

Reese's

PIECES

RTS specializes in providing condition assessments, mappings, and weld inspection services to the tower and pole industries



Weld Inspections

A critical component of a CWI's job is to check preheat during the welding process. What is preheat? Preheat is critical to the integrity of a good weld by slowing the rate of cooling which improves ductility and helps to prevent the development of cracks. It should always be done regardless of ambient temperature. The Structural Welding Code for Steel, AWS D1.1 Table 3.2, identifies minimum preheat temperatures based on steel specification, welding process, and thickness of the parts. Simple but often overlooked, preheating per the AWS Code helps ensure a quality final product. □

Industry Standards Development

It has been a busy year for standards development in our industry. TR-14, the formulating committee for the 222 tower design standard, met for the second time this year in Boston on July 19th and 20th to continue work on the proposed revision H to the 222 standard. Revision H is planned to be released during the 1st quarter of 2017.

On September 15th, the American Society of Safety Engineers (ASSE) and the Telecommunications Industry Association (TIA) issued a press release launching a joint effort to raise awareness of new standards that are important for anyone involved in the installation, alteration, or maintenance of towers. The new standard, ANSI/TIA-322, Loading, Analysis, and Design Criteria Related to the Installation, Alteration, and Maintenance of Communication Structures, amends TIA's original 1019-A standard. TIA and ASSE worked together to evolve TIA-1019-A for two distinct audiences. Construction related loading, analysis, and design requirements are now contained in the revised standard, while the construction means and methods provisions from the original standard are covered in ANSI/ASSE A10.48, Criteria for Safety Practices with the Construction, Demolition, Modification and Maintenance of Communications Structures. The new standard establishes minimum criteria for safe work practices and training for personnel performing work on communication structures, including antenna and antenna supporting structures, broadcast, and other similar structures. Going into effect January 1st, 2017, both documents represent important components of the planning and construction process. □



New NATE Climber Connection Video

On September 28th, the National Association of Tower Erector's (NATE) Climber Connection campaign released a new educational video on night climbing. Night climbing poses many more risks than climbing during the day. However, if you properly prepare and take special precautions, you can safely execute projects after dark. For the video, please see: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f1BS3FN_z90. □



Product Recall

On August 30th, 3M Fall Protection issued a product stop use and recall/replacement notice on the DBA-SALA Lad-Saf™ Sleeve. Very popular and in use for over 30 years, the original Lad-Saf™ sleeve has been replaced with a next generation sleeve. Due to reported incidents related to the use of the sleeve and potential misuse scenarios, 3M Fall Protection has discontinued sale of the original Lad-Saf™ sleeve, and has initiated a full recall of all original sleeves. □