



AMPP QP Contractor Monthly Update

May 2026

Welcome to the first edition of our **new** monthly QP Update! Each month, we will share AMPP updates, relevant industry news, and other insights designed for you. We encourage you to explore the content, consider new opportunities, and find ways to engage and partner with us.

You can find the latest updates on the AMPP website under **What's New with QP**. And as always, please feel free to reach out if there's any way our team can assist you.

QP Team & Program Updates

Sonya Peters is AMPP's new Technical Auditor Manager.



Sonya is a results-driven coatings professional with over 25 years of experience in project management, quality control, and safety across complex, multi-million-dollar industrial projects. She is an AMPP Senior Certified Coatings Inspector with Bridge Stamp and Protective Coatings Specialist, as well as a Certified Health and Safety Technician

(CHST), with deep expertise in AMPP programs, workforce training, and safety leadership. Throughout her career, Sonya has led high-impact projects for organizations such as Pond & Company and Champion Painting, consistently driving quality, compliance, and performance excellence. Welcome Sonya!

We also have two new auditors as part of the team.

Russell Cox



Russell Cox is a results-driven industrial coatings professional with over 11 years of experience across offshore and onshore oil & gas, energy, and infrastructure projects. He is an AMPP Certified Coatings Inspector with strong expertise in surface preparation, quality control, and specification compliance. He is currently serving as a Contract

Offshore Coating Inspector Level II and combines hands-on field experience with leadership in inspection, documentation, and client coordination.

Oluwakayode (Kay) Olagoke



Oluwakayode (Kay) Olagoke is a coatings and corrosion specialist with 22+ years of experience across industries including wind energy, infrastructure, and oil and gas. A recognized expert in NACE, SSPC, ISO, ASTM, and NORSOK standards, he holds both an AMPP Senior Certified Coatings Inspector and a Protective Coatings Specialist certification.

He is currently pursuing a Business Administration degree at New Jersey City University.

QP Merit Program Applications

Reminder: The Merit Application Renewal deadline is **Wednesday, July 1, 2026!** Find the QP Merit Program Application, program rules [here](#).

2026 AMPP Award Winners

Celebrating Excellence in the QP Contractor Community:

This year, we are proud to highlight 2026 award recipients from within our QP contractor community. These winners represent what happens when expertise, discipline, and pride in our industry come together. Congratulations!!



Russell Brannon & John Keane Signature Award
Recipient: the late Kenneth B. Tator, KTA-Tator, Inc. Ken Tator's contributions reflect decades of leadership, technical rigor, and commitment to advancing protective coatings practices. His work continues to influence how projects are specified, executed, and inspected.

Excellence in Coating Craftsmanship: Project in honor of E. Crone Knoy and Charles Munger

Contractor: Alpine Painting and Sandblasting

Alpine Painting and Sandblasting earned this recognition for delivering a project that exemplifies precision, quality, and adherence to best practices. Their work demonstrates what it looks like when highly trained teams execute at the highest level under real-world conditions.



Community Service Award

Contractor & Applicator: AMP United



AMP United was recognized for their commitment to community service, demonstrating leadership on the job site and in the communities they serve. Their efforts reflect the broader impact QP contractors can have when they extend their expertise and resources beyond the workplace.

Promoting QP with Ernst Toussaint

Ernst Toussaint, AMPP's Vice President of Civil Infrastructure, is leading efforts to expand the specification of QP to drive more demand for the program—and he's looking for your support. Growing the QP Program will take both AMPP's resources and your local connections.

To get involved, please contact Ernst.Toussaint@ampp.org.

AMPP is Looking for Board Directors

AMPP Opens the Call for the Board of Directors

These three-year terms run from January 1, 2027, through December 31, 2029. **Applications are due May 31, 2026.**

We are seeking candidates with diverse professional backgrounds, global perspectives, and experience in leadership, governance, and stewardship. **We strongly encourage contractors to get involved and help represent the perspectives of the contractor community!**

Eligibility includes:

- At least five years of AMPP membership
- Demonstrated leadership and management experience
- Employer support for time and travel commitments
- Self-nominations are **not accepted**

Advocacy and Event Updates

AMPP Advocacy Days - May 11–13, 2026 | Washington, D.C.

Contractors play a critical role in protecting and sustaining our nation's infrastructure and that voice needs to be heard where decisions are made. That's why we organize AMPP Advocacy Days each year.

We are bringing a focused group of subject matter experts to Capitol Hill to engage directly with policymakers on the issues that impact your business and our industry every day, especially across civil infrastructure, maritime and defense.

Events & Engagement Opportunities

The AMPP website has a section dedicated to sharing Industry Events

It's a great place to discover upcoming conferences, training opportunities, and networking events across the industry. Be sure to check it regularly—and consider submitting your own events to reach a wider audience.

AMPP Chapter Engagement

Do you belong to an AMPP Chapter yet?

AMPP Chapters help you connect and network with other professionals, stay up to date, and contribute to the industry.

QP Auditor Key Directives for Audit Preparation

[Utilize Available QP Audit Checklists](#)

- Print the audit checklist and familiarize yourself with items to reduce the time the audit takes. Full audits require every item on the checklist. Spot/Field audits need only satisfy critical items.
- Conducting your *mandatory* internal audit prior to your audit will help you prepare!
- Make sure your inspectors have read and understand **SSPC PA 2**. Understanding this document is key to demonstrating the credibility of your quality records regarding coating application.

Tools & Resources

The **Find a Contractor** tool is used to find QP Accredited Contractors, Inspection Companies, and Independent Training Organizations.

We encourage you to **Review Your Listing on Find a Contractor**. Please take a moment to confirm that your contact details are accurate and up to date. If you need to make any changes, please contact [Christine](#).

QP Program Guidance

Visit our website to take advantage of the full range of QP resources available to you!

[QP Resources - AMPP](#)

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