

On-Call Paint Coatings Consultant Services



Client/Owner: Triborough Bridge & Tunnel Authority
Project Location: New York, NY

As part of an on-call contract with the Triborough Bridge & Tunnel Authority, CCC&L provided coatings consultant services for various assignments which included:

- ❑ Making recommendations on method of surface preparation and coating materials, for repainting toll booths and canopies at all facilities, that would not damage the EZPass system and would be acceptable to the Bridge & Tunnel Officers. The project included recommendations on viable surface preparation methods and performing field trials of the most promising methods. The final recommendations were then used by TBTA to develop the technical specifications for the work.
- ❑ Performing a multi-facility environmental assessment (MFEA) so that painting activities on the bridges could be performed within current New York State regulations. The MFEA consisted of making conservative, defensible assumptions on the types and extent of breaches/losses/spills of materials containing regulated heavy metals (lead, etc.) that would occur using various surface preparation methods. These losses/escapes were then used in air monitoring models to predict dispersions and their affect on the nearby environment. Locations where regulatory limits were exceeded were identified, and alternate methods of performing surface preparation at these locations were identified.

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- ❑ Performing quality assurance audits of all significant paint projects. The audits were performed to assure that the construction inspection firms were all imposing equal requirements on the painting contractors and were maintaining adequate records. The painting contractors work and records were audited for compliance with the specifications. Included in the audit was an evaluation of issues related to environmental protection, waste handling and disposal, and worker protection.
- ❑ Presenting lead awareness training classes to engineering offices within TBTA. The purpose of this one-day course was to explain lead regulations to engineers responsible for preparing specifications and to emphasize TBTA protocols and requirements for handling such items as environmental protection and monitoring, waste handling and disposal and worker protection.
- ❑ Evaluating of coatings for concrete surfaces, specifically anchorages. This project consisted of evaluating test patches of various types of materials for protecting concrete, including sealers, stains, cementitious overlays, and coatings for protecting concrete surfaces. Recommendations were made based on the intent of the coating project, i.e. water repellency, appearance, need for concrete repair, breathability, etc.
- ❑ Reviews of specifications. Two types of specification reviews for painting and environmental protection have been performed. One type has been regular reviews of TBTA's standard specifications to make sure they are up to date with regards to regulations and painting practices. This includes taking items learned during audits and converting them into changes in the way TBTA paints its structures. The other type of effort was evaluating new technologies to determine if they would be of benefit to TBTA.
- ❑ Providing coatings expertise in a dispute between the Authority and a painting contractor. Services provided included examination of the situation, laboratory testing to evaluate the allegations made by the contractor, written opinions, and assistance to the attorney.
- ❑ Evaluation of elastomeric acrylic materials for painting suspension cables. Most of the work consisted of evaluation of test patches to determine acceptable suppliers and response to situations related to the application of these materials on the cables.
- ❑ Providing miscellaneous assistance for such items as review of the paint system to be applied to a fiberglass wind fairing system, recommended wording for topcoat color and gloss retention for paint specifications, evaluation of a moisture-cure overcoating system being applied on a structure; examination of paint peeling from a galvanized structure; recommendation on decontamination requirements for equipment used to remove lead-based paint, and advice on caulking joints.