



# CERTIFICATION PROGRAMS

## Supplemental Program Requirements for Applicators of Complex Coatings Endorsement (SPE)

### Scope

This document (hereinafter referred to as *Supplements*) provides the additional requirements for the AISC Certification Program for Applicators of Complex Coatings Endorsement (SPE) (hereinafter referred to as the *Program*).

### Section 1 Before the Site Audit

- SPE1.1 All Participants/Applicants are required to have available and comply with these *Supplements* and the *Program Requirements for Fabricator, Erector and Manufacturer Certifications* (hereinafter referred to as *Requirements*).
- SPE1.2 This *Program* is an endorsement to fabricator certification programs and requires concurrent certification(s) with an AISC Certified Fabricator Program. These are:
- Certified Fabricator of Steel Buildings
  - Certified Fabricator of Steel Bridges (All categories)
  - Certified Fabricator of Hydraulic Steel Structures
  - Certified Manufacturer of Highway and Bridge Components
- SPE1.3 This *Program* uses the *SPE/QP3 Certification Standard for Shop Application of Complex Protective Coating Systems - 2010* (hereinafter referred to as *Standard*) as the normative document. Whenever there is a conflict between the *Supplements* and the *Standard*, the *Supplements* govern.
- SPE1.4 In order for the Participant's/Applicant's coatings facility to be eligible for this endorsement it must be operated under the same company name and quality management system.
- SPE1.5 Applicants to this *Program* must submit an application, payment and all documents required by the *Application Document Submittal for AISC Certification - Sophisticated Paint*.

### Section 2 During the Site Audit

- SPE2.1 All Participants/Applicants are required to comply with and have available these *requirements*, the *standard* and the current editions, in English, of the following normative references:
- AISC 303 *Code of Standard Practice for Steel Buildings and Bridges*
  - ANSI/AISC 360 *Specification for Structural Steel Buildings*
  - SSPC *Steel Structures Painting Manual, Volume 1, Good Painting Practice*
  - SSPC *Steel Structures Painting Manual, Volume 2, Systems and Specifications*



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- *SSPC Paint Application Specification No.1, Shop, Field and Maintenance Coating of Metals*
- *SSPC Paint Application Standard No.2, Procedure for Determining Conformance to Dry Coating Thickness Requirements*
- *SSPC VIS 1, Guide and Reference Photographs for Steel Surfaces Prepared by Dry Abrasive Blast Cleaning*
- *ASTM D3276 Standard Guide for Painting Inspectors*
- *ASTM D7091 Standard Practice for Nondestructive Measurement of Dry Film Thickness*
- *ASTM D4228 Standard Practice for Qualification of Coating Applicators*

- SPE2.2 Personnel involved in the coating process of the quality management system may be either employees of or contracted workers. In the case of the latter, contract status and qualifications must be demonstrable.
- SPE2.3 Participants/Applicants will be audited and evaluated to ensure that it demonstrates compliance with the current applicable SSPC coating specification regardless if this is required by the sampled contracts and specifications.
- SPE2.4 Protective coating inspectors (PCI), when required by contract, may be either employees of or contracted by the *Participant*. In the case of the latter, contract status and qualifications of the PCI must be demonstrable.
- SPE2.5 Participants/Applicants are required to have work in the shop at the time of the site audit that can be used to demonstrate ability to meet the requirements of the *program* or work of equivalent complexity as determined by the auditor.

When Participants/Applicants do not have contracted coating work in-house at the time of the site audit and have not completed the preparation and application of complex coating systems within the past two years then they may choose to demonstrate their capability to prepare and apply complex coating systems by creating a mock project or running a portion of a project that demonstrates compliance to these *requirements*. Participants/Applicants may also choose to create a test panel that meets the requirements of ASTM D4228 *Standard Practice for Qualification of Coating Applicators* test panel and *participant's* coating process of the quality management system and these *Requirements*.