



NEWS RELEASE: For Immediate Release

**SSPC Accredited as an IACET Authorized Training Provider
CEUs Now Awarded for all Courses**

Pittsburgh, June 23, 2006 - SSPC: The Society for Protective Coatings is pleased to announce that it has been accredited by the **International Association of Continuing Education and Training (IACET)** as an **Authorized Provider**. IACET is a non-profit association dedicated to excellence in continuing education and training programs. IACET accreditation is the gold standard in continuing education and the accepted benchmark by which such programs are measured.

While many organizations offer some form of continuing education credit, only Authorized Providers can award the IACET CEU. One CEU is equal to ten hours of IACET-qualified continuing education instruction. Since its inception, the CEU has evolved from a purely quantitative measure to the conventional seal of approval for excellence in training and instruction.

According to Terry Sowers, Director of Member Services for SSPC,

“We wanted to create better value for our customers and determined that becoming an IACET Authorized Provider would give our training and certification programs an added degree of credibility. Many organizations have reciprocal agreements to accept the IACET CEU, and SSPC felt that IACET accreditation would give our customers more flexibility in achieving their career and professional development goals.”

In order to achieve accreditation, SSPC underwent a strict evaluation of its educational processes according to the IACET Criteria and Guidelines. This included two reviews by IACET's Commission and a site visit by an IACET Commissioner.

The first class of students to receive IACET CEUs from SSPC were students who participated in its new **Bridge Coatings Inspector** course, which was held at SSPC Headquarters in Pittsburgh, June 14-17, 2006.

In addition to public offerings, SSPC can also bring training and certification courses on-site to a client's facility, as well as set up web-based eCourses that will begin on client-specified dates.

About SSPC

Founded in 1950, SSPC is the only non-profit association focused entirely on the protection and preservation of concrete, steel and other industrial and marine structures and surfaces through the use of high-performance coatings. SSPC is the leading source of information on surface preparation, coating selection, coating application, environmental regulations, and health and safety issues that affect the protective coatings industry.

For further information regarding SSPC training and certification programs, please contact **Jennifer Miller, SSPC Training and Technical Program Specialist**, by calling **1.877.281.7772, ext 221** or by email at **miller@sspc.org**.