspections: Qualifications, Responsibilities, and Procedures

1. Scope

1.1 The purpose of this Standard is to establish third party inspection qualifications, responsibilities and procedures.

2. Significance and Use

2.1 Interest in the success of the project.

2.2 Effective third party inspection can contribute to the success of a project and reduce needless delays, rework and costs, general disruptions and tension between the contracting entity, Painting Contractor, and material supplier.

2.3 This Standard shall utilize standards already set forth by the Association for Materials Protection and Performance (AMPP) [the National Association of Corrosion Engineers (NACE) & The Society for Protective Coatings (SSPC)] and the American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM), and as enumerated below.

3. Definitions and Trade Terms

3.1 Definitions and Trade Terms see P9.

4. Reference Documents and Standards

4.1 Reference Documents and Standards see P9.

5. Standard Specification

5.1 General Requirements for Inspection Personnel

5.1.1 Education, Training and Experience

5.1.1.1 As a minimum requirement, an inspector shall have successfully completed an education and training program from a recognized organization offering curriculum equivalent to the NACE Training Course Session 1 – Basic Coating Inspection Course or MPI Certified Architectural Coatings Inspector. Similar courses from AMPP, NACE, SSPC or MPI may be considered for the project.

5.1.1.2 An inspector shall have a minimum of three (3) years of experience in the painting industry related to the type of work to be inspected. A current resume of work experience of the inspector shall be available to all parties at the pre-job conference.

5.1.2 Physical Qualifications

5.1.2.1 An inspector should be examined annually to ensure natural or corrected near-distance visual acuity in at least one eye. The individual shall read the J-1 letters on a standard Jaeger chart, or equivalent, at a distance of not less than 12 inches with one or both eyes, uncorrected or corrected. An inspector shall also be examined for color perception using the Ishihara test or the Farnsworth D-15 test when being certified or recertified.

5.1.2.2 An inspector shall be physically capable of performing the required inspection work on industry standard, OSHA approved equipment as utilized by the Contractor.

5.1.2.3 Inspector's Safety Training: The inspector must show that he or she has received current training in all safety aspects that will be encountered during the execution of his or her duties on the project.

5.1.3 Functional Qualifications of Inspectors

5.1.3.1 An inspector shall have a current working knowledge of the operation and use of the inspection equipment required for the project.

5.1.4 Coating Knowledge

5.1.4.1 An inspector shall conduct a complete review of the coating specification and be capable of understanding the requirements of those documents.

5.1.5 Conflict of Interest Disclosure

5.1.5.1 Full disclosure shall be made by the inspector of any reasons that would prevent an impartial evaluation of the Painting Contractor's performance.

5.2 Job Coordination Requirements

5.2.1 A pre-job conference shall be held to review information pertinent to the job. The inspector shall be present with the contracting entity, material supplier (or representative) and Painting Contractor. At a minimum, the following topics shall be reviewed:

5.2.1.1 Scope of Work

5.2.1.2 Specification Requirements

5.2.1.3 Identification of Design Defects

5.2.1.4 Safety Data Sheets (SDS) formally known as Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS) and Product or Technical Data Sheets

5.2.1.5 Pre-Bid Job Walk Minutes

5.2.1.6 Work Schedule

5.2.1.7 Acceptance Procedures

5.2.1.8 Inspector Qualifications

5.2.1.9 Inspector's Authority: Prior to job start, the Painting Contractor shall be advised as to the level and limits of authority and responsibility that the inspector will be exercising.

5.2.1.10 Testing Procedures and Instrumentation: If not specifically addressed in the specifications, testing procedures and the required list of instruments, including calibration, shall be determined at the pre-job conference.

5.1.6.11 Resolution of Disputes

5.1.6.12 Inspection Hold Points and Documentation

5.3 Resolution of Dispute Procedure

5.3.1 To ensure timely completion of the project, a procedure shall be written to resolve any dispute or conflict regarding specifications, manufacturers' literature, work in progress or completed work.

5.3.2 Minimum resolution procedure shall include:

5.3.2.1 Establishment of levels of communication and responsibility and authority of personnel.

5.3.2.2 Identification of personnel having levels of authority.

5.3.2.3 Time frame and procedure to identify and resolve disputes or conflicts.

5.4 Inspection Hold Points & Documentation

5.4.1 A schedule of hold points in the sequence of work operations shall be identified, after which timely inspections/testing procedures are to be performed prior to further work being completed. Inspections/testing procedures should not unreasonably delay the Painting Contractor's work.

5.4.2 The inspector shall understand the project schedule and shall perform activities in accordance with the Painting Contractor's schedule. Inspection hold points shall be mutually agreed upon to minimize disruption to the Painting Contractor's workflow.

5.4.3 Non-compliant conditions, or defective work phases shall be immediately reported in writing to the Painting Contractor's representative and the contracting entity.

5.4.4 The inspector shall provide the Painting Contractor with all QA/QC reports and documentation within twenty-four (24) hours of the inspection and concurrent with issuance to the contracting entity.

6. Comments

6.1 This Standard clarifies areas of responsibility. Improved communication reduces misunderstandings.

6.2 This Standard is a nationally recognized consensus document for the painting and coating industry's work practices.

7. Disclaimer of Liability

7.1 PCA does not warrant or assume any legal liability or responsibility for the accuracy, completeness, or usefulness of any of the information contained herein.