



Meredith Carr &lt;info@pda-online.org&gt;

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**PDA - April/May 2020 Podium**

1 message

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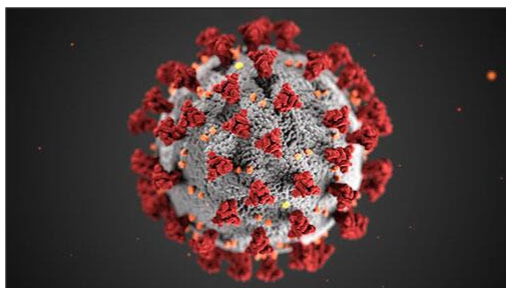
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Tue, Apr 7, 2020 at 10:14 AM

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## A Message from PDA Headquarters



Around the world we are facing unique times together as the COVID-19 (coronavirus) pandemic continues to evolve. During these challenging and ever changing times, PDA is committed to communicating proactively with all of our members and polyurea community as we walk this path together. This is why we

created a [COVID-19 Resource Center](#). This resource center is dedicated entirely to COVID-19 and will include daily updates from the government, helpful resources/links, and provide you with ways you and your company can make a difference.

In the meantime, we know how cabin fever is settling in. For fun, you can [use this link to listen to a Spotify playlist of some oldies but goodies](#) from our industry partners at ALHI (representative of the Omni Championsgate). Sing along, dance it out - we're all in this together.

Stay safe and be well,  
Meredith Carr  
Executive Director, PDA

## ASSOCIATION NEWS

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### Applicator Spray Course



Thank you Diamond Liners! At the beginning of March PDA held the first Applicator Spray Course of 2020. This training course was sold out! The Applicator Spray Course is comprised of three courses, *Surface Preparation for Concrete and Steel*, *Basic Applicator Spray Course* and *Advanced Applicator Spray Course*. These training sessions can be taken separately as the Basic Applicator Spray Course or Advanced Applicator Spray Course or together for a week long class of valuable industry training. If you are interested in hosting a training course at your facility, please contact Meredith Carr at [info@pda-online.org](mailto:info@pda-online.org).

*We've postponed the June Applicator Spray Course due to COVID-19. Once we reschedule this training course we'll not only update the website, but also send additional communication via email.*

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### 20th Anniversary Conference

Save these dates! We're bring the PDA conference back to Kansas City where the association began 20 years ago. Join us for the PDA 20th Anniversary Conference taking place **October 28 - 30** at the Marriott Kansas City - Country Club Plaza. More information is forthcoming.

*In an effort to plan accordingly, we're asking members and community partners to complete this four question survey. [Please click here to take the survey.](#)*

If you're interested in speaking at the 20th anniversary event, **please email headquarters at [info@pda-online.org](mailto:info@pda-online.org)**.

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## INDUSTRY NEWS

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### Research Looks at Self-Sanitizing Coatings

Research at the University of Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, has revealed a new self-sanitizing surface coating that aims to help address infection control in hospitals, food processing plants, public transportation and other commercial places.

The antimicrobial coating technology was created by PhD student Michael Lucas. [Click here to watch a short video.](#)

"Infection control is an ongoing challenge in hospitals," Lucas said.

"Surface contamination and subsequent microbial transmission are known contributors to this. My design for a self-sanitizing surface coating serves to address this growing problem, and the results are very promising. These antimicrobial coatings can be applied to high contact surfaces where there is a risk of contamination, including medical facilities, food processing plants and public transport surfaces."

#### OSHA Issues COVID-19 Workplace Guidance

The U.S. Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration recently published "Guidance on Preparing Workplaces for COVID-19" with the aim to help companies respond to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The guidance was developed in collaboration with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. [Click here to read the DOL's news release.](#)

#### SSPC/NACE Merger

In March 2019, the two organizations announced the beginning of merger talks. By August, the organizations announced the mutual decision to bring McKinley Advisors on board as a guiding entity for the two organizations' merger discussions, in addition to advising the organizations through considerations related to strategic, financial and cultural barriers, among others.

Since the decision was made to explore the unified efforts and merger possibilities, the two associations have since released 12 updates regarding the process. Starting back in January, the series of released information included topics such as: overview processes, certifications, membership considerations, standards, committee considerations, conferences, education and member questions, among others.

Last Friday, April 3rd, SSPC: The Society for Protective Coatings and NACE International, The Corrosion Society, sent their members ballots via email regarding their possible merger vote.

SSPC and NACE members were reminded that they will see an email from [vote@simplyvoting.org](mailto:vote@simplyvoting.org), and not from an SSPC or NACE affiliated address.

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