



INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Driving Indiana's Economic Growth

Memorandum

September 23 , 2009

CONSTRUCTION MEMORANDUM
09-18

TO: District Deputy Commissioners
Technical Services Directors
District Construction Engineers
District Testing Engineers
District Area Engineers
Project Engineers/Supervisors
Office of Materials Management

FROM: Mark A. Miller, Director *Mark A. Miller*
Division of Construction Management

SUBJECT: Certification of Bridge Steel Painting Contractors

SUPPLEMENTS: Construction Memorandum 00-11

Section 619.03 of the Standard Specifications requires bridge steel painting contractors to be either SSPC-QP 1 or SSPC-QP 2 certified. The Society for Protective Coatings issues and monitors SSPC certifications and maintains a listing of certified contractors and of those contractors whose certifications have been suspended. This information is available on the SSPC website at <http://www.sspc.org/>.

Reports have been received that some painting contractors have been allowed to perform work when they are not certified to the level required by the contract or that their SSPC certification has been suspended.

It is the Department's intent that a contractor performing bridge steel painting operations must have a valid SSPC certification for the type of work to be performed prior to the start of the work. This is further clarified for prime contractors and subcontractors as follows:

1. Prime contractors must have a valid SSPC certification at the time the work is started. A copy of the SSPC certification is required as part of the QCP submittal and the PE/S can verify the status of the certification at the time the work is started by accessing the SSPC website.
2. A subcontractor's SSPC certification must be valid at the time the Request for Approval of Subcontract is approved. A copy of the SSPC certification should be provided with the Request

for Subcontract Approval and the person reviewing the request can verify the status of the certification by accessing the SSPC website.

Once a contractor is allowed to begin work under a valid SSPC certification, they will be permitted to complete the contract, regardless of whether the SSPC certification is subsequently suspended. In the event that a contractor's SSPC certification is suspended after they begin work, the Department still retains the ability to control the painting operations through enforcement of the specifications, the contractor's compliance with their QCP and the CR-2 process.

Questions about bridge painting issues should be directed to the District's assigned Construction Field Engineer.

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