

The 15,000-square-foot facility features tools such as a cathodic protection test field with buried, electrified pipelines; a coatings lab with a blast and spray booth; a virtual spray booth for classroom-based applicator training; an equipment preparation area; industrial structures that will prepare students for situations they will encounter on a job site; and the nation's only marine ballast tank immersion tent, which simulates a ship's ballast tank for shipboard corrosion assessment training.

"Our mission is to protect people, assets, and the environment from the effects of corrosion," said Robert W. Herbert, president of the board of directors, NACE International. "The training center will offer programs and certifications with multiple points of entry, depending on educational background and experience, providing a path for continued professional development."

Herbert added that while the profession is technically challenging, the average salary for corrosion professionals was \$88,354 in 2008, making it a financially-rewarding field.

Designed and built using the best practices in corrosion education and training, the facility also incorporates energy efficient features such as spray foam insulation and tinted windows. To adapt to the industry's growing needs, the second floor of the building was intentionally not built out to allow for future expansion.

NACE International and the NACE Foundation launched a capital campaign in 2007 to fund the construction of the new training center. Contributions and material donations were received from individuals and corporations including American Innovations, Bass Engineering, Carboline, Champion Technologies, ConocoPhillips, Elaine Byerley, Elcometer, Sherwin Williams and Tinker & Rasor.

The first courses in the new facility will begin in late January 2009. To learn more about the NACE International Training Center and its curriculum, visit www.nace.org/education.

About NACE

NACE International is a professional technical association dedicated to promoting public safety, protecting the environment, and reducing the economic impact of corrosion. Established in 1943, NACE International has more than 20,000 members worldwide and offers technical training and certification programs, sponsors conferences, and produces industry standards, reports, publications, and software. More information about NACE International can be found at www.nace.org.

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