

Refractory solutions company responds to new API 936 Standard

Coastal Refractory Services Inc.

Coastal Refractory Services Inc. was launched this year to meet a growing demand for solutions to refractory installation quality assurance, project management and new API 936 Standard implementation. The API 936 Standard is increasing awareness of the need for refractory quality assurance, and Coastal Refractory Services is prepared to meet that need with a unique system of quality assurance tools and services.

Although the industry is currently served with third-party quality-control companies, a focus on quality assurance oversight and implementation is needed. Coastal Refractory Services is committed to meeting the changing demands of the refractory industry by offering seminars in practical training in refractory installation and applications of the API 936 Standard, in addition to quality assurance and project management procedures for refractory projects.

The company offers consulting, inspection and training and specializes in turning around and reorganizing troubled projects. A consistent, organized system of tools is

used to assess clients' quality assurance and project management procedures and provide recommendations for improvement in a professional format.

Coastal Refractory Services focuses on solutions and utilizes a consistent system of tools to communicate with all project stakeholders. The company's combination of experience along with its "coaching approach to solutions" really differentiates it from existing quality control companies.

The consistent systems approach produces solutions more effectively than the approach taken by competitors, which is commonly just an individual's subjective opinion. For example, the company's Coastal Project Success Scorecard offers a snapshot of a project's status for project managers' review, while the Coastal Project Success Scorecard Report provides the level of detail required for corrective action and quality management at the installation jobsite.

Training seminars are a key component of the Coastal Project Success System. The training seminars show how the "Eight Key Elements of Quality Control" are imple-

mented on refractory installation projects.

Tony Sims, Coastal Refractory Services' president and CEO, brings 26 years of hands-on installation experience to the company.

"Our seminars will train your employees to understand every element of refractory installations," Sims said. "And we are prepared immediately to offer our consulting, inspection and training services to get your project up to speed."

The content of the seminars provides attendees with a thorough understanding of the API 936 Standard and prepares them for the API 936 exam. The company plans to train as many as 50 industry professionals in seminars by the year's end.

Coastal Refractory Services chose to introduce itself through BIC Magazine because of BIC's proven success within the industry. In addition, Coastal Refractory Services maintains a Web site that is a tool for the refractory industry with links to key product and service providers for easy access to timely information.

To achieve its training goals, the company is partnering with proven successful

seminar locations. In addition, seminars are offered on site at clients' chosen facilities, and the training can be custom tailored to clients' needs.

The company is confident that within the next five years the Coastal Project Success System will be the industry standard for refractory installation quality assurance and API 936 Standard implementation. The system will allow the company to "plug in" additional services as needed in order to achieve its longer-term growth goals. In 2010 it will aggressively pursue international opportunities.

Sims' leadership with his hands-on and technical refractory installation experience, combined with his marketing, finance and accounting experience and his project management experience makes Coastal Refractory Services uniquely positioned to operate a lean organization focused on optimum resource utilization while helping clients focus on *driving for project success*.

For more information, visit www.coastalrefractory.com or call (409) 267-7818. ●

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NEWS UPDATE

CSB releases combustible dust safety video

WASHINGTON — The U.S. Chemical Safety Board (CSB) recently released a new safety video depicting how accumulations of dust at worksites can provide the fuel for explosions that kill and maim workers, shut down plants and harm local economies.

Titled, "Combustible Dust: An Insidious Hazard," the video features CSB computer animations which illustrate three major dust explosion accidents the CSB has investigated: West Pharmaceutical Services in Kingston, N.C.; CTA Acoustics in Corbin, Ky.; and Hayes Lemmerz International in Huntington, Ind.

The animations show how explosive dust accumulated over years on plant equipment, pipes, floors, ducts, dust collectors and other areas. The video shows how conditions develop needing only an ignition source to set off a primary explosion, which lofts the accumulated dust, leading to deadlier secondary explosions.

News footage and still photographs depict actual damage caused by these

explosions, as well as other accidents, including the 2008 tragedy that killed 14 workers at the Imperial Sugar Co. in Port Wentworth, Ga.

The video shows that dust accumulations — and the resulting secondary dust explosions — can be readily prevented. National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) standards have long been available to general industry and, if followed, will prevent such accidents, as an NFPA official states in the video.

The video features comments by combustible dust experts, the CSB investigators who led each of the accident investigations and Angela Blair, who led the CSB study resulting in a comprehensive CSB report on dust hazards in 2006.

The video is available on CSB's Web site as well as YouTube. It can also be ordered free of charge on a two-DVD set of all CSB safety videos by filling out CSB's online DVD request form.

For more information or to view the video, visit www.CSB.gov or call (202) 261-7600. ●