

**NTPEP BRIDGE COATINGS PANEL**

**MEETING MINUTES**

**May 3, 2004**

**1. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER @ 2:30 PM**

After distribution of the Agendas, attendees were asked to briefly introduce themselves. There were 31 attendees representing 6 Coatings manufacturers; 2 Independent testing laboratories; FHWA; ASTM, SSPC and 15 states.

**2. UPDATE: PROGRAM STATUS**

Since our meeting last year in San Diego, 11 systems have been submitted for evaluation. A total of 19 systems are in various stages of testing. There have been 5 systems with data released by the manufacturer for state evaluation.

There have been several revisions to the Standard Test Method (AASHTO R 31-04) and the project panels work plan over the past year. Both the work plan and R 31 were balloted and approved by the member states over the winter. These changes resulted in a need to renegotiate the Contracts with our private testing laboratories. The response to the solicitations was reviewed and it was decided to offer the contract to one lab for the upcoming year.

Industry expressed concern over the rising costs of the program. They felt without competition that the program costs would become unreasonable. They were also concerned that there had been no firm number of states committed to using the data. The group was reminded of the growing number of states participating in the program and the reasons for choosing only one lab for this year included an effort to better contain administrative costs. Additionally the initiative towards developing regional working groups will help build consensus for using the data in development of states qualified products lists.

Derrick Castle gave an overview of the *DataMine* module for the panel. The DataMine Task force for Structural Steel Coatings was formed last year. Currently Castle and McGough are uploading current data and working on some issues to correct with the laboratory portions within the module with Iengineering.

The *Quality Assurance Team* formed in 2003 performed 2 process reviews (one at each laboratory) during the past year. The labs have addressed the concerns from those reviews and follow-up visits will be scheduled as appropriate.

Bill Corbett with KTA Tator presented a summary report on the interlaboratory study. The draft report has been made available to the FHWA for review. Initial analysis of the data indicates there are some

procedural differences in the evaluation of the scribe at the end of the 5000 hour accelerated test period. Further evaluation of the data produced by the study will be necessary to draw conclusions based on the testing performed. Additional Data will be made available to the Project Panel as it is completed. The electronic imaging process is still under review.

**3. ITEMS PROPOSED FOR STUDY CONTINUATION**

Round Robin compositional testing has started with several states and the FHWA participating in evaluation of products submitted for testing in the program. Initial testing indicates a few areas of concern, however this initiative will assist states in evaluation of products selected for project use and provide an added measure of Quality Assurance in consistency of the products evaluated.

Additionally Andy Rogerson with CalTrans has agreed to do some comparative accelerated weather in testing with products applied at the independent laboratories. Testing has just recently started with the last system applied at CCC&L.

As noted in the interlaboratory study, evaluation of undercutting at the scribe is the area with the largest interlab difference in values. To minimize the variance, further investigation in digital scribe imaging will be conducted over the next year.

**4. NSBA/SSPC UPDATE**

Bill Shoup with SSPC provided a handout and summary discussion of the changes affecting the industry over the next 12 months. (See attached item summary)

**5. Specifications and Work Plan**

Copies of the Balloted Specification and Work Plan were handed out to those in attendance for review.

**6. Action Items for 2004-2005**

- I) Regional Working Groups
  - Midwest Scheduled for May 25
  - Southern Region to be held in the fall
- II) QA Team follow up reviews
- III) Data Base Completion
- IV) Compositional Testing Round Robin by the States

**MEETING ADJOURNED @ 5:00 PM**