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Certified Coatings Inspector (NACE-CIP2-001)

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Question: 723

Roller application of a coal tar epoxy on tank internals shows excessive naps and strings. What roller cover specification and mixing adjustment prevent this defect while enhancing penetration into surface profile?

- A. 1/2-inch nap lambswool; no thinning required
- B. 1/4-inch nap synthetic; thin 5% to reduce viscosity
- C. 3/8-inch nap mohair; full shear mixing 10 minutes
- D. 3/16-inch nap nylon; induction 30 minutes

Answer: C

Explanation: Excessive naps and strings result from high viscosity and poor roller loading; a 3/8-inch mohair nap provides optimal pick-up and release for medium profiles (CSP 3-5), while full shear mixing (10 minutes at 500 rpm) breaks down thixotropy for smooth application. This ensures deep penetration into 1-2 mm voids without shadowing, achieving 15-20 mils DFT per coat, as inadequate mixing causes pigment flotation reducing film integrity by 25% on prepared concrete/steel.

Question: 724

The inspector calculates expected galvanic current using:

- A. Temperature only
- B. Driving voltage divided by total circuit resistance
- C. Area ratio alone
- D. Only potential difference

Answer: B

Explanation: $I = \Delta E / R_{\text{total}}$, where R includes polarization and ohmic components.

Question: 725

PIP jet close interval survey, step ± 10 mV. Uniform?

- A. Yes
- B. Attenuation only
- C. On only
- D. Fault if > 20 mV

Answer: D

Explanation: Step potential coating current paths.

Question: 726

Digital surface comparator laser scan G/S 4.0 mil post SP 10, replica 3.8. Variance?

- A. Digital accurate
- B. Reject diff
- C. Replica standard
- D. Average

Answer: C

Explanation: Replica ASTM D4417 primary; digital verifies/supplements. Accurate yes but standard replica.

Question: 727

Area ratio anode:cathode 1:100 steel-Zn. Rate vs equal area?

- A. Slower
- B. Same total
- C. 100x faster
- D. Reversed

Answer: C

Explanation: Anodic current density high small anode.

Question: 728

A specification requires SSPC-SP 5/NACE No. 1 for a potable water tank interior. After dry blasting, the inspector performs potassium ferricyanide testing and observes scattered blue spots. The correct determination is:

- A. The test is invalid on dry-blasted surfaces
- B. Residual water-soluble iron corrosion products remain; re-blasting required
- C. The surface meets SP 5 because staining is allowed
- D. Acceptable if chlorides are below $5 \mu\text{g}/\text{cm}^2$

Answer: B

Explanation: Potassium ferricyanide detects residual ferrous ions. Positive reaction indicates incomplete removal of corrosion products, violating the SP 5 requirement for a surface with no visible rust or corrosion products.

Question: 729

In justifying inspector costs for a \$50M offshore platform coating, AMPP expands the purpose beyond quality control to include what economic benefit?

- A. Quantifiable risk reduction, where inspection prevents failures costing 10-50x fees via data-driven nonconformance correction
- B. Reducing tax liabilities through certification
- C. Streamlining permitting processes
- D. Enhancing crew morale through oversight

Answer: A

Explanation: AMPP views inspection purpose as risk mitigation, with costs justified by preventing high-impact failures (e.g., platform downtime/recoat at millions) through systematic verification, yielding high ROI. Data from inspections trends defects, enabling process improvements that cut recurrence, expanding justification to lifecycle savings. Morale/tax/permit ancillary; core is economic protection.

Question: 730

Surface thermocouple type K $\pm 1^\circ\text{C}$ on steel, logger samples 1 min. Vs IR gun $\pm 3^\circ\text{C}$. Preference?

- A. Thermo direct accurate
- B. IR non-contact
- C. Average
- D. Air proxy

Answer: A

Explanation: Contact for precise Ts control; IR emissivity error steel. Non-contact convenience secondary.

Question: 731

Pinhole holidays cause?

- A. Contamination/dirt
- B. UV exposure
- C. Overthickness

D. CP current

Answer: A

Explanation: Particles prevent film coalescence, high-voltage detects voids.

Question: 732

A CIP Level 2 inspector assesses a failure where magnesium anodes protect steel but fail prematurely near aluminum components. The issue is:

- A. Equal nobility reducing driving force
- B. Aluminum acting as cathode to magnesium, accelerating Mg loss
- C. pH elevation stopping reaction
- D. Magnesium passivating aluminum

Answer: B

Explanation: Magnesium is more active than aluminum in galvanic series; aluminum becomes cathodic, increasing anodic current on magnesium.

Question: 733

In a refrigeration dehumidifier system serving a painting enclosure, the evaporator coil temperature is maintained at 2°C while process air enters at 25°C / 75% RH. If cooling capacity is lost due to refrigerant leak, the immediate operational impact is:

- A. Automatic switch to desiccant backup mode
- B. Rise in supply air dew point and inability to maintain substrate-to-dew point differential
- C. Higher air velocity compensating for moisture control
- D. Increased sensible cooling only with no change to latent load removal

Answer: B

Explanation: Refrigeration dehumidifiers remove moisture by cooling air below its dew point on evaporator coils; loss of cooling capacity prevents condensation of water vapor, allowing dew point to rise toward ambient conditions and jeopardizing condensation-free application windows.

Question: 734

During brush application of a stripe coat on welds prior to full spray coats, the epoxy shows poor leveling with holidays. How does inadequate mixing prior to application directly impact coating quality in relation to surface preparation?

- A. Excess hardener accelerates dry, sealing contaminants
- B. Over-mixing incorporates air bubbles trapped by profile peaks
- C. Insufficient shear fails to wet pigments, causing agglomeration and thin spots
- D. Short induction time increases pot life beyond 4 hours

Answer: C

Explanation: Inadequate mixing (high-speed shear for 5-10 minutes) leaves pigments and fillers unwetted, leading to agglomeration that creates holidays and poor leveling during brush striping, especially on profiled surfaces (50-75 microns). Proper mixing ensures homogeneous viscosity (80-100 KU) for flow into crevices, complementing surface preparation by preventing filler settling that amplifies thin spots in shadows. This maintains stripe DFT at 50-75 microns (60% of total), critical for edge retention and preventing premature corrosion initiation.

Question: 735

Sacrificial Al-Zn-In anode seawater, open circuit -1.05V CSE stable. Activation by?

- A. Al passive film break
- B. In microgalvanic
- C. Zn dissolution
- D. All

Answer: D

Explanation: Ternary activates full surface.

Question: 736

ISO 8502-3 swab salts conductivity 15 $\mu\text{S}/\text{cm}^2$ equiv 3 $\mu\text{g}/\text{cm}^2$ Cl-. Two methods confirm?

- A. Visual
- B. Black plate, sleeve
- C. Both A and B
- D. Bresle patch, tape lift

Answer: D

Explanation: Bresle extract, tape particulates; confirmatory suite. Black qual; sleeve similar bresle; visual no. Salts demonstration.

Question: 737

Owner asks Level 2 to sign off on final DFT report without Level 3 review on field job. Response?

- A. Sign independently
- B. Sign with disclaimer
- C. Refuse all reporting
- D. Explain Level 2 field restriction; final report requires Level 3 approval

Answer: D

Explanation: Field settings mandate Level 3 oversight for formal reporting.

Question: 738

Residual salts after WJ-2, conductivity meter sleeve extract 20 $\mu\text{S}/\text{cm}$ equiv 5 $\mu\text{g}/\text{cm}^2$. Additional tape lift?

- A. Rinse test
- B. Adhesive tape ASTM D4418 salts transfer
- C. Bresle only
- D. No, conductivity only

Answer: B

Explanation: Tape lifts particulates/salts for lab ion analysis, additional to extract methods. Conductivity soluble; bresle patch; rinse bulk.

Question: 739

SSPC-SP 11 power tool to bare near-white profile 2 mil on rusted grate. Equiv?

- A. SP 5
- B. SP 3
- C. SP 6
- D. SP 10

Answer: D

Explanation: SP 11 bare $\leq 5\%$ stain profile SP 10 equiv. SP 6 33%; SP 5 white no stain; SP 3 loose.

Question: 740

The relationship in a corrosion cell requires all except:

- A. Anode and cathode sites
- B. Metallic path for electron flow
- C. Electrolyte for ion conduction
- D. External voltage source

Answer: D

Explanation: Spontaneous corrosion cells form without external power; anode/cathode separation, electrolyte, and electron-conductive path suffice.

Question: 741

Destructive solvent rub ASTM D4752, 50 double rubs no loss. Cure?

- A. Partial
- B. None
- C. Poor
- D. Full

Answer: D

Explanation: Hands-on verifies crosslink.

Question: 742

Powder coating cure schedule typical hybrid is?

- A. 400°F/10 min
- B. 200°F/30 min
- C. 500°F/5 min
- D. 350°F/15 min

Answer: A

Explanation: Standard polyester hybrid: part metal temp 400°F hold 10 min.

Question: 743

AWWA C210 tank linings code refs SSPC-SP 10, holidays NACE SP0188 <5000 V. Volt calc?

- A. Fixed 5000
- B. Low voltage

- C. Per thickness
- D. Skip linings

Answer: C

Explanation: Code/standards voltage scales with t; inspector selects appropriately.

Question: 744

Defect in powder coatings from excessive bake is?

- A. Pinholes
- B. Chipping
- C. Overcure discoloration
- D. Orange peel reduction

Answer: C

Explanation: Overbake >400°F/10 min causes yellowing/degradation; underbake chips, excess thickness pinholes.

Question: 745

Passivation breakdown potential E_b vs Cl^- : $E_b = E_0 - b \log[Cl^-]$. Double $[Cl^-]$ shift?

- A. + b/2.3
- B. - b/2.3
- C. Precipitates
- D. No

Answer: B

Explanation: Log dependence lowers E_b .

Question: 746

Design rolled edge beam stiffener 1/8 in radius instead of sharp, traps blast media. Pre-inspect?

- A. Blast vacuum
- B. Grind sharp
- C. Acceptable
- D. Document, power tool clean pockets

Answer: D

Explanation: Rolled edges crevices media/salt; SP 3 accesses. Grind alters design; vacuum partial; acceptable no trap.



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