

CORTEC[®] VISION



**NEW ECOCORTEC[®]
LOGISTICS CENTER FOR
GLOBAL EXPANSION!**

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News

CHQ EARNS SIXTH MINNESOTA SAFETY COUNCIL GOVERNOR'S WORKPLACE SAFETY AWARD

Cortec® Corporation (Saint Paul, MN) will be recognized for excellence in workplace safety and health during the 2026 Minnesota Safety and Health Conference on May 5th-6th. Cortec® is amongst 300+ employers to be honored through the awards program, coordinated by the Minnesota Safety Council.

Cortec® was among 113 winners to receive the Silver Achievement Award, in recognition of excellence in occupational injury prevention throughout 2025. The Silver Award goes to applicants who were able to achieve an incidence rate better than the 50th percentile of both the state and national average in the last year, an especially significant achievement for chemical manufacturers who must take more precautions than the average workplace.

“We continue to look for ways to improve safety and to make sure our employees go home safely to their families,” said Jill Carlson, Human Resources Manager/Safety & Facility Specialist at Cortec®. “Safety isn’t just about following rules; it’s about looking out for one another and ensuring our culture reflects the value we place on every team member.”

This is the sixth time that Cortec® has won the Governor's Safety Award since 2019. Cortec® is proud to continue building a strong record in this critical area and looks forward to reaching even higher levels of achievement as it prioritizes employee safety in the manufacturing of quality corrosion solutions for users around the globe.



FAMILIAR FACE, NEW ROLE: WELCOMING BACK MATT RICHEY!

We are pleased to announce that Matt Richey has returned for his second tour at Cortec®! Starting in March 2026, Matt took on the role of Director of Sales – North America, with a focus on VpCI® technology. Reflecting on Matt's new position, Cortec's President, Caleb Pheneger, commented, “I'm excited for Matt to return to Cortec®.... During Matt's previous 9.5 years of experience at Cortec® he developed a deep understanding of our business, distributors, and customers.

I'm confident that he will quickly contribute to our success by building strong relationships and partnerships which are key to our strategic growth objectives.”

Please join us in welcoming Matt back to the Cortec® Family!



Feature Story

NEW ECOCORTEC® LOGISTICS CENTER FOR GLOBAL EXPANSION!

Friday, April 10th, marked a major milestone in Cortec® global expansion with the groundbreaking of our brand-new logistics center in Beli Manastir!

With EcoCortec® as one of Europe's leading manufacturers of VpCI® films, this €2 million investment marks the beginning of a powerful new growth phase for our team. The addition of approximately 1,500 square meters (16,146 ft²) to our Beli Manastir campus promises a major capacity boost and step forward toward the development of a highly efficient, centralized hub for storage and logistics.

Cortec® Corporation's CEO Boris Miksic perfectly captured the spirit of this project: "EcoCortec's investments and success are a clear indicator that Croatia is an excellent location for

high-tech manufacturing. The success of our companies and exports to global markets have greatly contributed to the promotion of domestic green technologies, which are today recognized and valued on a global level."

We were also honored to have the Mayor of Beli Manastir, Igor Pavelić, join us to celebrate over 20 years of successful collaboration between our company and the local government. A special shoutout to our long-time partners at Massa d.o.o. from Osijek, who will be executing the construction!

We can't wait for the official grand opening planned for next autumn!



NEW EVP OF CORTECROS™

Ivana Radić Boršić has been appointed as Executive Vice President (EVP) and Managing Director of CorteCros™ d.o.o. Her new role gives her full command of the company's strategic growth, sales, logistics, and production throughout Europe and globally.

Ivana is a proven and highly respected executive who also retains her current title as Vice President of Sales, Europe, for Cortec® Corporation. Her dual leadership ensures tight integration between CorteCros's operational capabilities and Cortec's broader European sales strategy.

"Ivana has been an incredibly valuable part of the Cortec® family for 26 years. She's been instrumental in growing our presence across Europe and beyond. Her expertise as VP Sales has given her unparalleled insight into our customers' needs, and her oversight of our strategic facilities in Europe including the solar-powered hub in Split makes her the ideal

leader for CorteCros™," said Boris Miksic, CEO of Cortec® Corporation. "She embodies the strategic, sustainable, and results-driven vision we have for our entire European operations."



Ivana stated that her "focus will be on using our production and logistics to grow sales and develop new products while honoring Cortec's core values of sustainability and the circular economy. Our goal is to deliver maximum value to every customer and distributor."

Look for continued improvements and efficiencies as Ivana leads the CorteCros™ team forward!

Out & About

We're grateful for those who stop by to say "hi" at trade shows or invite us to be part of their booth. Here are a few highlights from our conference appearances over the past several months.

AWT APPEARANCES

In November, our own Certified Water Technologist, Scott Bryan (Director of Business Development – Water Treatment & Process Additives), traveled to Colorado for his annual trip to the AWT (Association of Water Technologies) Conference. The event offered a great opportunity to connect with water treatment service providers and introduce the newest member of our water treatment lineup: VpCI® Chameleon™, designed for wet layup of boilers where steam may contact edible products. While there, Scott delivered another well received Commercial Corner presentation on "VpCI® Protection. Every Cycle. Every System."



ON THE ROAD IN SCOTLAND

Later in November, Ivana Liposcak (MCI® Technical Sales Manager) joined Scott Constantin (Preservation Manager at Presserv Scotland) for her second appearance at Road Expo Scotland. Together, they engaged with contractors, manufacturers, and inspectors throughout the region—and even connected with the company that currently holds the

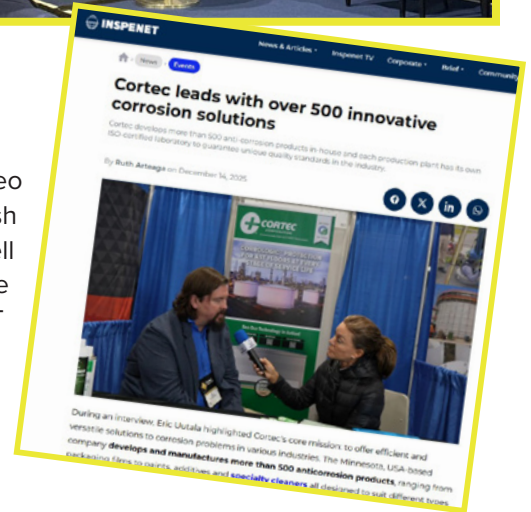
Severn Bridge maintenance contract (see the related bridge visit story below). Ivana also shared a 10 minute presentation on extending structural service life with Migrating Corrosion Inhibitors. Convention response was great and we look forward to strengthening connections with industry professionals in the future.



INTERVIEWED BY INSPENET

In December, Eric Uutala (Technical Sales Manager) attended yet another National Institute for Storage Tank Management (NISTM) show in Houston, where he spoke with industry professionals about CorroLogic® for aboveground storage tanks (ASTs) and tank crossings. While traffic was slower than usual, Eric received a surprise visit from the INSPENET media team, who sat down with him to discuss metal corrosion challenges and Cortec® solutions. The conversation resulted

in multiple video clips with Spanish subtitles, as well as a feature article on the INSPENET website serving the energy sector.



NEW OPPORTUNITIES DISCOVERED AT WOC

January typically brings a trip to World of Concrete (WOC) in Las Vegas for our MCI® sales team. This year, the team enjoyed reconnecting with reps and distributors during an open house style luncheon at the convention center and attending several industry hosted events. While touring the exhibit floor, they explored a variety of showcases and learned about an exciting new convention planned for 2027 where MCI® may be featured. Stay tuned for updates!

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POWERGEN “FAMILY REUNION”

POWERGEN, held January 20th–22nd in Austin, Texas, provided an excellent opportunity to reconnect with longtime friends from Houston based CGS, who invited Judy Wolf (Regional Sales Manager) and Scott Bryan (Technical Sales Manager – Water Treatment) to provide technical support at their booth. The conference was co-located with the 43rd Electric Utility and Cogeneration Chemistry Workshop, where Scott presented on long term layup of generation and cooling systems the day prior. Judy noted that “every segment of the power generation sector” was represented, making POWERGEN an ideal venue to share preservation solutions while strengthening relationships across the Cortec® family.



CAT CORROSION CONFERENCE IN INDIA

Cortec® also had a strong presence at the 2026 CAT Corrosion Engineering, Plating, and Paint Conference, held February 4th–5th in Bangalore, India. Eric Uutala (Technical Sales Manager) was the second to last speaker at the two day event, presenting to several hundred attendees on CAT corrosion specifications and VCI preservation strategies. We were pleased to see our longtime friend John Spangler deliver the closing presentation. Jay Zhang, Director of Business Development, was also on hand at the Cortec® booth, joined by our colleague PK Mathew of Cortec® India, whose warmth and kindness are always appreciated.



STALLED BUT UNSTOPPED BY SNOW

Cortec’s annual journey to the AMPP Annual Conference + Expo turned out to be a little more adventurous than usual this year. Thanks to a winter storm that snarled flights at MSP and beyond, travel plans didn’t exactly go as scheduled—but that didn’t stop the Cortec® team from making a strong showing at this year’s conference, March 15th–19th in Houston, Texas.

Cortec® employees authored or co-authored four technical papers, highlighting our leadership and innovation across key industry topics:

- [Circular Economy Corrosion Inhibiting Paper and Barrier Paper](#)
- [Biobased Coating for Improved Environmental and User Safety](#)
- [Determining Vapor Corrosion Inhibitor Dispersion Range Under the Tank Pad Conditions](#)
- [Enhancing NACE VIA TM 0208-2024 Through Mimicked Application Conditions and Quantitative Results](#)

Stalled but Unstopped by Snow continued from page 6

Rebecca Guza (Director of Innovations and Product Technologies) also served as Vice Chair of the Advancements and Applications of Volatile/Vapor Corrosion Inhibitors (VCIs) symposium. She and other laboratory team members attended technical sessions and committee meetings, while Caleb Pheneger (Cortec® President), Eric Uutala (Tech Sales Manager), and Judy Wolf (Regional Sales Manager) staffed the booth.

We were especially glad to see friends from CGS and Queenston, and even enjoyed a surprise visit from an offshore services representative eager to ensure his successor continues specifying Cortec® products.

While snowstorms may have made for a bumpy takeoff, the AMPP experience delivered what matters most: visibility, fresh

ideas, and valuable connections. Unstopped and moving forward, Cortec® was grateful to see the demonstration of teamwork that went above and beyond the unexpected turbulence.



Onsite Training & In-the-Field Visits

We enjoy getting to know our distributors through everyday collaboration and focused training sessions. Our work goes far beyond metals protection—it's about building relationships that often turn colleagues into friends. Here's a snapshot of some visits from this fall and winter, both at Cortec® home base and around the world.

BUILDING "ALOHA": ASIA PACIFIC SALES MEETING IN HAWAII

We are grateful for the small but committed group of distributors that traveled to the Hilton Hawaiian Village for our Asian Sales & Strategy Meeting, October 8th-11th. The meeting was an ideal size to allow attendees to feel free to share their thoughts and experiences and enjoy some

local tourist outings together. Although most of the time was spent indoors getting down to business, we did have time to fit in a Korean Barbecue, a Hawaiian Luau, and a visit to the battleship USS Missouri in Pearl Harbor!



FROM HOT ENGINE TESTING TO AM CHAM

In November, Ivana Radić Boršić (VP of Sales, Europe) and Scott Bryan (Technical Sales Manager – Water Treatment) joined distributor Dean Kenny (Lake Engineering Solutions) in the UK for a tour of two heavy equipment engine facilities that have started using VpCI®-649 for hot engine testing.

After the customer visits, Scott and Dean headed to Coventry to give a presentation on Cortec® technology vs. traditional boiler preservation at the Institution of Mechanical Engineers Boiler User Group Conference.

Ivana was unable to attend the boiler meeting because of previous commitments in Croatia. She flew back just in time for the Annual General Assembly of the American Chamber of Commerce in Croatia (AmCham), where she was surprised to be elected as a



new member of the Board of Governors. In her new role, she will attend one or two AmCham meetings a month. AmCham plays a significant role in Croatian business as it helps inform local legislatures on recommended initiatives to foster growth in the region, and we are proud to have Ivana in a position where she can contribute ideas from her rich experience and knowledge of international commerce.



FORWARD THINKING TRAINING FOR AN ENTERPRISING RECYCLING PARTNER

Ivana Radić Boršić (VP of Sales, Europe) was also honored to lead a two day training session (January 16th–17th) for a group of highly motivated young corrosion professionals from EcoCortec's German distributor and recycling partner, Schober Plus GmbH.

Schober has a long history of innovation in export packaging solutions and played an instrumental role in achieving the Fachpack Sustainability Award for its recycling partnership with EcoCortec®. As Schober CEO Albert Tietz notes, "Standing still is going backwards," and the proactive Schober team exemplified that mindset by investing in training for employees and strategic partners. Their goal is to optimize their Cortec® 2030 export packaging initiative and prepare for increasingly demanding current and future requirements.

Ivana presented a broad range of Cortec® technologies and solutions, with a strong emphasis on practical applications and real world use cases. This approach sparked lively discussions about delivering forward looking, customer friendly solutions that perform well in specialized handling environments.

In addition to the technical sessions, Schober Plus showcased its production capabilities and hosted a group dinner to

further strengthen relationships and foster a collaborative atmosphere. Overall, the visit was engaging and productive, highlighting Schober Plus's strong commitment to technical excellence and continuous learning in corrosion protection.

The team left energized and enthusiastic, with plans now in place for quarterly training sessions—thanks to the initiative and forward thinking mindset of the Schober team.



FROM TRADE SHOW CONVERSATION TO SUSPENSION BRIDGE VISIT



At the Road Expo Scotland, Cortec's MCI® Technical Sales Manager for Europe, Ivana Liposcak, unknowingly met a member of the company responsible for overseeing PTC Emitter replacement on the Severn Bridge. Shortly afterward, she followed up with Dean Kenny of Lake Engineering Solutions regarding a recent PTC Emitter order for the Severn project and discovered it was destined for the same

contractor she had just met.

This connection led to a unique opportunity for Dean and Ivana to visit the iconic suspension bridge in person and observe the PTC Emitter changeout process—an experience that very few, if any, Cortec® employees or representatives had previously had.

In early February, Ivana joined Dean for the site visit, completing safety training before joining the maintenance crew at 7:00 a.m. to observe the work firsthand. In addition to touring a landmark 1960s structure that helped redefine suspension bridge engineering, the visit reinforced the long-term success of a cable protection strategy that earned the *Materials Performance* Readers' Choice Award in 2013 and has demonstrated proven value for nearly two decades.



New Products

Our product portfolio is expanding! Check out these new additions:

EcoBio™ Barrier Paper is a 100% recycled paper stock coated with a biobased and biodegradable barrier coating. It tackles moisture and grease resistance without the risk of plastic or foil pollution.

Learn more: www.cortecvci.com/product-release-cortec-expands-sustainable-packaging-options-with-new-ecobio-barrier-paper



EcoBio™ VpCI®-144 Barrier Paper is corrosion inhibiting paper with a biodegradable, biobased barrier coating. It is perfect for protecting metals at risk for moisture exposure and corrosion.

Learn more: www.cortecvci.com/product-release-cortec-adds-new-sustainability-dimension-to-vpci-barrier-paper-for-metals-protection



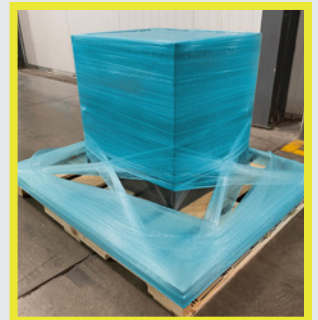
VpCI®-330 is a clear, ready-to-use low-viscosity rust preventative for metals protection in high humidity. Great for dip tanks where agitation is not an option!

Learn more: www.cortecvci.com/product-release-say-goodbye-to-agitation-with-cortecs-new-vpci-330-rust-preventative



VpCI®-125 HP Permanent ESD Stretch Film dissipates static before and after being stretched. A must-have for static-sensitive environments!

Learn more: www.cortecvci.com/press-release-beyond-pink-poly-stretch-your-vision-for-esd-packaging-possibilities



Articles

CORROSION PROTECTION AND REDUNDANCY: KEY INGREDIENTS TO THE MAINTENANCE RECIPE

Chemical Engineering | October 2025

Process heating and cooling systems are integral to the chemical process industries (CPI). However, corrosion can rob these assets of uptime, with serious profit losses for just a few hours or days of downtime. The article therefore discusses the importance of not only redundancy but practical corrosion prevention and maintenance strategies. It also touches on the advantages of VCI protection in contrast to nitrogen blanketing and desiccants. **The article can be accessed by registration and log-in here:**

www.chemengonline.com/corrosion-protection-and-redundancy-key-ingredients-to-the-maintenance-recipe/?printmode=1

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New Products

Our new improved **Eco Wrap®** machine-grade TÜV Austria certified industrially compostable stretch film (#TA8012106218) is tackier and stronger than ever! **Learn more:** www.cortecvci.com/press-release-eco-wrap-certified-industrially-compostable-stretch-film-better-than-ever

VpCI® Chameleon™ is a game-changing boiler wet layup corrosion solution with NSF G6 certification (Reg. #172647) for use in food processing facilities. **Learn more:** www.cortecvci.com/product-release-cortec-introduces-game-changing-corrosion-solution-for-food-industry-boilers

EcoLine® 3860 anticorrosion coating contains 27% USDA certified biobased content, setting the stage for even more renewable R&D coating advancements. **Learn more:** www.cortecvci.com/product-release-cortec-steps-into-the-future-with-biobased-acrylic-anticorrosion-coating



The newest version of **MCI®-2018 V/O** corrosion inhibiting water repellent offers improved viscosity, consistency, and stability for better vertical/overhead concrete application. **Learn more:** www.cortecvci.com/concrete-water-repellent-mci-2018-pro-tip/



EcoLine® Surface Reveal, a next-generation industrial paint remover, contains 77% USDA certified biobased content and is made with biodegradable materials. **Learn more:** www.cortecvci.com/ecoline-surface-reveal-fast-paint-removal/



METAL CEILING CORROSION: HOW TO GET 'OUT OF A PICKLE'

Metal Architecture | October 2025

Even if you're a pickle-lover you may not have considered the elevated corrosion risks for metal structures inside a pickle factory. This article spotlights the restoration of a pickle factory that wanted to use Cortec® coatings on its ceiling after a positive experience with CorrVerter® in their brine room a few years earlier. It also discusses the importance of surface prep and choosing the right paint as key factors in the success of a coating job. An unusual corrosion topic perfect for those working with corrosive manufacturing environments like pickle factories, sauerkraut plants, or paper mills! **Read more:**

www.metalarchitecture.com/articles/features/metal-ceiling-corrosion/



A CONSTANT CONSTRUCTION COMPANION: THE IMPORTANCE OF CORROSION INHIBITORS FOR CONCRETE STRUCTURES

Construction Executive | January 2026

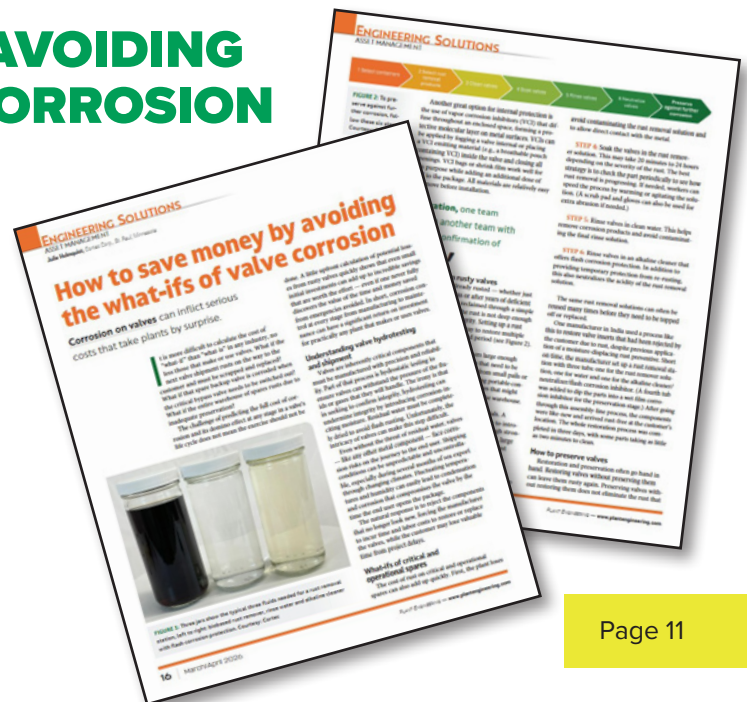
Corrosion is an insidious problem for reinforced concrete, especially in areas with high exposure to chlorides. This article takes a big picture look at the danger of corrosion for reinforced concrete and how to incorporate corrosion inhibitors, coatings, and water repellents into various stages of a structure's life cycle. It all comes down to choosing the right "companions" for concrete and reinforcing metal during construction and maintenance. This is a great introductory piece to share with those new to concrete corrosion challenges and/or MCI®. **Read more:** <https://constructionexec.com/article/a-constant-construction-companion-the-importance-of-corrosion-inhibitors-for-concrete-structures/>



HOW TO SAVE MONEY BY AVOIDING THE WHAT-IFS OF VALVE CORROSION

Plant Engineering | March/April 2026

It can be harder to calculate potential losses from corrosion than to add up the dollars already spent on rust claims and repairs, but that does not mean this exercise should not be done. This feature article helps valve manufacturers and users plan ahead to avoid corrosion on valves during shipping and storage when possible. It also offers ideas on how to reclaim components that have already rusted. A helpful read for anyone involved in valve shipment or plant maintenance! **Read more:** www.plantengineering.com/how-to-save-money-by-avoiding-the-what-ifs-of-valve-corrosion/



Upcoming Events

For more upcoming events, go to:
www.cortecvci.com/whats-new/trade-show-schedule



OTC 2026

May 4TH–7TH, 2026 • Booth #2201
NRG Park • Houston, Texas
<https://2026.otcnet.org>



NISTM 2026

September 1ST–3RD, 2026
The Westin Long Beach • Long Beach, California
www.nistm.org/events.html



AWT 2026 ANNUAL CONVENTION & EXPOSITION

September 16TH–18TH, 2026 • Booth #405
Oklahoma Convention Center • Oklahoma City, OK
<https://awt.org>



EOS/ESD 2026

September 26TH–October 1ST, 2026
Frisco Hotel & Convention Center • Frisco, TX
www.esda.org/events/48th-annual-eosesd-symposium-and-exhibits



CORTEC® WORLD SALES MEETING

October 7TH–9TH, 2026
The Saint Paul Hotel • St. Paul, Minnesota
www.cortecvci.com/world-sales-meeting-2026



4119 White Bear Parkway, St. Paul, MN 55110 USA
Phone (651) 429-1100 | Fax (651) 429-1122 | Toll-Free (800) 4-CORTEC
productinfo@cortecvci.com | www.cortecvci.com



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