



# Moving Bridge Painting Into The 21<sup>st</sup> Century

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## Why Do We Need To Move?

- New Focus on Bridge Preservation
  - Painting is recognized as a preservation action
- Increasing bridge painting needs
- No new/added funding
- Emerging issues
  - Changes in DOT workforce
  - Reduction in skilled craftsmen
- Promising new technologies
- We need to use new approaches and technologies to move bridge painting into the 21<sup>st</sup> Century

### **TECHNICAL ISSUES**

### **PRESENT**

- Lists of Approved Materials
- Approved Products
- Commodity Materials

### **FUTURE**

- High Performance Coatings
- Designed Coating Systems



### **TECHNICAL ISSUES**

### **PRESENT**

- Traditional Tools
  - Replica Tape
  - Soluble Salt Methods
  - Film Thickness Gages



#### **FUTURE**

- Emerging Technology
  - x-ray fluorescence
  - FTIR
  - Thermography
  - 3-D Optical Scanning



### **PRESENT**

 Standardized painting practice (one approach fits all)



 Designed bridge coatings practice (customized for each bridge location)





#### **PRESENT**

Bridge painting as a treatment

### **FUTURE**

 Bridge painting as an element to be preserved (by washing and spot/zone painting)

### **PRESENT**

Focus on painting bridge steel

### **FUTURE**

 Paint reinforced and prestressed concrete





#### **PRESENT**

 Reliance on state forces for inspections

#### **FUTURE**

 Use of 3rd party inspectors as DOT inspection personnel (to get qualified people)

**PRESENT** 

Conventional QC/QA

**FUTURE** 

Self-inspection, mutual
3rd party, auditing

#### **PRESENT**

 Contractor qualifications primarily tied to bonding capacity

#### **FUTURE**

 Contractor/worker qualifications & certifications, work history with DOT

### **PRESENT**

NACE/SSPC Inspector certifications



### **FUTURE**

 DOT specificationprocedure specific inspection qualifications



### **PRESENT**

 DOT divisions (e.g. Construction, Maintenance, Materials, Environmental) working in silos

#### **FUTURE**

 DOT multi-disciplinary paint teams

#### **PRESENT**

 Each DOT acting alone relative to painting issues

#### **FUTURE**

 National/regional paint committees, teams, working groups of multiple DOTs

#### **PRESENT**

 DOTs passive with technical societies, vendors, regulatory agencies

### **FUTURE**

 DOTs proactively engaging technical societies, vendors and regulatory agencies

### LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

#### **PRESENT**

Low Bid Contracting

### **FUTURE**

 Design-build, A+B, warranty, reliability based contracting

### LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

#### **PRESENT**

 Painting budget set by "available funds"

#### **FUTURE**

 DOT actively pursuing needs based budget (to fund 20-30 year painting cycle)





### Thank You

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