

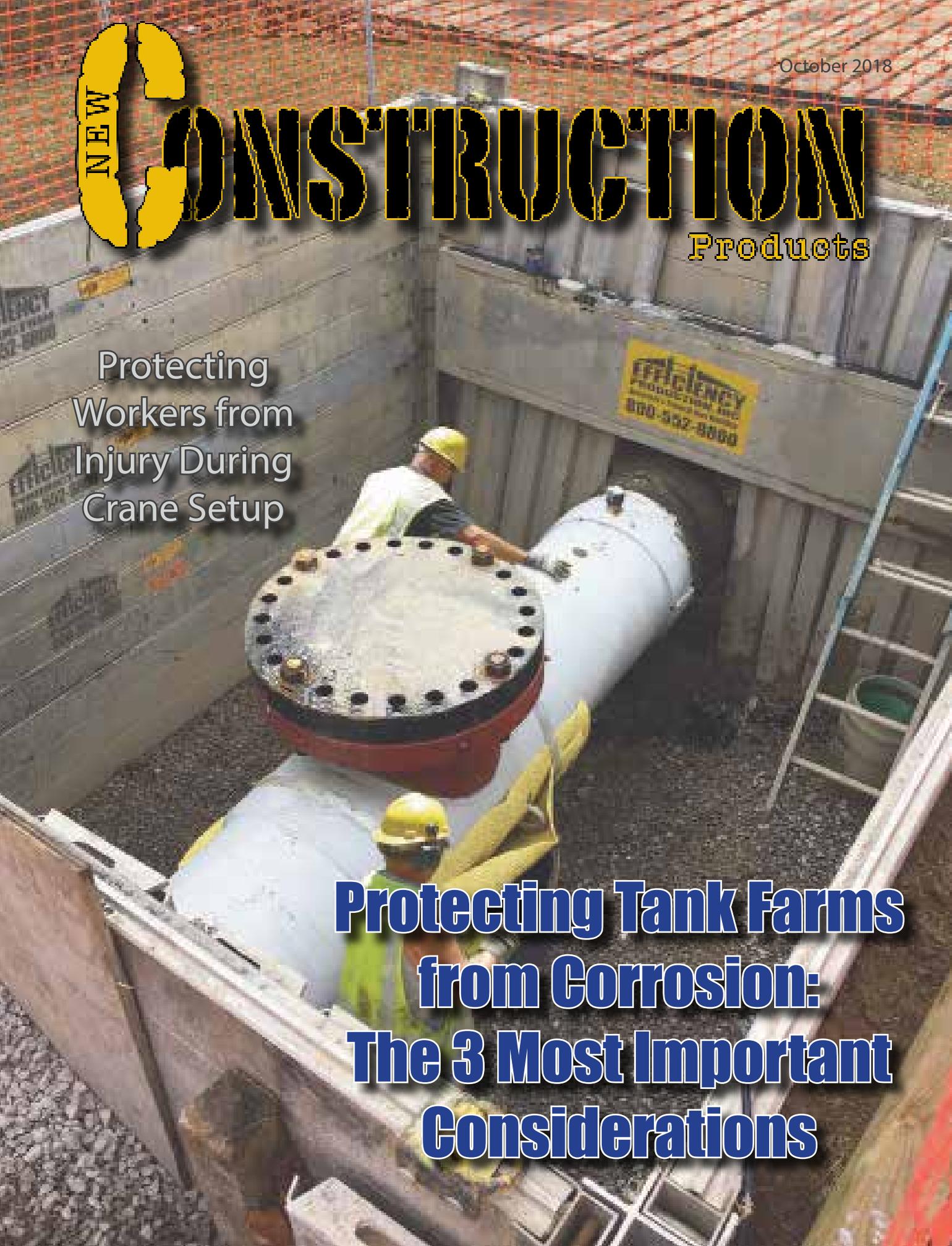
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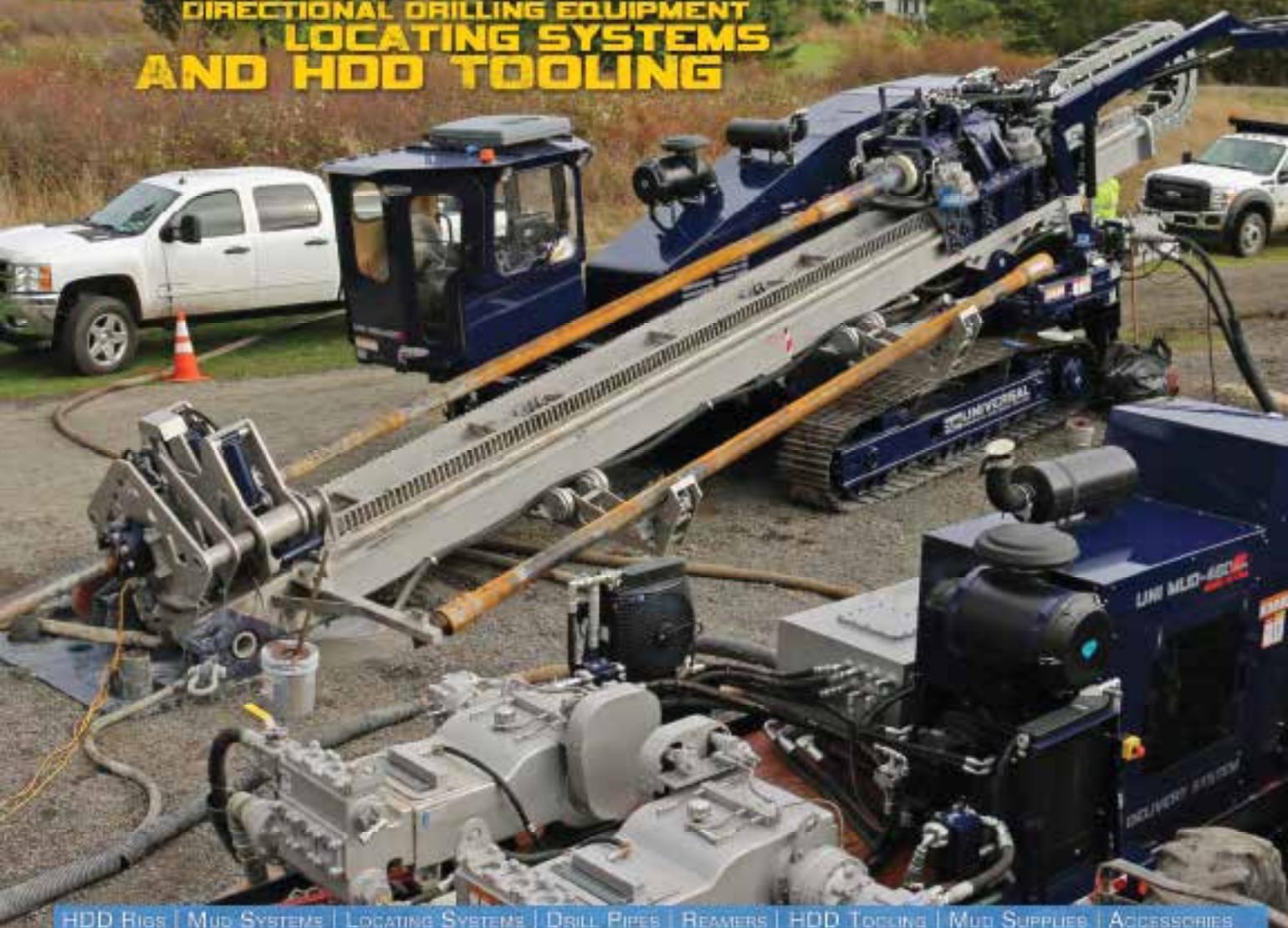
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By Kris Koberg

In crane operations, we usually assume the crane is doing all the heavy lifting. But according to an OSHA Safety Tips Sheet developed by the Construction Roundtable of OSHA's Alliance Program, (http://www.workzonesafety.org/files/documents/training/toolbox_talks/osha_alliance/strain_sprain_tips.pdf), improper manual handling of material contributes to many strains and sprains, which make up one-third of non-fatal injuries in construction.

Manual lifting tasks for crane setup often includes handling outrigger pads, crane pads, cribbing, rigging, and tools. It is a good idea to identify existing problems by reviewing injury logs and workers' compensation records. This combined with observing workplace conditions and work processes will help you identify typical risk factors.

During crane setup, those risks might include exerting excessive force, working in awkward postures, or exposing hands to being pinched or caught between items. According to NIOSH in its Simple Solutions, Ergonomics for Construction Workers document (<https://www.cdc.gov/niosh/docs/2007-122/pdfs/2007-122.pdf>), "Simple changes can make a big difference. Using ergonomic ideas to improve tools, equipment, and jobs reduces workers' contact with those factors that can result in injury."

Protecting backs

In the crane industry, one of the leading causes of workman's comp claims each year are caused by lifting heavy and awkward items such as outrigger pads and cribbing. There's not a straightforward answer to how much weight a person can safely lift, however, the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health has published recommended weight limits that vary depending on several factors. Those include:

- How far away from the body and how high the object is being lifted
- How far the person must carry the object
- How much body rotation is required to lift and place the object
- How often and how long the object must be lifted

In recognition of this issue, DICA® has focused on designing its products with positive ergonomic features, to minimize both the weight of its products and the amount of lifting necessary when using them. DICA's SafetyTech® Outrigger Pads have received six patents in the U.S. and Canada for the ergonomic features of its pad and handle designs.

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Engineered thermoplastic products are typically a more ergonomic alternative to wood outrigger pads. Because of thicknesses required to reduce the chances of physical failure, wood outrigger pads typically weigh more than SafetyTech Outrigger Pads. As a porous organic material, wood pads can nearly double in weight when exposed to moisture and come with other risks such as splinters and finger pinching handles. Due to the environmental impact on wood, wood pads will have a short life span that requires ongoing replacement. Engineered thermoplastic SafetyTech Outrigger Pads are not porous, they will not absorb water or any chemicals, and they will not splinter or break under stress. Recessed ergonomic TuffGrip® Handles and round pad shapes, allow for DICA's pads to be easily lifted, slid, or rolled into place, reducing the potential for injuries to occur.

Regardless of pad choice, when moving heavy or large objects, workers should use their legs as the primary source of lifting power and not their back. If your pads are round, roll the pads into place by standing the pad on edge, and position yourself to the back or side of the pad, and carefully roll the pad to the intended location. To safely place the pad into position, either lower the pad into place or allow the pad to fall away from you onto its intended location. If dropping the pad in place, verify all personnel are a safe distance away from where the pad will be placed. Once the area is clear, allow the pad to fall away and drop into place. If two workers are lowering the pad in unison, slowly lower the pad by bending at the knees while maintaining a flat back until the pad is positioned.

Larger cranes need larger pads, such as DICA's FiberMax® Crane Pads. Movement of larger pads requires the use of mechanized lifting equipment. To make the process simple and efficient, DICA offers several rigging hardware options to simplify rigging and material handling. D-Rings are standard on all Mega Duty models, and options such as lifting lugs, Crosby® D-Rings, and a Stack & Pin option secure all four mats together for lifting as a single unit and simplified storage and security on trailers.

Protecting hands

Placement of smaller outrigger pads is primarily a manual task. Protecting workers hands from impact injuries, including broken bones, pinching and bruising, is the intention of many impact-resistant work gloves. Many products designed to be impact-resistant feature Thermoplastic Rubber (TPR) or Thermoplastic Elastomers (TPE) and proprietary foams. However, no standard currently exists regarding glove design. That will change with the expected 2018 release of U.S. voluntary standard ISEA 138. The standard will focus on establishing industry-accepted test criteria to measure the reduction of peak impact force across the hand, and a set of classifications to enable users to select gloves suited to their work environments.

Protecting hands was a primary objective for DICA in developing its Patented TuffGrip® Handle System. TuffGrip

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Handles minimize finger pinching common to handles that are too rigid. Because TuffGrip Handles are larger in diameter and made from comfortable and strong, yet flexible engineered thermoplastic material they reduce pinching and fatigue often found with rope, cable or chain handles. The recessed TuffGrip Handles on round SafetyTech Outrigger Pads do not extend beyond the perimeter of the pads edge, allowing for safe and easy rolling of the pads. DICA' patented recessed design gives the operator the option of not carrying the pad at all.

Reducing tripping hazards

High-Viz clothing is common worn on job sites, and several standards and OSHA interpretations provide guidance on what construction workers should wear. In the same way, products that might pose tripping hazards are often designed in bright colors and with non-slip surfaces.

All SafetyTech® Outrigger Pads have hi-visibility orange handles. In addition, many SafetyTech Pads are available in Hi-Viz yellow and orange to provide a clear visual reminder to think and act safely when setting up equipment on outrigger pads. Hi-Visibility yellow and orange contrasts with the ground more clearly identify the pads as a possible tripping hazard and make them easier for crews to find in low light conditions. FiberMax® Crane Pads are manufactured with Hi-Viz orange frames, corner reflective hazard tape, and Hi-Viz yellow non-slip surfaces.

Read more about how to improve ergonomics in in the work place at: <https://www.osha.gov/SLTC/ergonomics/index.html>.

Kris Koberg is CEO of DICA, Guthrie Center, Iowa. The company has been specializing in building a better outrigger pad since 1988. By creating engineered solutions for improving equipment stability and ergonomic safety, DICA is leading the way in product innovation for outrigger pads, crane pads, and cribbing.



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Protecting Tank Farms from Corrosion: The 3 Most Important Considerations

Going beyond barrier coatings, addressing CUI, and speeding turnaround is achievable with an innovative, cost effective approach

With asset utilization critical and community and regulatory pressure always looming, it is essential that tank farm owners proactively prevent any loss of containment with reliable, cost effective corrosion protection. This is crucial since atmospheric corrosion is one of the main culprits of tank leaks, containment loss, and early replacement.

As oil depots and terminals are often comprised of ample pipeline through which to draw product, it is also vital to address corrosion under insulation (CUI), which can cause serious problems including forced shutdowns, lost production, etc. CUI, which involves the corrosion of vessels or pipe beneath insulation due to water penetration, is insidious because it can remain undetected until leaks occur or the insulation is removed for inspection. Consequently, dealing with CUI and inspecting for it are very costly.

Fortunately, by addressing a few important considerations regarding corrosion, tank farm owners can stop corrosion and CUI for years to dramatically extend tank and pipe service life. In doing so, they can also improve safety, reduce downtime, and expedite maintenance turnaround.

Go Beyond Barrier Coatings

Tank farm corrosion protection typically involves applying polymer paints and rubber type coatings. Such methods create a physical barrier to keep corrosion promoters such as water and oxygen away from steel substrates. However, this only works until the paint is scratched, chipped, or breached and corrosion promoters enter the gap between the substrate and coating. When this occurs the coating can act like a greenhouse – trapping water, oxygen and other corrosion promoters – which allows the corrosion to spread.

Instead, as a better alternative, a growing number of the world's largest petrochemical companies with tank farms are finding success with an innovative approach toward stopping corrosion.

To extend the service life of tank farm assets, including those already experiencing atmospheric corrosion, owners and facility managers are turning to a new category of tough, Chemically Bonded Phosphate Ceramics (CBPCs) that can stop the corrosion, ease application, and reduce production downtime even in very wet, humid conditions.

One example of this is EonCoat, a spray applied inorganic coating from the Raleigh, North Carolina-based company of the same name.

In contrast to traditional polymer coatings that sit on top of the substrate, the EonCoat corrosion resistant CBPC coating bonds through a chemical reaction with the substrate. The surface of steel is passivated as an alloy layer is formed. This makes it impossible for corrosion promoters like oxygen and humidity to get behind the coating the way they can with ordinary paints.

Although traditional polymer coatings mechanically bond to substrates that have been extensively prepared, if gouged, moisture and oxygen will migrate under the coating's film from all sides of the gouge.

By contrast, the same damage to the ceramic coated substrate will not spread corrosion because the carbon steel's surface has been chemically transformed into an alloy of stable oxides. Once the steel's surface is stable (the way noble metals like gold and silver are stable) it will no longer react with the environment and therefore cannot corrode.

Visible in scanning electron microscope photography, EonCoat does not leave a gap between the steel and

the coating because the bond is chemical rather than mechanical. Since there is no gap, even if moisture was to get through to the steel due to a gouge, there is nowhere for the moisture to travel. This effectively stops atmospheric corrosion on carbon steel assets.

Address the "Silent Killer" CUI

Corrosion Under Insulation (CUI) is the root cause of many of the global petrochemical industry's most serious problems including forced shutdowns, lost production, early repair and replacement, as well as safety and environmental consequences that can cost millions of dollars per incident.

"CUI is the silent killer," explains Merrick Alpert, President of EonCoat. "The insulation creates a terrarium on the steel in which corrosion is guaranteed to occur if traditional coatings are used. And the insulation then hides the corrosion from being detected until it's too late."

Pipe is particularly susceptible to mechanical damage from shipping, installation, or facility operation that may breach traditional coatings and accelerate CUI.

Because of the risk of CUI, a dedicated team is often required to inspect vessels or extensive piping on a virtually continuous basis. However, removing pipe insulation and spot-checking that portion of pipe does not eliminate the risk of CUI along the entire pipe network at the tank farm.

As an alternative that helps to curtail this costly inspection and maintenance cycle, a CBPC coating like EonCoat provides a corrosion barrier that is covered by a ceramic layer that further resists corrosion, water, impact, abrasion, chemicals, fire and high temperatures.

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In this way, the ceramic layer provides a tough outer coating that dramatically reduces mechanical damage and any potential breach of the coating.

The CBPC coating's chemical bond further ensures that even if moisture were to get through to the steel due to a gouge, it would travel no farther than the boundaries of the gouge. This quality effectively prevents the hidden spread of corrosion, which is arguably the most insidious aspect of CUI.

Faster Turnaround Time

One of the greatest benefits of the CBPC coating, however, is the rapid return to service that minimizes facility downtime. The time saved on an anti-corrosion coating project with the ceramic coating comes from less surface preparation, the elimination of the intermediate coat and expedited curing time.

With a typical corrosion coating, near white metal blast cleaning (NACE 2 / SSPC-SP 10) is required to prepare the surface. But with the ceramic coating, only a NACE 3 / SSPC-SP 6 commercial blast is typically necessary.

Furthermore, with traditional coatings, extensive surface preparation is required and done a little at a time to avoid surface oxidation, commonly known as 'flash rust', which then requires re-blasting.

However, with the CBPC coating, the flash rust is no issue. There is no need to 'hold the blast'. The reason for this unique CBPC characteristic is due to the presence of iron in the rust, which helps to create the magnesium iron phosphate alloy layer. It is

this alloy layer that allows CBPCs to so effectively protect carbon steel from corrosion.

For traditional 'three part system' coatings utilizing polyurethanes or epoxies, the cure time may also be days or weeks before the next coat can be applied, depending on the product.

In contrast, a corrosion resistant coating for carbon steel utilizing the ceramic coating in a single coat requires

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almost no curing time. Return to service for tank farms can be achieved in as little as one hour, which can potentially save hundreds of thousands of dollars per day in reduced facility downtime.

Boosting the Bottom Line

For petrochemical tank farms with massive carbon steel structures, corrosion and CUI have been a costly, perennial problem.

Now, however, by proactively using best in class anti-corrosion products like CBPC coatings, facility managers will be able to deter corrosion and CUI for decades, reduce downtime, and postpone tank and pipe replacement. This will significantly help the bottom line.

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Real Estate Pros: Increase the Sale Price, Speed the Sale Process by Making Noise a Non-Issue

When the best residential locations often have noise issues, soundproofing existing windows can be a competitive sales advantage

No matter how beautiful the home or convenient the location, the constant din of highway/street traffic, blare of train/ship horns, or roar of aircraft can kill the sale. After all, if the buyer is concerned about sleeping/working/living in a noisy home the sale is likely doomed, delayed, or subjected to low price offers.

With the nation's residential market becoming increasingly urban, the problem of homes, condos, or apartments being located near loud sources of external noise is growing for real estate professionals.

Furthermore, buyers today are not only sensitive to noise pollution, but also have sophisticated tools available, such as an annually updated National Transportation Noise Map. Created by The Bureau of Transportation Statistics, a division of the United States Department of Transportation, this allows users to see the noise generated in particular neighborhoods.

To help homeowners proactively fix the noise problem to prepare for the sale, real estate professionals need to understand that existing windows – not walls – account for up to 90% of external noise penetration. However, traditional dual pane windows are



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not actually designed to reduce noise, and there often isn't time or money available to do a full scale window replacement project when the home needs to be put up for sale.

Fortunately, agents, brokers, and developers are discovering how to increase the selling price and expedite the sale by helping homeowners economically soundproof the most problematic existing windows and patio doors (facing traffic etc.) in a matter of hours, using technology derived from recording studios.

Traditional Window Troubles

Dual pane replacement windows are designed to keep out heat and cold, but not noise. While the seals of a new window provide some noise reduction, the two pieces of glass in dual pane windows are separated by an air space, and sealed into one solid glass unit. Like a drum, this causes both pieces of glass to vibrate together. This drum effect defeats the noise reduction benefit of dual pane windows.

Instead, a growing number of real estate professionals are finding a solution to the noise problem for their clients by recommending a more modern soundproofing technology.

For example, some are turning to companies like Soundproof Windows, Inc., a company with expertise engineering windows for some of the most noise sensitive environments in the world, such as recording studios.

The company has adapted recording studio window soundproofing technology for residential homes by creating a secondary soundproofing window that installs inside, behind the existing window. The product is custom designed specifically to match – and function – like the original window. Installation is simple, straightforward, and usually can be completed in about an hour or two.

The inner window essentially reduces noise from entering on three fronts: the type of materials used to make the pane, the ideal air space between original window and insert, and finally improved, long-lasting seals. The combination can reduce external noise by up to 95%.

The first noise barrier is laminated glass, which dampens sound vibration much like a finger on a wine glass stops it from ringing when struck. An inner PVB layer of plastic further dampens sound vibrations.

Air space of 2-4 inches between the existing window and the Soundproof Window also significantly improves noise reduction because it isolates the window frame from external sound vibrations.

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Finally, the company places spring-loaded seals in the second window frame. This puts a constant squeeze on the glass panels, which prevents sound leaks and helps to stop noise from vibrating through the glass. These spring-loaded seals stay as acoustically sound 15 years down the road as they were on day one.

Selling Even Hard-to-Sell Homes

Installing such soundproofing can help expedite the sale of even hard-to-sell homes, such as those next to busy freeways.

For instance, when one frustrated homeowner tried to sell his spacious home in Alamo, CA with soaring ceilings, walls of windows and oversized wood beams, buyers loved the home's beautiful design, but could not tolerate being next to a noisy freeway, with an estimated 67,000 commuters per day.

During the first 90 days on the market, over 80 groups came through the home, but there were no offers or strong lookers. Every group commented on the noise, and the serious lookers said they could not handle the traffic noise.

The homeowner decided to install Soundproof Windows and took the house off the market. The soundproofing company came in, and promptly measured, manufactured and installed a total of 21 windows and [sliding glass] doors. After installation, the home sold in just 21 days.

"Almost everyone loved the house both times it was on the market, but the first time everyone said the traffic noise was too much for them," says the homeowner. "The second time not one person even mentioned the traffic noise. What a difference."

Residential developers can also benefit from soundproofing hard-to-sell homes.

For example, one developer built a dozen homes near a Northern California freeway with a sound wall. However, the upstairs bedrooms overlooked the sound wall and were very noisy. He did not install soundproofing windows, but offered them as an upgrade. Almost all of the buyers bought the upgrade.

Near the end of the project, the developer stated: "It took me over a year to sell these homes in this active Northern California housing market. If I would have just installed [the soundproof] windows in all the homes to begin with, I know I would have sold all of them within four months. The interest I would have saved would have paid for the windows several times over. I won't make that mistake again." He bought windows for the last three remaining homes and sold them within a few weeks.

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With added insulation and better seals, the windows can also help to prevent cold drafts from entering even when it is windy outside, which makes homes more comfortable.

The bottom line for real estate professionals is that by helping their clients to selectively soundproof the windows and sliding glass doors that are most problematic, they can quickly handle any external noise issues. This can not only help to expedite the sale but also maximize the selling price.

For more information, contact Soundproof Windows, Inc. at 4673 Aircenter Circle, Reno, NV 89502; call 1-877-438-7843; email sales@soundproofwindows.com; or visit www.soundproofwindows.com



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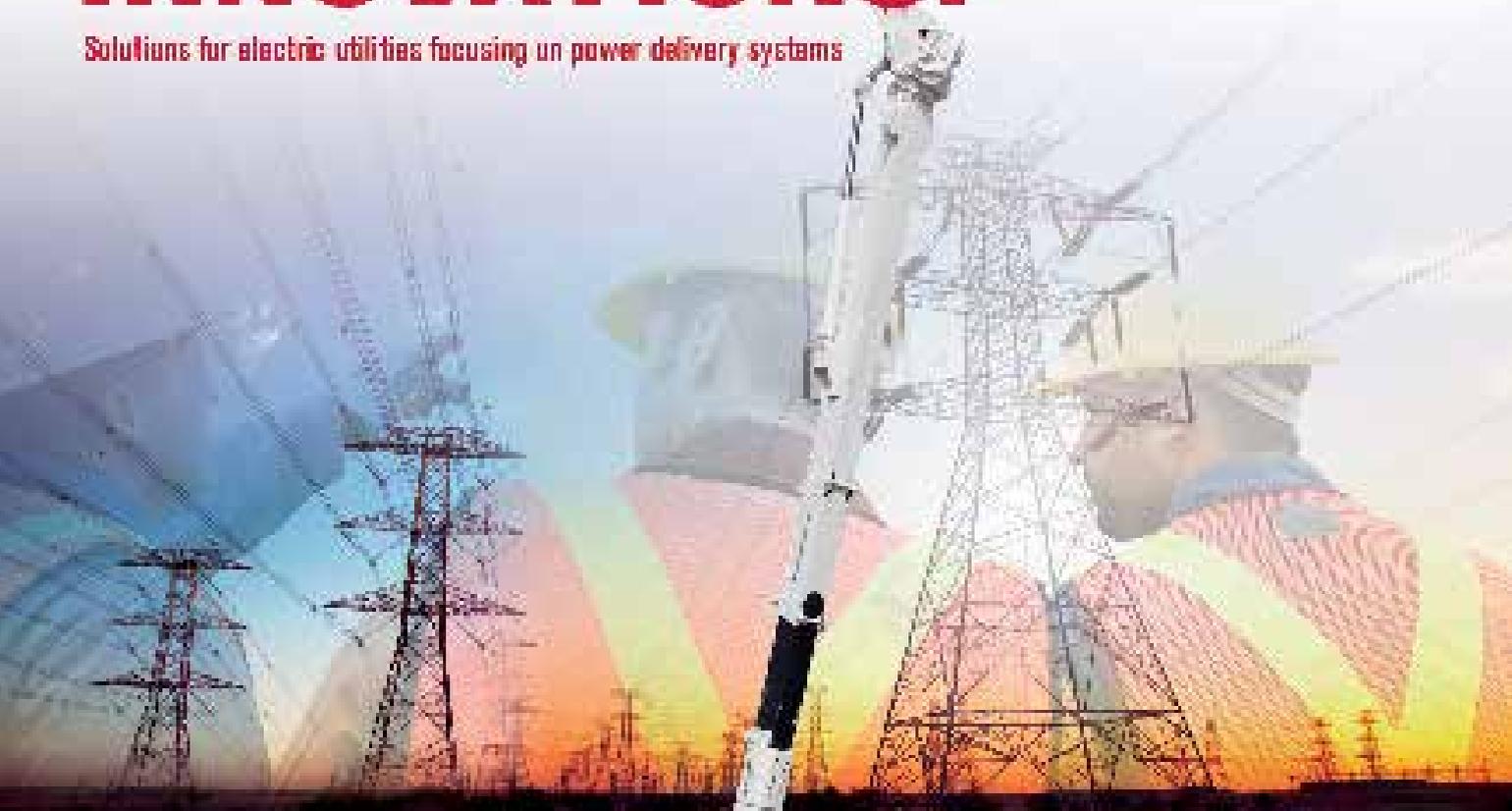
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Klein Tools'® USB Digital Meters and Tester Monitor the Power Delivered by USB Ports

Klein Tools, for professionals since 1857, introduces USB Meters and Tester (Cat. Nos. ET900, ET910 and ET920), enabling professionals to monitor the power delivered by USB ports. The ET900 easily measures USB-A power delivery devices and features a compact, lightweight design. The ET910 tests and measures USB-A ports, which builds on the ET900 with the additional ability to test the port's maximum current output. Lastly, the ET920 measures both USB-A and USB-C connectors for added flexibility. This unique product line offers new capabilities with intuitive, easy-to-use technology, built into a pocket-sized design for easy portability.

All three products listed below feature:

- Ability to continuously monitor up to 1000 hours of voltage, current, capacity/charge delivered, energy and resistance (calculated)
- Hi-resolution LCD display that provides clear measurements in low-lit environments
- Mode button to switch display options, reset, store and recall up to 10 data readings
- Voltage and current overload detection
- Durable cables that allow easy access to hard-to-reach ports

- Industrial design to withstand harsh jobsite demands, with 6-foot (2m) drop protection
- No need for batteries; devices receive power from the USB port being monitored or tested

USB Digital Meter, USB-A (Cat. No. ET900)

- Measures DC voltage from 3 to 20V DC and current from 0.05 to 3A
- For use with most common standard USB-A ports, including Qualcomm Quick Charge® ports

USB Digital Meter and Tester, USB-A (Cat. No. ET910)

- Built-in fixed loads of 0.5A, 1A, 2A and 3A test maximum current delivery without connecting to an external load
- Measures DC voltage from 3 to 20V DC and current from 0.05 to 3A (monitoring mode)
- Tests and measures most common standard USB-A ports, including Qualcomm Quick Charge® ports

USB Digital Meter, USB-A and USB-C (Cat. No. ET920)

- Measures DC voltage from 3 to 20V DC and current from 0.05 to 3A (USB-A) as well as DC voltage from 3 to 20V DC and current from 0.05 to 5A (USB-C)
- For use with most common standard USB-A or USB-C ports, including Qualcomm Quick Charge® ports

"A USB device's power delivery and capability can be a mystery, even though the technology is common," says Shantanu Deshpande, senior product manager at Klein Tools. "Klein Tools' new line of USB Digital Meters are easy to use and built to stand up to the rigors of daily use in demanding environments, perfect for troubleshooting wall outlets, wall chargers, portable power banks and other USB ports with charging capabilities."

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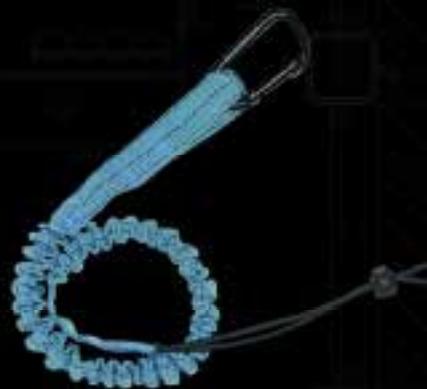
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Stanley® Assembly Technologies Introduces High-Speed Cordless Nutrunner Powered by DEWALT® FLEXVOLT® Battery

Stanley Assembly Technologies, a brand of Stanley Engineered Fastening, is extending its B-Series cordless torque tool product line to include the B33L angle-lever cordless nutrunner. Powered by a 60-volt DEWALT® FLEXVOLT™ battery, the B33L has an impressive torque range of 2.8 to 95 Nm, making it the fastest cordless precision fastening tool on the market.

“The B33L is the powerhouse of the B-Series tool line thanks to the proven FLEXVOLT battery technology developed by DEWALT — another brand in the Stanley Black & Decker portfolio,” said Thomas Ehrhardt, president of the global automotive division at Stanley Engineered Fastening. “The FLEXVOLT has 180 watt-hours of run time — that’s equivalent to 80 percent more energy per battery than competitive cordless precision fastening tools*.”

Driven by a high-efficiency brushless motor, the B33L is built to withstand high-cycle assembly fastening applications. To ensure the threaded fasteners are correctly installed, the B33L sends the operator audible and visible feedback. It notifies the user when it’s ready to cycle, confirms the threaded fastener tightens to the desired specification and triggers an alert if an error occurs.

The B33L has a built-in controller with wireless capability. This allows seamless integration with the plant’s existing communications system. The tool can also store data for up to 500 fastening cycles

and two trace sequences to verify fasteners were securely installed during the assembly application.

Available in 3/8- and 1/2-inch square drives, the B33L is ergonomically-designed to balance the operator’s weight, speed and power needs. The cordless tool gives operators the freedom and flexibility to install threaded fasteners in automotive, truck and trailer, agricultural, and recreational vehicle assembly applications.

“The speed, freedom and flexibility of the B33L cordless nutrunner allows operators to complete assembly projects quickly and accurately, helping to increase the quality and throughput of a manufacturing facility’s assembly line,” said Deanna Postlethwaite, director of global product management at Stanley Assembly Technologies. “Stanley Assembly Technologies also offers B-Series fastening tools for applications that require the same cordless freedom but less torque.”

The B33L is the latest addition to the B-Series cordless tool product line, which includes the lightweight B12P pistol and push-to-start pistol, B12L angle-lever tool and in-line tool, and B23L angle-lever tool. To learn more about the B33L and B-Series cordless fastening tool product line, contact SATInfo@sbdinc.com or visit www.stanleyassemblytechnologies.com

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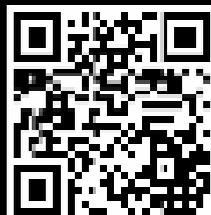


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