



New Information and Timely Reminders

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Discounts Available for 2016 Maintenance Application Early Birds!

Get a jump start on your 2016 filing and earn a \$250 discount on your maintenance application fees as our thanks for submitting and paying by Nov. 15. The regular fees are in effect for those submitting and paying by Dec. 15. To cover the additional administrative costs, we unfortunately must assess a late penalty on those who file and pay between December 16th and January 15th. Filing early is as simple as visiting the URL listed below before Nov. 15 to enjoy the discounted rates: <http://www.sspc.org/qpmaintenanceform/>

See You in San Antonio at SSPC 2016: Jan. 18-21.

We hope you'll be able to join us at SSPC's 2016 Conference at the Marriot Rivercenter in San

Antonio, Texas, January 18-21.



Don't miss this chance to update your skills in one of our 27 featured training programs, network with your peers on the convention floor, or get a look at the latest equipment in operation in our demonstration area.

PCI, BCI, CCI, and NBPI inspector training will be offered during the conference this year, along with the QCS program, required for QP 1 certification, and the QP 2-required C3 and C5 courses. Evaluating Contracts and Project Management are two additional programs popular with certified contractors. Both the C7 (Abrasive Blast Cleaning) and C12 (Airless Spray) certification exams will be offered in San Antonio as well as the Coating Application Specialist (CAS) Refresher. This specialized training covers Level 1 surface preparation and coating application as defined in the body of knowledge of SSPC-ACS 1/NACE No. 13, an especially good fit for your entry-level workers. The CAS Level 2 exam and Applicator-Train-The-Trainer will also be offered. Sign up soon before available spots are sold out.

Your PCCP Advisory Committee will also meet during the Conference. Contact Rich Capolupo, Advisory Committee Chair (primerc@comcast.net), or Joe Berish, SSPC Corporate Certification Specialist (berish@sspc.org), for information concerning the

Advisory Committee or to submit agenda items for consideration at the upcoming San Antonio meeting. All QP-certified contractors have a voice in PCCP matters and are welcome to attend both meetings.

Contractor personnel input is also needed on the various technical committees that will meet during the conference. Why wait for a standard to be published to learn about it? Instead join a committee to actively influence the outcome of standards development and revisions.

To learn more and register for SSPC 2016, visit: <http://www.sspc2016.com>

Interested in Contributing to SSPC Training Development? Attend the C3 Pilot at SSPC Oct. 27-28.



SSPC cordially invites you to the pilot presentation of the revision of its course C3: Supervisor/Competent Person Training For Deleading/Hazardous Coatings Removal of Industrial Structures to be held at SSPC Headquarters (40 24th St., 6th Floor, Pittsburgh, PA 15222) on October 27-28, from 9:00-5:00 each day. During the two-day pilot, you'll have an opportunity to comment on the course revision as we review the draft slide presentation and the proposed workshops. To RSVP for this pilot, please call Pamela Groff at 412/281-2331, extension 2237.

We welcome your valuable feedback and participation.

Go Back to School This Fall: PCI Training Discounted for QP Contractors Coming Up in a Few Short Weeks!

All QP-certified contractors and QP 5 firms are eligible for a discount on SSPC Protective Coating Inspector (PCI) Level 1 and 2 training to be held at SSPC headquarters in Pittsburgh Nov. 2- 7, 2015. This program is open to everyone but only current QP-certified contractors are eligible for the discounted registration rates of \$845 for PCI Level 1 and \$1095 for combined Levels 1 and 2. **To be eligible for the discount, registrants must be certified current contractor organizational members.**

Contractors who enroll will have any QC training audit deficiencies held until the class has been completed. This is also a great opportunity for you to visit SSPC and meet the staff!



To sign up, contact Nicole Lourette (lourette@sspc.org); tel: 1-877/281-7772, Ext. 2204.

Fall Protection Again Tops List of Violations for 2015 OSHA Reports

With citations numbering 6,721, fall protection violations increased 10% between 2014 and 2015, according to data OSHA shared with the National Safety Council in September. The other 9 of the top 10 violations are:

- Hazard communication
- Scaffolding
- Respiratory protection
- Lockout/tagout
- Powered industrial trucks
- Ladders
- Electrical wiring methods
- Machine guarding
- Electrical general requirements



In presenting these results, Patrick Kapust, deputy director of OSHA's Directorate of Enforcement Programs, said, "Fall protection systems are out there. They're moderately priced. There's no reason your employees shouldn't be in them."

OSHA Publishes Notice on Proposed Rulemaking About Beryllium Exposure; Comment Period Ends Nov. 8.

On August 7, OSHA published its proposed rulemaking on beryllium exposure that could affect workers involved in abrasive blast cleaning with coal and copper slag abrasives. Under consideration are four options for minimizing exposure to the beryllium found in abrasive blast cleaning dust, frequently at levels that exceed the current PEL of 2 micrograms. Three of the four options call for the current PEL to be lowered to .2 micrograms, while the fourth option does not change the PEL. Option Three also calls for including the construction industry in the scope for the full implementation of a rule as it would apply to general industry. This option would change the current PEL and introduce both action- and short-term exposure limits. The proposed changes would also require exposure monitoring, regulated areas, medical surveillance, and methods of compliance.

To learn more, contact Heather Stiner, SSPC Protective Coatings Professional (stiner@sspc.org, tel: 1-877/281-7772, Ext. 2224) and visit: <https://www.osha.gov/dsg/beryllium/rulemaking.html>

OSHA Sites New Date for Silica Rule; Study Shows 18% of COPD Cases Among Construction Workers Linked to Asbestos, Silica and Other On-the-Job Exposures



OSHA plans to release its comprehensive final rule on crystalline silica in January 2017. The proposed rulemaking includes two separate standards—one for general industry and maritime employment, and one for construction—that would have widespread impact on the industrial and commercial coating and abrasive-blasting industries. The rule would limit worker exposure to a Permissible Exposure Limit (PEL) of 50 micrograms of respirable crystalline silica per cubic meter of air, averaged over an eight-hour day—a sharp reduction from the current limits. The agency has also proposed an action level of 25 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$, which would trigger the proposed rule's exposure monitoring provisions. Other provisions include:

- Requirements for regulated areas or written access control plans
- Prohibitions on work practices on construction sites such as compressed air, dry sweeping, and dry brushing
- Medical surveillance
- Respiratory protection
- Training and hazard communication
- Recordkeeping

OSHA estimates that the proposed rule will save nearly 700 lives and prevent 1,600 new cases of silicosis per year, once the full effects of the rule are realized.

A recent study by the Center for Construction Research and Training and Duke University found that 18 percent of the incidents of chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) among construction workers is caused by on-the-job exposure to vapors, gases, dusts, and fumes such as asbestos, silica dusts, and welding fumes.

Researchers compared the work history, smoking habits, and medical screening results of roughly 2,000 older construction workers with and without COPD between 1997 and 2013. Their findings indicate that, while smoking remains the main cause of COPD, workplace exposure to these hazards pose a more significant risk than previously thought and employers should take appropriate actions to protect workers.

CAL/OSH Seeking Revision to CAL/OSHA Lead Standards

CAL/OSH has put forth a recommendation to revise the existing lead standards for general industry and construction in California.

Their suggestions include:

- Lowering the BLL at which workers must be removed from lead exposure to two BLLs at or above 20 µg/dL, or one BLL at or above 30 µg/dL
- Increasing the frequency of BLL testing
- Basing the requirement for BLL testing on the creation of a lead hazard (release of lead dust, mist, fume, or other particles) rather than the results of air monitoring for lead
- Lowering the PEL to 0.5 – 2.1 µg/m³ averaged over an 8-hour workday

SSPC continues to monitor the developments with this proposed change to regulations affecting work in California. The next and sixth meeting to discuss the revised discussion drafts will be held:

Tuesday,
November 10, 2015
10:00 am - 3:00 pm (Pacific time)

Elihu Harris State Building
1515 Clay St. 2nd floor, Room 1
Oakland, CA

For questions or more information about the meeting contact Peter Scholz (pscholz@dir.ca.gov) at 510/622-2913 and visit:

<https://www.cdph.ca.gov/programs/olppp/Pages/leadStdRecs.aspx>.

To participate in SSPC's response, contact Heather Stiner, SSPC Protective Coatings Professional (stiner@sspc.org, tel: 1-877/281-7772, Ext. 2224)

Clarification on Spring 2015 Article about Personal Air Monitoring and Heavy Metals

An article in our Spring QP contractor bulletin discussed advising contractors to test for all heavy metals when doing personal air monitoring (PAM). PAM is not connected to waste disposal and no such connection should be implied.