THE AGGREGATE

4th Quarter 2016

International Concrete Repair Institute Baltimore Washington Chapter, Inc.
www.icribwchapter.org

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THE OBJECTIVES & METHODS OF PAINT AND GRAFFITI REMOVAL

by Neil Savitch, Construction Specialties Group

The objectives of a paint removal project will include:

1. Exposing the natural beauty of the substrate.
2. Revealing all masonry areas requiring replacement or repair.
3. Leaving the surface physically and chemically compatible for the application of new paint, if desired.
4. Not causing physical or chemical damage to the substrate.

The paint removal method utilized shall be a chemical treatment combined with a high pressure water spray. The type of paint removal method and material best suited to

remove the paint is dependent upon the type and age of the paint layers and temperature conditions and shall be variably employed as needed at the contractor's discretion, subject to conformance with other parts of the specifications.

Testing should include both a solvent base remover and an alkaline base remover. Depending on the type of paint on each layer, the project may require one or the other or both types of removers.

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ICRI MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the International Concrete Repair Institute is to be a leading resource for education and information to improve the quality of repair, restoration, and protection of concrete and other structures in accordance with consensus criteria.

ICRI is an organization composed of Engineers, Consultants, Contractors, Manufacturers and other Material Suppliers, Property Managers and Owners all working together for the betterment of the industry and of all involved. Providing an open forum to speak about our work, new technologies and methods, exchange ideas. Creating and following standards to produce the best results for all involved.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Happy Halloween ICRI BW Chapter Members!

The Christmas decorations are starting to come out in the stores and I can't believe we are heading into winter again already. Time to keep a close watch on overnight lows as well as temperature and protection requirements of our products, and planning for winter which is training time for my team. In the training spirit, the BW Chapter Fall Technical seminar is next for us following the awards dinner. We have another great program with a partner organization. This year, we are partnering with The Association for Preservation Technology International with a joint topic of historic restoration. CP&R will again graciously host our group. This event is always one of the best of the year.

Our goal of 200 members is almost there, but we need a push at the finish. Let's recruit, recruit, recruit. In your discussions with distributors, manufacturers, engineers, and other contractors, talk to them about ICRI and ask them to join. The more people we can get into our organization, the more people we can educate of the proper methods of repair and restoration and the less cutting of corners we will see in the market place.

Thank you all for your support this year during my Presidency. I especially would like to thank the officers and board members for their commitment. We rarely had more than 1 or 2 board members miss a meeting this year and even though the time commitment for being a board member is not a huge part of anyone's week, it is still "unpaid time" and takes away from other job duties. Thank you to all the current board members, especially those that are making their way off of the board. We will be welcoming new board members in the next few months, and as always, the new faces and fresh ideas are an important part to our organization's future.

Lastly, a look to National… the ICRI Fall Convention is almost here. Beautiful Cleveland will be our host. I have not spent any time downtown, and I am actually looking forward to it! I hope to see many of you there.

Sincerely,

Adam Hibshman

2016 ICRI BW Chapter President
Valcourt Exterior Building Services

THE OBJECTIVES & METHODS OF PAINT AND GRAFFITI REMOVAL

Graffiti continued from Page 1

A 100 square foot (30 m^) sample area shall be cleaned prior to the award of the contract. This sample, once accepted by the owner and the architect, shall serve as the standard of quality for the project.

When samples are required for testing, these samples shall be provided in the manufacturer's original container with the manufacturer's original label which shall contain a description of the container's contents, recommended use and instructions for use, cautions and warnings and any additional safety labeling required for the use of the product.

Materials will be delivered in manufacturer's original, unopened, protective packaging that plainly show the designated product name, manufacturer's directions and name of manufacturer.

Store materials in a dry place off the ground and under cover to prevent damage and intrusion of water or foreign matter.

The contractor shall provide and erect safe and adequate scaffolding and equipment

required for the proper execution of the work. All scaffolding shall be properly braced and erected to insure the safety of the workmen and meet all appropriate OSHA regulations.

The contractor shall take all necessary precautions for the protection of all property and the safety of the public. The Contractor shall provide, erect and maintain barricades, lights, danger signals, and warning signs as deemed appropriate by the architect. All specified requirements shall be in addition to all of the approved manufacturer's requirements or recommendations.

Surrounding areas shall be protected from contact with paint strippers, rinsing and overspray. The surrounding areas shall include, but shall not be limited to: all adjacent surfaces and structures; all private property including

See Graffiti Page 5

UPCOMING CHAPTER EVENTS

Nov 3, 2016	**ICRI BWC Awards Dinner & Board Election** *12th Annual Outstanding Repair Projects Award Program* *Location: The Hotel at Arundel Preserve* *Hanover, MD*
Dec 1, 2016	**ICRI BWC Fall Technical Seminar** *Theme: Historic Restoration* *Location: Concrete Protection & Restoration Main Office* *Baltimore, MD*

UPCOMING NATIONAL EVENTS

Nov 9-11, 2016	**ICRI 2016 FALL CONVENTION** *Location: The Westin Cleveland Hotel Downtown* *Cleveland, OH*
Jan 16, 2017	**ICRI Kick-Off Party** *Location: Las Vegas, NV*
Jan 16-20, 2017	**World of Concrete** *Location: Las Vegas, NV*
March 15, 2017	**ICRI 2017 Spring Convention** *Location: Montreal, Quebec*

THE BALTIMORE/WASHINGTON, DC CHAPTER OF ICRI

November 3, 2016

The Hotel at Arundel Preserve
7795 Arundel Mills Boulevard
Hanover, MD 21076
410-796-9830

INTERNATIONAL CONCRETE REPAIR INSTITUTE
BALTIMORE WASHINGTON CHAPTER

Members by 10-27-16:	$50
Non-Members & Members After 10-27-16:	$60

4:00 pm Board Meeting
5:30 pm Social Hour
6:30 pm Dinner & Presentation

2016 Awards Dinner and Board Elections

Please join us on Thursday, November 3, 2016 for our 12th Annual Outstanding Repair Projects Awards Program.

Help us close the curtain and to celebrate a year of accomplishment when we honor our chosen contractors, engineers, consultants and materials suppliers for jobs well done. The Winners are:

1st Place

The Templeton of Alexandria Condo Plaza Deck PT Repair, External Strengthening & Waterproofing Rehab by Structural Rehabilitation Group, LLC.

2nd Place

GBMC Daffodil Garage by Concrete Protection & Restoration, Inc. (CP&R).

3rd Place

William Roth Bridge Rehab & Misc. Repairs by Freyssinet.

Projects were judged by a fine field of judges selected from our national pool of ICRI member companies. Judging is based on a number of criteria including, but not limited to: overall presentation of the project, innovative or difficult approach to making repairs, specialized materials or equipment required, difficulties during construction related to site issues or owner issues, tight construction deadlines or compressed schedules and that the project's success can be attributed to utilization of ICRI techniques and guidelines in the repairs.

Don't Forget that Elections for 2017 Board of Directors take place at this meeting.

REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS **October 27, 2016** NO-SHOWS WILL BE BILLED

Please email (bradcliff@etc-web.com) or print this page and fax to ***Bobby Radcliff***, Secretary, at 410-740-9409 no later than Oct. 27, 2016. Checks to ICRI BWC may be turned in at the meeting or mailed with your form to:

Bobby Radcliff, Secretary
ICRI BW Chapter
c/o Engineering & Technical Consultants
8930 Old Annapolis Road, Suite G
Columbia, MD 21045-2121

You may also register and pay online at

www.ICRIBWChapter.org

Name: _____
Company: _____
Telephone: _____
Email: _____
Number of Attendees: _____ Payment: ☐ Enclosed ☐ Online (Please include receipt)
Attendee Names: _____
_____
Attendee's Company: _____

THE OBJECTIVES & METHODS OF PAINT AND GRAFFITI REMOVAL

Graffiti continued from Page 3

automobiles, outdoor furniture, etc; all animal life and their dwellings; all vegetation and plant life; and all other surfaces which would be adversely affected if placed in contact with the cleaning chemicals. The method and materials used for protection is subject to the approval of the architect.

Water rinsing shall be confined to the work area by controlling the drift of water and spray. Necessary screens, deflectors, tarpaulins and other protective measures shall be employed in order to confine the work and properly drain waste water.

All rinse water shall be clean, potable and free of materials injurious to mortar or substrate.

A viscous paint removal compound shall be applied by brush, spray or roller.

After standing on the surface for 30 minutes to 8 hours depending on the type of remover and the manufacturer, the effluent can be rinsed using 1500 PSI and 4 to 5 GPM (19 Liters/Min. at 103 BAR). Rinsing effectiveness can be increased by the use of hot water.

Paint removal shall commence at the bottom and shall continually progress up the face of the wall. Special care shall be taken during the paint removal operation in areas where the details may have deteriorated underneath the paint. Should any paint removal operation cause the slightest injury to the masonry or reveal extensive areas of deteriorated stone, stop work immediately and notify the Architect. Avoid water spray into large open cracks or open joints.

The surfaces shall be rinsed with clean water to remove all residue. The substrate shall be rinsed until the rinse water is neutral (pH7).

See Graffiti Page 6

THE OBJECTIVES & METHODS OF PAINT AND GRAFFITI REMOVAL

Graffiti continued from Page 5

With some strong alkaline removers, it may be necessary to rinse with a mild acid to achieve substrate neutralization.

Repeat the procedure until the specified level of paint removal is attained.

Check all local and federal regulations on the disposal of paint wastes.

Graffiti Removal

All of the above information applies to graffiti removal. Since there is no way to predetermine the type of paint on the surface, testing should be performed using an alkaline and a solvent base remover. Once the proper remover is determined, then conventional paint removal methods can be utilized. Several applications may be necessary to remove all traces of the paint.

After the paint has been removed, it may be necessary to clean the substrate with an appropriate cleaner to prevent "ghosting" which is the faint outline of the graffiti in the pores of the substrate.

The manufacturer has developed his cleaning systems to perform certain predetermined tasks. Any deviation from the prescribed methods and procedures may compromise the end results.

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INFORMATIVE PROGRAM IS WELL RECEIVED AT 3RD QUARTER MEETING

On September 8, 2016, the Baltimore Washington Chapter of ICRI had our 3rd Quarter Membership meeting at Maggiano's in Tysons Corner, Va. The meeting was well attended by our regular attendees and also many members who aren't normally in attendance.

The subject of the presentation was, "*Cementitious Coatings for Sustainable Concrete Restoration & Protection*". The presentation was Co-Presented by George Reedy and Trevor Foster, both with Crossfield Products.

The presentation covered the history of latex Modified cement products in the 1930's by Jack Crossfield; details of the uses over the years in both cementitious coatings and concrete overlays; uses in the commercial market and even on Naval ship decks to create non-skid properties, resist water and chloride intrusion, and minimize weight burden.

The history plus development and improvements, broad range of applications both for restoration and decorative applications were covered by George Reedy. While the Means, Methods, application options, do's and don'ts and general application issues were covered by Trevor Foster, who acts as an applicator trainer for Crossfield Products.

The presentation was very well received and helped give the attendees a view into another phase of our industry and put another tool "so to speak" into the tool box.

3RD QUARTER MEETING

3RD QUARTER MEETING

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

ICRI BWC Chapter Members Make a Difference
Garrett County Habitat for Humanity

For the 8th year in a row, on Thursday and Friday, August 11th and 12th, members of ICRI travelled to Garrett County, MD, to assist Habitat for Humanity on continuing the construction of two new houses in the Hopeland Village.

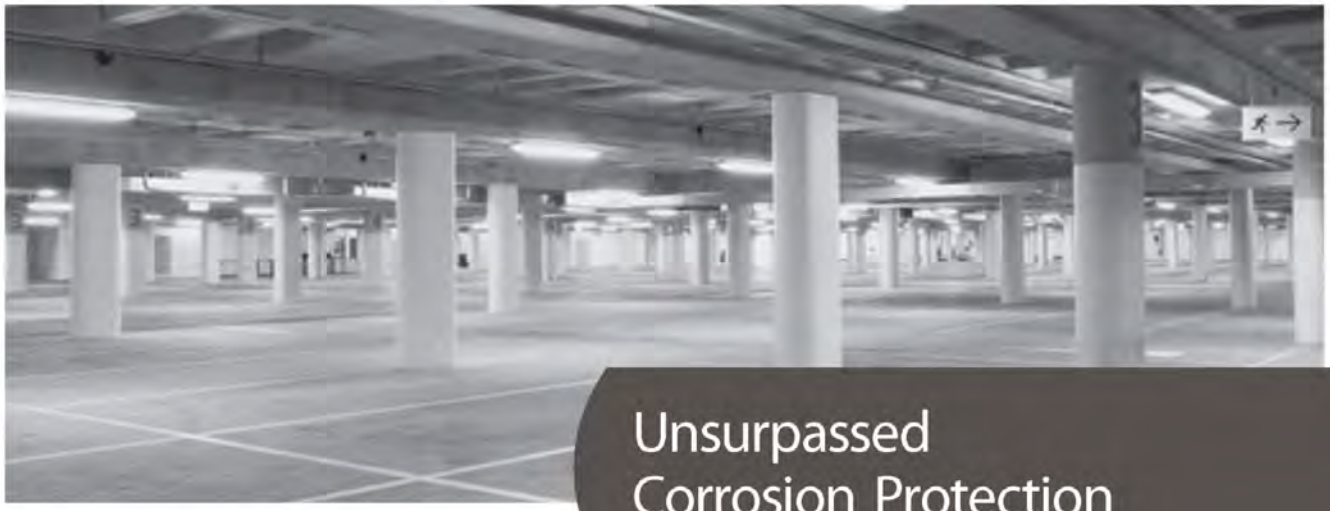
Habitat for Humanity is a nonprofit, Christian ministry that seeks to eliminate poverty and homelessness. This is accomplished through the efforts of volunteers working alongside the prospective Habitat homeowners to build the Habitat homes. In addition to volunteer labor,

donations of money and materials are also accepted and appreciated to help build the homes. Since its establishment in 1983, the Garrett County Habitat for Humanity has built 75 houses.

This year, the ICRI team worked on two houses installing ice and water shield and drip edge around the roof perimeters. Window openings were detailed and windows were installed in both houses. Our crew not only had beautiful weather to facilitate our work, but we were also thrilled to learn that the houses we worked on last year are already being occupied by two beautiful families. We are the last group to work at the Garrett County Habitat for Humanity this year, but they will resume their activities next year.

This annual event is for a very worthy cause and was a successful effort by the group of ICRI volunteers that participated. It provided our members with an opportunity to give back to our communities by helping those that are less fortunate. The Industry Outreach Committee of the ICRI BW Chapter is extremely thankful to all the volunteers that donated their time, skills and efforts to the Garrett County Habitat for Humanity organization. Be sure to join us in Garrett County next year, or look for the announcements for another Habitat trip here in Montgomery County.

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY



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SAFETY COLUMN

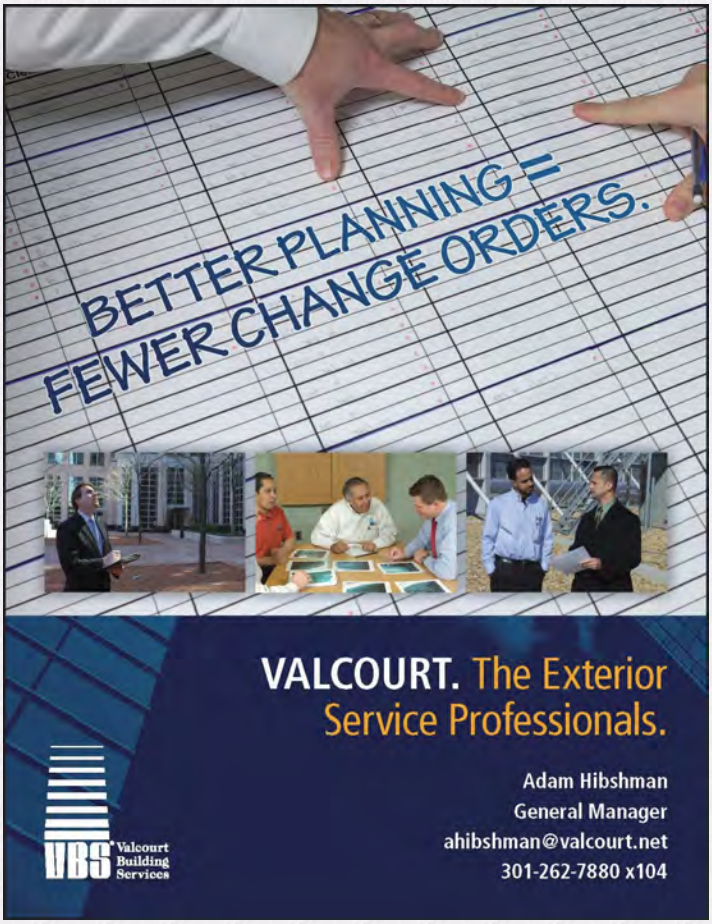
Effective Hazard Identification

by Charles J Brienza, CHST, Safety Director, Concrete Protection & Restoration, Inc.

Effective Hazard Identification is a critical step in building a safety culture within any organization. Without knowledge of the hazards, control or elimination would be akin to swatting flies with your eyes closed. Hazard identification is not only the first *logical* step in building a safety culture, it is also required by OSHA. A number of different standards require the employer to assess the workplace and consequently protect employees from the hazards found during the assessment. Some regulations imply the requirement, some explicate the process.

Hazard Identification is not just accomplished by a manager inspecting a jobsite. The process is multi-faceted. Some effective tools for conducting a hazard assessment are:

1. Employee involvement – Field Managers, Technicians and Laborers work the job every day. For many upper level managers it has been a number of years that has separated them from the days when they too wore a tool belt to work. Depending on the amount of time that has elapsed, an upper level manager may not have a direct enough knowledge of the hands-on application of work technique to make relevant hazard assessment and control decisions. The employees that "swing a hammer" every day, however, have seen the work processes performed, they have seen or experienced the injuries and see the potential for accident and injury. Additionally, employee involvement always promotes buy-in. Employee buy in is critical to a safety culture. Employee involvement can be as simple as listening to the requests of your employees when they vocalize them. Involvement can be as structured as a formal Safety Committee. Whatever the mechanism, encourage your employees to be part of the process.



2. Injury data - Whether you keep your own database of injuries and illnesses or you only use the OSHA 300 Log, reviewing historical injury data as a hazard analysis tool is a must. By identifying an injury cause, you have an opportunity to prevent a duplicate injury. Don't solely look for trends of recurring injury causes, a single event on an injury log signifies the potential for a repeat occurrence.

3. Job pre-planning – Job pre-planning is done *prior* to commencing work. It is commonly referred to as a "Job Hazard Analysis" or "Activity Hazard Analysis". Once again employee involvement is the key to effectively completing a Job Hazard Analysis. An effective Job Hazard Analysis is **written** by those who actually do the work; not the Safety Manager nor the Project Manager. When it is written by a Superintendent or Foreman and subsequently **reviewed** by the Safety Manager or Project Manager it becomes a team effort. Everybody is on the same page. The line of communication is open

and the exchange of ideas fosters involvement at all levels of management. That sentiment then trickles down to employees.

4. Inspections – Does everything on a jobsite go according to plan? **NO!** No matter how much time and effort you put into your plan, eventually something will change – this is especially true in the Concrete Restoration Industry. Materials that were supposed to arrive by a certain date are back ordered forcing substitution of different materials. Those materials may have a new set of hazardous properties. Perhaps as demolition progresses it is discovered that the plans didn't show a detail or misrepresented a detail. Maybe half a crew is out with the flu. It doesn't matter what the circumstance is, we all have to overcome unplanned obstacles. When this happens, the plans change. When plans change an element of disorganization creeps into the mix. Periodic and regular jobsite safety inspections are the only way, at this point, to continually review the work and modify the Job Hazard Analysis. Deadlines are looming. The specter of Liquidated Damages forces the project to progress. Managers must inspect the jobsite frequently, adjusting the safety plan.

5. Consultation – Commissioning a third party to assist in Hazard Identification can make a good safety program great. In any industry, complacency is an obstacle to safety (or productivity for that matter). A third party will identify hazards that an industry professional has become comfortable with over years of working in the industry. To briefly illustrate how easy it is to become complacent to hazards, think of our nation's roadways. Everyone knows there is a speed limit. It's easy to make the association of accident and injury with

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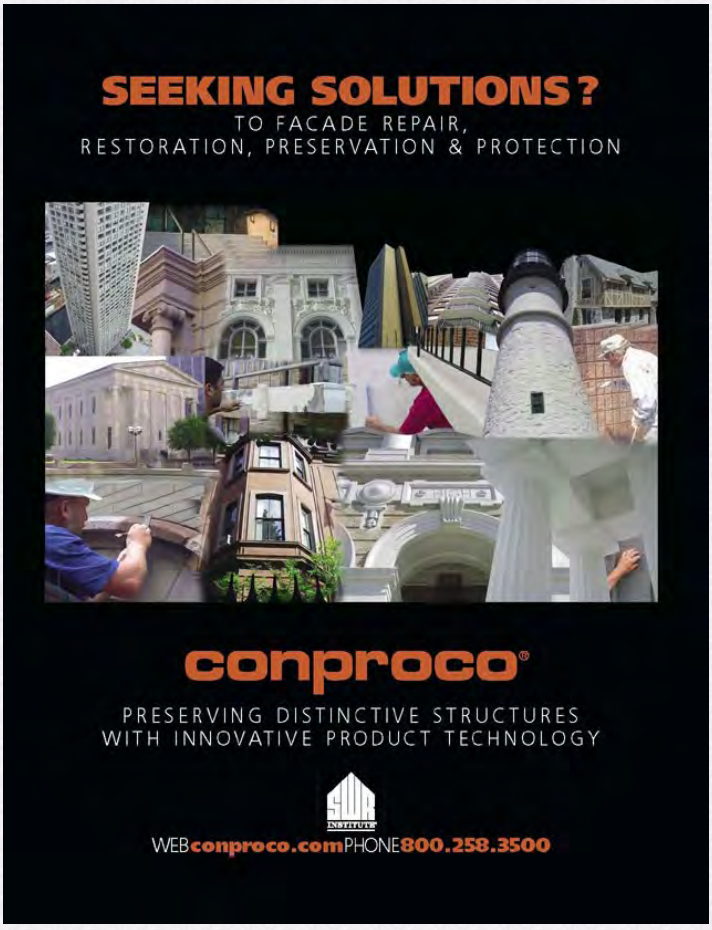
exceeding the speed limit. Yet, everyday a large number of motorists (maybe even some of the readers of this article) exceed the speed limit while on the way to their destination. The reasoning doesn't matter. The point is we all become complacent with the hazards we deal with on a daily basis. A third party safety consultant will see those hazards for what they are, not what you've been dealing with for decades.

To summarize, Hazard Identification is a critical component of a Safety Culture. It is the basis upon which all other aspects of a Safety Culture are built. There are a number of ways to effectively identify hazards; employee involvement, injury data, project pre-planning, regular safety inspections and third party consultation are five ways successful companies perform hazard identification.



LEGAL COLUMN

The False Claims Act—A Costly Trap for the Unwary

By Jennifer A. Mahar, Esquire

Searching for business opportunities in a difficult construction market, contractors and suppliers, who in the past focused primarily on the private commercial sector, are now looking to the Federal sector. If you are among those seeking to do business with the Federal Government, you must realize that the rules of engagement are different from the private commercial sector due to the complex statutory and regulatory landscape. Violating just one of these Federal statutes or regulations can have serious business consequences.

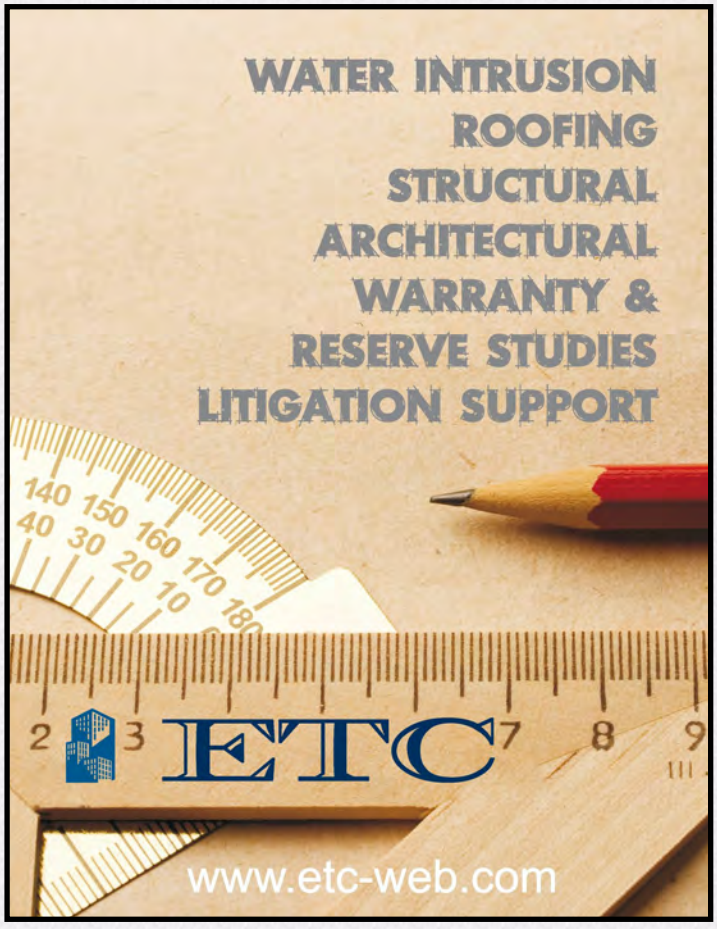
Take the False Claims Act for example. The False Claims Act was enacted to protect the Federal Government and its funds from fraud. The Act prohibits, among other conduct, the knowing presentment or causing to be presented a false or fraudulent claim for payment or approval directly to the Federal Government or indirectly to the Federal Government by way of a recipient of federal funds. See 31 U.S.C. § 3729(a). If federal funds are in play on the project, either through the project owner being a Federal entity or through a Federal grant, than the False Claims Act likely applies.

The Act broadly defines "claim" as "any request or demand, whether under a contract or otherwise, for money or property. . .that is presented to an officer, employee, or agent of the United States or is made to a contractor, grantee, or other recipient, if the money or property is to be spent or used on the Government's behalf or to advance a Government program or interest" and the Government provides the funds or reimburses any portion of the requested funds. See 31 U.S.C. § 3729 (b)(2). A demand for payment, such as the submission of an invoice or request for a change order, constitutes a claim under the Act.

You do not need to have a specific intent to defraud to violate the Act. The Act defines "knowing" as having actual knowledge of the information, acting in deliberate ignorance of the truth or falsity of the information, or acting in reckless disregard of the truth or falsity of the information. See 31 U.S.C. § 3729(b)(1).

The False Claims Act applies equally to general contractors, subcontractors and suppliers. A false claim may be as basic as the submission of an invoice for payment that includes amounts for work not performed, materials not delivered, or defective work that has not been disclosed. It may also be the submission of a pass through claim from a lower-tiered contractor or supplier where the contractor incorporates a false invoice from a lower-tiered contractor or supplier into its payment application.

The consequences for violating the



False Claims Act can be economically hefty. A violator is subject to a civil penalty between $5,000 and $10,000 for each violation plus three times the amount overstated in the false claim. See 31 U.S.C. § 3729(a). For example, if a contractor submits three false invoices which overstate the amount due by an aggregate amount of $15,000, the contractor could face reimbursing the Federal Government $45,000 in damages (3 x $15,000), paying civil penalties in the range of $15,000 to $30,000 (3 violations at $5,000 - $10,000 each), and reimbursing the Federal Government its costs incurred to prosecute the false claim.

Accordingly, fundamental to succeeding in the Federal sector as a contractor or supplier are an understanding the Federal statutes and regulations which govern, such as the False Claims Act, and the implementation of appropriate processes in your business operations to make sure you comply with these requirements.

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