

# 2009 INGAA Foundation Workshop

## Building Better Projects Continuous Improvement

March 25, 2009

Houston, Texas

Craig V. Meier  
Vice President – General Manager  
Sunland Construction, Inc.



*Sunland Construction, Inc.*

# Challenges we have as Construction Contractors

- Typically last person involved in the project
- Route, material, design and extra work space have all been selected and permitted
- Assembly line type construction
- Not a controlled environment
- Unstable work conditions
- Unknown underground obstructions
- Mother nature adds challenges



# Quality

- What is it?
  - Condition of employment
  - Industry Codes for facility installations  
API 1104, Appendix A, API 5L, ASME, etc.
  - Our Customers have construction specifications
  - Contractors have processes and procedures
  - Develop project specific procedures
  - Its our reputation
- Cost more to do it twice.
- Than to just do it right the first time



# Right of Way

- We don't view the right of way in full detail during bidding process – typically we spend 1 to 2 days at the job site looking at the job
  - Right of way widths
  - Extra work space
  - Ground conditions
  - Water bodies
  - Above ground obstructions
  - Under ground obstructions



# Pipe

- Construction Contractors don't typically inspect the pipe until we receive it on the right of way
  - Out of roundness
  - Ends not square
  - Seams not ground back far enough
  - Bevel consistency and care
  - Gauss (Magnetism)
  - Varying pipe metallurgy (within API 5L)
    - Tensile strength for X-70 (75,000 to 105,000)
    - Multiple plate manufacturers
  - Coating cutback to small or to large



# Welding

- Pipe issues cause additional challenges
- May use standard welding procedures
- May use project specific welding procedures  
(Mechanized – Appendix A or SMAW)
- Issues we have encountered this year
  - Excessive High/Low
  - Higher repair rates



# Welding

- Items critical to the welding process
    - Consumable selection and control
    - Bevel preparation
    - Preheating of the pipe
    - Spacing / Gap for root bead
    - Inter pass temperatures
    - Travel speed / amperage / voltage  
(Heat Input)
    - Training of personnel
- Pipe mill (QC) / NDT  
CWI / Welder



# Coating

- Field joints
  - Coating cutback to small or to large
  - Surface preparation
    - Sand blasting
    - Preheating
  - Application
  - Verification of correct coating thickness
  - Visual Inspection
  - Jeeping





# Backfill

- Ditch preparation
- Pipe support in the ditch
  - Padding
  - Sand bags
- Installation techniques
- Backfill (prevent dents/ovality)
  - Padding
  - Rockshield
  - Overburden (placing cuts back)
- Pipe Design (wall thickness)



# How do we achieve Quality

- How did we meet some of these challenges
- Developed better Quality Control / Quality Assurance processes
- Highlighting the items of a critical nature
- Developed ITP's (Inspection and Testing Plans)
- Better Planning
- **Better Communication**  
(Owner/Contractor/Inspector)





# Inspection & Testing Plan

## ITP's



# Sunland Construction, Inc.

## ITP-04

### QC FIELD INSPECTION AND TEST PLAN Lay Procedure

Item No.	Activity	Project Procedure	Frequency	Acceptance Criteria	Sunland Responsibility	Representative Responsibility	Action/Record
3	Pipe Inspection	<b>Section 2.0</b>	Each joint	Pipe free of debris	Welding Foreman		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Swab each joint</li> <li>•No record</li> </ul>
5	Verify Weld Procedure	<b>Section 2.0 &amp; Weld Procedures</b>	As needed	Applicable weld procedure	Welding Foreman		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Determine proper weld procedure &amp; notify welders</li> <li>• Welder Foreman Report</li> </ul>
6	Verify Qualified Welders	<b>Section 4.0 thru 7.0</b>	Prior to welding, at change of Welder and/or Weld Procedure	49 CFR Section 195/Welder Qualification Log	Welding Foreman		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Verify welders qualified to procedure per Welder Qualification Log</li> <li>•Welder Foreman Report</li> </ul>
7	Bevel Prep	<b>Weld Procedures</b>	Each joint	Clean bevel per Weld Procedure	Welding Foreman		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Buff bevel</li> <li>•No record</li> </ul>
8	Pre heat	<b>Weld Procedures</b>	Each joint	Minimum of 250° F Verified by temp stick or equal.	Welding Foreman		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Pre heat bevel</li> <li>•No record</li> </ul>
9	Line up	<b>Weld Procedures</b>	Each joint	Root opening 1/16" Seams 2"-4" offset High-low 1/8" & Weld Procedure	Welding Foreman		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Use of internal line up clamp, seam roller</li> <li>•No record</li> </ul>
10	Weld Acceptance	<b>Weld Procedures &amp; NDE Procedure</b>	Each weld	Weld procedures, API 1104 & Welding Specification NDE Procedures	Welding Foreman	X	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Visual and NDE Inspection</li> <li>•NDE report</li> </ul>

# Sunland Construction, Inc.

## ITP-05

### QC FIELD INSPECTION AND TEST PLAN Coating Procedure

Item No.	Activity	Project Procedure	Frequency	Acceptance Criteria	Sunland Responsibility	Representative Responsibility	Action/Record
12	Surface prep, (blasting)	<b>Section 9.0</b>	2 per shift	1.5 – 4 mils per CCSI SSC-SP10	Coating Foreman		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Blast and check profile</li> <li>•Daily coating foreman report</li> </ul>
13	Surface prep, (heating)	<b>Section 10.0</b>	Each joint	460° F (approximately) Verified with temp stick or equal	Coating Foreman		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Pre-Heat Joint</li> <li>•No record</li> </ul>
14	Coating thickness	<b>Section 10.0</b>	2 per shift	14 – 18 mils, 1” overlap 4 readings/joint	Coating Foreman	X	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Check with Elcometer™</li> <li>•Daily coating foreman report</li> </ul>
15	Holiday detection	<b>Section 10.0</b>	Each joint	No jeeps	Coating Foreman	X	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Use holiday detector</li> <li>•Confirm voltage setting</li> <li>•Daily coating foreman report</li> </ul>
16	Pipe Coating Inspect	<b>D.O.T. 49 CFR 195</b>	Each joint	No damage 49 CFR 195.23 8(b)	Coating Foreman		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Visual Inspect</li> <li>•No record</li> </ul>
17	Coating repair	<b>Section 10.0</b>	As needed	<1” – patch stick >1” – 2-part epoxy (20-30 mils)	Coating Foreman	X	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Repair with patch stick or 2-part epoxy</li> <li>•No Record</li> </ul>

# Questions

