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MODEL CLAUSES FOR CIVIL ENGINEERING WORKS

SECTION 173

PROTECTIVE COATING OF EXISTING STRUCTURAL STEELWORK AND IRONWORK

NOTES TO SPECIFIER:

These notes do not form part of the Specification.

Coating works

173.1 *All structural steelwork and ironwork exposed to the atmosphere shall be prepared and coated in accordance with the recommendations of NR/L3/CIV/040. Particular attention shall be given to all connections, bolts etc., and any special tools for cleaning and coating such parts shall be provided.*

Preparation of surfaces

173.2 *In general dry abrasive blasting is the preferred final method of surface preparation, and a proposal for Ultra High Pressure (UHP) water blasting requires a thorough review of the specific requirements of the work. Only members of the UK Water Jetting Association (WJA) should be considered for water jetting work, and such work should be carried out in accordance with the WJA's 'Blue' Code of Practice: furthermore, all operators shall hold a WJA Training certificate. European equivalents of the WJA, Codes of Practice and training/competence certificates are equally acceptable.*

Particular attention shall be given to safe working practices (see 7.3.3 of NR/L3/CIV/040).

Existing coatings

173.3 *When the total removal of the existing coatings is not required, it is essential that sample flakes of the existing coatings, taken back to the substrate, are taken and analysed to check the compatibility of the existing and new coatings.*

Where areas of existing sound coatings are to be left in place, it would be prudent to clean the surfaces using high pressure (between 700 and 1700 bar) water jetting prior to UHP water blasting. In some circumstances, such as works undertaken in short possessions, the use of high pressure water jetting could be sufficient on its own to produce a surface that is suitable for final preparation by power tools.

Preparation by UHP water blasting should produce a steel surface that complies with BS EN ISO 8501-1 Wa 2½.