

Recommendations for Training and Qualifying Personnel as Rail Car Coating and Lining Inspectors

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Foreword

This AMPP standard practice is intended for use by corporate, public, or private entities in the rail industry that employ personnel to inspect railroad tank car interior coatings and linings.

Scope

This standard is intended to specifically address the rail industry and satisfy the Association of American Railroads (AAR)⁽¹⁾ C-III M-1002 Specifications for Tank Cars, Appendix L 4.0, requirement for a written practice for the above-described activities.¹

Rationale

The successful use of coating or lining systems for the protection of railroad tank cars and transported commodities depends on several factors. These include material quality, substrate compatibility, surface preparation, application techniques, process specifications, lining compatibility, and environmental conditions. Inspection of any or all of these elements by qualified personnel may be necessary to ensure that performance expectations, contracts, and regulatory requirements are met.

This standard provides guidelines to assist employers in identifying the basic requirements for the in-house training, testing, and qualification of personnel who perform coating or lining inspections for a specific application or project. The qualification procedures outlined in this standard are not, and should not be interpreted to be, a substitute for or alternative to the AMPP Coating Inspector Program (CIP). An employer may elect to incorporate the CIP into its coating inspector qualification program or to use CIP as a partial or complete substitute for an in-house program.

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 not considered mandatory. The term *may* is used to state something considered optional.

Section 1: General

- 1.1 This standard provides guidelines specific to the rail industry for the in-house training and employer-administered qualification of one level of coating inspection qualification. An employee who has passed this level of qualification is called an Employer-Qualified Coating Inspector (EQCI). Included are criteria for employers that recognize this qualification and a list of suggested training topics and references to publications that may be of use in an in-house training program.
- 1.2 One basic level of qualification is defined in this standard: the EQCI qualification. Other levels and classes may be added to a training curriculum as needed in accordance with the employer's written practice.⁽²⁾
- 1.3 The qualifying official of the training and qualification program shall be responsible for ensuring the EQCI is trained according to the employer's training program.
- 1.4 Although an employer may elect to incorporate CIP as part of its coating inspector qualification program, examination and certification by AMPP is not a requirement for EQCI qualification.
- 1.5 Although EQCI qualification is an established credential, employer qualification alone may not legally qualify an inspector to provide inspection services to the public. Contract documents, codes, and standards may require that inspections are performed under the direction of personnel with qualifications such as an AMPP CIP certification or a professional engineer's license.

⁽¹⁾ Association of American Railroads (AAR), 50 F St. NW, Washington DC 20001-1564, www.aar.org.

⁽²⁾ Classes that may supplement EQCI qualification include AMPP Coating Inspector and General Coatings courses, <https://ampp.org/education/education-resources/courses-by-program>.