

MPI Certified Architectural Coatings Inspectors: Better Outcomes and Long-Lasting Results

On complex and even simple building projects, coatings application is more than just “finishing work.” Coatings are a performance system that play a critical role in protecting assets. An MPI Certified Architectural Coatings Inspector brings quality assurance to a project from day one by writing comprehensive and site-specific specifications, arranging bid tours, and scheduling an inspection program so coatings perform as designed.

If you aren’t familiar with MPI Certified Architectural Coatings Inspectors, there are four main advantages to working with them:

- **You’ll start with a defensible spec.** Inspectors develop comprehensive, site-specific coating specifications based on MPI Standards and Systems. They clearly define scope, surface prep, and application procedures, so there’s no confusion once work begins.
- **Contractor selection is less risky.** Following spec completion, inspectors can lead a bid tour with the owner’s chosen painting contractors. They point out areas of concern, field questions, and document addenda. This ensures bidders price the same work against the same conditions, reducing change orders and schedule surprises.
- **Quality control is measurable and standards are met.** A structured inspection plan that is scaled to project size and complexity keeps everyone accountable. Expect regular visits with concise reports and objective checks, including substrate examinations for proper prep; temperature, humidity, and moisture readings to verify conditions; product verification against MPI Approved Products; and workmanship reviews for conformance to MPI standards.
- **They help prevent the cost of failure.** Coating failures are expensive and disruptive. The right inspector helps you avoid the usual culprits: unclear specs, inadequate surface prep, and ignored environmental conditions. Catch these issues before they become warranty claims or expensive rework projects.

Get better outcomes and longer-lasting coatings by following these steps:

- Engage an MPI Certified Inspector during design to align spec with real-world site conditions.
- Host an inspector-led bid tour so all contractors price the same scope.
- Require an inspection plan with defined test points (e.g., environmental, prep verification, product checks).

What does “MPI Certified” mean?

What’s the bottom line? Working with an MPI Certified Architectural Coatings Inspector is a small line item that can deliver big results. They protect schedules, budgets, and long-term performance, which turns even simple coatings projects into high-confidence protection systems.

To get certified, or to find out more about the program, visit [the MPI Inspector Appraisal program](#).