### **Specifying Contractor Certification**

#### **Contractor Notification:**

If you wish to supply notice to contractors that you will begin enforcing NACE 13 / SSPC ACS 1 or Contractor Quality Management Certification on new projects you can use the following language. You may wish to do this if you have a group of contractors that you have worked with in the past that may be interested in bidding on future projects. We recommend sending this notice **only** to existing contractors with whom you have an existing relationship, to provide them ample time to begin the training and certification process.

### **Contractor Quality Management Programs:**

### NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS AND SUBCONTRACTORS:

This is to advise all concerned parties that projects advertised on or after \_\_\_\_\_\_ will require that any painting contractors engaged in surface preparation and coating application work, shall be Certified by a recognized Certification Agency as adhering to a Contractor Quality Management Program. Programs acceptable to this Owner are SSPC QP Programs as established by the SSPC PCCCP, or NIICAP as established by NACE International and the NACE Institute.

# **Specifying Contractor Certification**

All contractors and subcontractors that perform surface preparation or coating application shall be certified by a recognized certification agency, as meeting the requirements of either the Society for Protective Coatings (SSPC) QP 1, or NACE International Institute NIICAP Contractor Certification prior to any contract award. Furthermore the "contractor" shall maintain a current and valid certification while engaging in any surface preparation or coating application work, for the entire duration of the project. Failure in maintaining the necessary certification will prohibit the contractor from engaging in any surface preparation or coating application activities and any delay to the completion of the project due to an inactive or expired certification will not be considered and liquidated damages shall not be waived for any non-performance by the "Contractor". The "owner" shall be notified of any change in contractor certification status.

## Specifying a Non-Specific Contractor Certification

All contractors and subcontractors that perform surface preparation or coating application shall be certified by a recognized certification agency, as meeting the qualification requirements of a recognized Contractor Certification or Contractor Quality Management Program, prior to any contract award. Furthermore the "contractor" shall maintain a current and valid certification while engaging in any surface preparation or coating application work, for the entire duration of

the project. Failure in maintaining the necessary certification will prohibit the contractor from engaging in any surface preparation or coating application activities and any delay to the completion of the project due to an inactive or expired certification will not be considered and liquidated damages shall not be waived for any non-performance by the "Contractor". The "owner shall be notified of any change in contractor certification status.

## **Contract / Specification Enforcement**

It is incumbent upon each owner to enforce the requirements of the specification in a manner that is fair and reasonable. Multiple training and certification entities exist for the purpose of conveying said training, qualification verification and certification. These options are available to both Union and non-union individuals and contractors, independent of affiliation with any one particular organization or entity and are based upon industry consensus standards unencumbered by prejudice, organizational bias or favor. Rules for certification and re-certification have been established and published by each certification agency to provide clear and a reasonable guidelines to ensure no lapse in certification.

## Other Important Information

We strongly encourage owners to engage in a pre-qualification of bidders process that requires submittal of necessary certifications, bonding, and affirmations to the owner, prior to submitting a bid package. This practice ensures only qualified contractors are engaged in the process and helps ensure only realistic bids are submitted. If this process is part of the owners RFP ensure that "Contractor Certifications" and "Craft Worker Certifications" are part of the submittal request/requirements.