

Industrial Coating and Lining Applicator Qualification and Certification

©2024 Association for Materials Protection and Performance (AMPP). All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted, in any form or by any means (electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording, or otherwise) without the prior written permission of AMPP.

Industrial Coating and Lining Applicator Qualification and Certification

This AMPP standard represents a consensus of those individual members who have reviewed this document, its scope, and its provisions. Its acceptance does not in any respect preclude anyone, whether he or she has adopted the standard or not, from manufacturing, marketing purchasing, or using products, processes, or procedures not in conformance with this standard. Nothing contained in this AMPP standard is to be construed as granting any right, by implication or otherwise, to manufacture, sell, or use in connection with any method, apparatus, or product covered by Letters Patent, or as indemnifying or protecting anyone against liability for infringement of Letters Patent. This standard represents minimum requirements and should in no way be interpreted as a restriction on the use of better procedures or materials. Neither is this standard intended to apply in all cases relating to the subject. Unpredictable circumstances may negate the usefulness of this standard in specific instances. AMPP assumes no responsibility for the interpretation or use of this standard by other parties and accepts responsibility for only those official AMPP interpretations issued by AMPP in accordance with its governing procedures and policies which preclude the issuance of interpretations by individual volunteers.

Users of this AMPP standard are responsible for reviewing appropriate health, safety, environmental, and regulatory documents and for determining their applicability in relation to this standard prior to its use. This AMPP standard may not necessarily address all potential health and safety problems, or environmental hazards associated with the use of materials, equipment, and/or operations detailed or referred to within this standard. Users of this AMPP standard are also responsible for establishing appropriate health, safety, and environmental protection practices, in consultation with appropriate regulatory authorities, if necessary, to achieve compliance with any existing applicable regulatory requirements prior to the use of this standard.

CAUTIONARY NOTICE: AMPP standards are subject to periodic review and may be revised or withdrawn at any time in accordance with AMPP technical committee procedures. AMPP requires that action be taken to reaffirm, revise, or withdraw this standard no later than five years from the date of initial publication and subsequently from the date of each reaffirmation or revision. The user is cautioned to obtain the latest edition. Purchasers of AMPP standards may receive current information on all standards and other AMPP/NACE/SSPC publications by contacting AMPP Customer Support, 15835 Park Ten Place, Houston, Texas 77084-5145 (Tel: +1-281-228-6200, email: customersupport@ampp.org).

Document History:

2024-10-30: Revised by AMPP Standards Committee (SC) 25, Accreditation Standards

2016-03-28: Revised by NACE Corrosive Technology Group (STG) 04, Coatings and Linings, Protective: Surface Preparation and SSPC C.3.15, Coating Applicator Qualification

2001-01-01: Approved by NACE Joint Task Group 320, Coating and Lining Applicator Qualification and SSPC C.3.15, Coating Applicator Qualification

AMPP values your input. To provide feedback on this standard, please contact: standards@ampp.org

NACE No. 13/SSPC-ACS 1-2024

©2024 Association for Materials Protection and Performance (AMPP). All rights reserved.

Industrial Coating and Lining Applicator Qualification and Certification

| | |
|---|----|
| Foreword, Rationale | 4 |
| Referenced Standards and Other Consensus Documents | 5 |
| Section 1 Scope | 5 |
| Section 2 Definitions | 5 |
| Section 3 Body of Knowledge | 5 |
| Section 4 Qualification Levels and Requirements | 6 |
| Section 5 Level II/Level III Specialty (Add-on) Endorsements | 8 |
| Section 6 Certification Program Requirements | 9 |
| Section 7 Requirements for Maintaining Certification | 10 |
| Other Referenced Documents | 10 |
| Appendix A Body of Knowledge for Application Specialist Qualification (Mandatory) | 11 |
| Appendix B Competency (Knowledge and Skills Requirements) (Mandatory) | 20 |
| Appendix C Skills Assessment Program (Nonmandatory) | 22 |
| Appendix D Examples of Acceptable Training (Nonmandatory) | 23 |
| TABLES | |
| Table 1 Qualification Levels and Requirements for Application Specialist | 7 |
| Table 2 Specialty (Add-On) Endorsements and Corresponding Paragraph(s) in Appendix A (Body of Knowledge) | 8 |
| Table A1 Body of Knowledge – Applicator Qualification | 11 |
| Table B1 Three Levels of Competency | 20 |
| FIGURES | |
| Figure 1 Test Panel/Apparatus Configuration | 9 |

Foreword

This AMPP standard sets forth the requirements for qualification and certification for two levels of an industrial coating and lining applicator and a third level as an application specialist. The qualification and certification processes are a stepwise achievement process that includes all aspects of surface preparation and coating application for steel and concrete surfaces of complex industrial structures. The intended audience includes personnel involved in developing education and certification programs for the training and assessment of the skills and knowledge of Coating and Lining Applicators and Application Specialists or assessing the training and certification programs available either on the open market or from an in-house source.

The body of the standard provides the requirements for qualification and certification for Level I, “Industrial Applicator;” Level II, “Senior Industrial Applicator;” and Level III, “Application Specialist.”

[Appendix A](#) (mandatory) defines the competency requirements and the minimum “Body of Knowledge” for each qualification level that provides a basis to allow applicants to achieve qualification in a Certified Industrial Coating and Lining Applicator program. Appendix A provides requirements for [Section 5](#) of this standard.

[Appendix B](#) (mandatory) provides the required information for use with Appendix A for the development of a learning skills program associated with the Body of Knowledge in Appendix A, including the definitions for the competency levels used in Appendix A.

[Appendix C](#) (nonmandatory) provides information on desirable workplace skills (reading text, document use, and numeracy) that should be considered by those attempting to both nurture and assess a candidate’s overall skills level.

[Appendix D](#) (nonmandatory) provides a list of acceptable training program attributes and example providers.

This standard may be used to validate or assess a candidate’s (e.g., a new employee’s or potential employee’s) knowledge and skills level based on qualification in a certification program operated under this standard. One of the goals of this standard is to recognize and record in an outline format the minimum overarching elements in the Body of Knowledge, as these elements relate to a candidate’s competency levels of learning and skills.

Government and industry are striving for long-term reliability of equipment and operations. Corrosion mitigation of steel and concrete structures by coatings and linings is relevant to achieving that goal. Coating application also combines corrosion mitigation with aesthetic appeal in both the public and private sectors. The success of coatings and linings is heavily dependent on the qualifications of the individuals applying the coatings and linings. The AMPP IMPACT report entitled “International Measures of Prevention, Application, and Economics of Corrosion Technologies Study”¹ estimated the annual global cost of corrosion at U.S. \$2.5 trillion, which was equivalent to 3.4% of the global Gross Domestic Product (GDP) in 2021. The study estimated that savings between 15-35%, i.e., U.S. \$375 – 875 billion, could be realized by the implementation of accredited corrosion management plans. It is estimated that the annual expenditure on protective coatings and linings is U.S. \$108.6 billion. As much as 71% of that annual expenditure may be affected by work performed by certified and qualified coating and lining applicators.

Rationale

This revision of the standard is intended to align the requirements of candidates for qualification and certification to prevailing industry requirements. The Body of Knowledge (BOK) and Competency Requirements (CR) have been reviewed and adjusted to more accurately reflect the needs of the industry.

Referenced Standards and Other Consensus Documents

Unless specifically dated, the latest edition, revision, or amendment of the documents listed in the table below shall apply.

AMPP/NACE/SSPC, www.ampp.org:

SSPC-PA 2 Procedure for Determining Conformance to Dry Coating Thickness Requirements

ASTM International, www.astm.org:

ASTM D4228 Standard Practice for Qualification of Coating Applicators for Application of Coatings to Steel Surfaces

In AMPP standards, the terms *shall* and *must* are used to state requirements and are considered mandatory. The term *should* is used to state something that is recommended, but is not considered mandatory. The term *may* is used to state something considered optional.

Section 1: Scope

- 1.1 This standard provides criteria for the education, training, experience, knowledge, and skills required of Industrial Coating and Lining Applicators and Application Specialists to prepare and apply protective coatings. This standard may be used for certification of Industrial Coating and Lining Applicators and Application Specialists for other substrates or conditions, as considered appropriate by facility owners, contractors, or certifying agencies.
- 1.2 This standard applies to the qualification of Industrial Coating and Lining Applicators and Application Specialists. The qualification levels are summarized in [Table 1](#).

Section 2: Definitions

Application Specialist: An individual with industry-leading knowledge, experience, and application skills who engages in surface preparation and application of protective coatings and linings, with the ability to provide mentorship to less knowledgeable or experienced applicators.

Coating and Lining Applicator: An individual who engages in surface preparation and application of protective coatings and linings.

Specialty Endorsements: Advanced knowledge and demonstrated competency in specialty areas beyond the core Body of Knowledge.

Section 3: Body of Knowledge

3. The basis for the qualification of an Industrial Coating and Lining Applicator or Application Specialist shall consist of:
 - 3.1.1 Body of Knowledge, and
 - 3.1.2 Test requirements.