Painting Water Storage Tanks- Inspection—12-15-10

Painting Inspection is a specialized field that is usually assigned to an outside consultant. The following areas represent critical items that must be monitored.

1. Pre- construction review

* Check specifications for surface preparation
* Check paint system
* Determine the work that will be measured (An example is welding repair. If there are a lot of repairs based on the pre design inspection, it will have a per inch unit cost. If it is minimal, it will considered incidental work)

1. Taking the Tank out of Service

* Coordinate with Operations
* Remember entering an empty tank is a confined entry procedure
* Verify that the electric service is locked out
* Verify that fill valves are closed and in manual mode
* Verify that the tank is clean unless cleaning is part of the contractor’s work

1. Surface preparation

* Monitor for paint chips leaving the site
* Observe the surface condition for compliance

1. Surface preparation with lead paint

* Review the lead paint test results
* Obtain additional samples to verify lead hazard level
* Check containment provisions to keep lead based paint from leaving the site
* Obtain copies of the hazardous waste manifest to verify proper disposal

1. Coating application

* Verify that the product on site matches the specification
* Verify that the application method is suitable for the product on site
* Measure the air temperature, humidity, and surface temperature for compliance with the application specifications and product recommendations
* Monitor the product application and record the approximate area and location applied per session
* Check the dry film thickness
* Verify drying time between coats
* Monitor the next coats as above
* Conduct spark tests and mark failures
* Recheck failures

1. Prepare for disinfection

* Verify that all cathodic protection equipment is installed inside the tank
* Check tank for tools and/or other items that do not belong in the tank and remove
* Close all access ports
* Fill tank according to the disinfection procedure
* Pull bacti samples
* Check bacti results for proper disinfection
* Inform Operations that the tank is ready to be put in service if bacti tests pass.