INSTITUTE OF MATERIALS, MALAYSIA

IMM Coating Certification Scheme

Certified Coating Inspector Level 1

Code: CIL1 *HRDF claimable*

This program covers the technical and practical fundamentals of coating inspection work. The Coating Inspector Level 1 certification program is established to certify the competency of individuals equipped with the knowledge and skills in coating inspection.

Reference standards (reference used shall refer to the latest published document):

- ASTM D 1186-87: Non Destructive Measurement of Dry Film Thickness of Non Magnetic Coatings Applied to a Ferrous Base
- ASTM D 610: Evaluation Degree of Rusting on Painted Steel Surfaces
- ISO 8501-1: Preparation of Steel Substrates Before Application of Paint and Related Products – Visual Assessment of Surface Cleanliness
- ISO 8509: Tests for the Assessment of Surface Cleanliness
- MS 2736 (previously known as IMM FP01): Coating Fingerprinting Overall Procedures for Paints Using FTIR and Other Related Methods

Who should apply

The program is suitable for candidates with or without experience in industrial painting or inspection and will also be applicable to those who require knowledge of painting inspection such as painting inspector, painting supervisor, technicians, specifiers, and engineers who have been trained and/or have experience in coatings inspection and desire to be certified for career advancement.

Objectives

To assess the following knowledge and skills:

- Specify protective paint/coating system to a variety of substrates
- Supervise the preparation of substrates prior to painting
- Supervise the application of paint coatings
- Conduct inspections to satisfy clients/industry & government standards
- Diagnose and rectify faults in paint coatings and communicate in written form

Examination topics

- Introduction to corrosion
- Composition & manufacture of paints; and paint fingerprinting
- Types of paint and their use
- Surface preparation
- Application and storage of paint
- Paint faults and coating defects
- Test and measurement instrumentation
- Safety and health
- The role of the coating inspector
- Coating project specifications
- Codes and standards

Examination format

The examination consists of 20 true/false questions and 90 multiple choice questions.

The questions are based on the above examination topics and include the assessment of understanding the practical aspects of the use of inspection tools and visual inspection.

Examination duration
2 hours 30 minutes

Examination fee
As specified on the IMM website.

Candidate's criteria
Candidate should have

- Pass in SPM with at least 2 years of relevant work experience OR
- Diploma or Degree in equivalent Science/Engineering related field OR
- Valid IMM Certified Protective Coating Technician Level 2 (Multi-skill) qualification or equivalent; OR
- Attended relevant academic Coating Inspection Course dedicated to the IMM Coating Inspector Level 1 Certification with at least 3 months of practical experience in painting technology.

Pre-requisite training
A candidate without experience is required to attend IMM approved/recognized Coating Inspector Level 1 training course with a minimum duration of 3.5 days (28 hours) which prepares and provides comprehensive guidance and practice aligned to the topics covered in the examination.

A candidate with experience is encouraged to attend an IMM approved/recognized Coating Inspector Level 1 training course for examination preparation and scheme alignment.

Note: Evidence of training completion (where applicable) shall be submitted to the IMM prior to examination approval.

Criteria for certification
The candidate must pass the examination with a minimum total mark of 70%.

Certificate awarded
IMM Certified Coating Inspector Level 1

Validity period of certificate
5 years

Re-sit of examination
A candidate who had failed in one or more of the examination parts can apply to re-sit for the failed component(s) of the examination within a year from the date of the first examination. The candidate shall have to pay the full examination fee for the re-sit and without the need to attend any pre-requisite training course.

Information on re-certification
Candidates may submit a recertification application up to six (6) months before or within six (6) months after the certificate expiry date. Applications submitted within this period will be processed as usual and may require attendance at a refresher course, if applicable.

Applications submitted more than six (6) months after the certificate expiry date require the candidate to:

- Attend the refresher course, if applicable; and
- Retake the certification examination, regardless of work experience.

Candidates may apply to renew their certification for an additional five (5) years within six (6) months prior to the expiry of the certification period (after either the initial 5-year certification or the subsequent 5-year renewal) by:

- Providing proof to IMM of employment in a related field; and
- Attending the refresher course, if applicable.

Candidates who have been out of the profession for more than eighteen (18) months at any point during a 5-year certification or recertification period must retake the certification examination.