**Summary**

**Tile Matters – Best Practices for Pros**

**(1 AIA CEU)**

This is a 1-hour power point presentation on a variety of topics including and Introduction to Tile Industry Standards; Movement Joints and Sealant; OSHA Silica Regulations; Shower pan systems, drain types and membranes. The power point is followed by a series of 1-hour hands-on demonstrations related to the subject matter. Audience involvement is encouraged.

**Hands on:**

* Checking substrate for flatness with 10’ straight edge
* Proper mortar mixing
* Proper mortar coverage for wet and dry areas
* Demonstrate engineering controls to reduce silica exposure
* Effects of thermal expansion in a tile installation
* Durability of ASTM C920 sealant -v- other types of materials
* Proper installation of backer rod and ASTM C920 sealant in a change in plane joint and field made soft joint
* Proper application of liquid water proofing membrane and use of wet film thickness gauge

**Detailed Description**

**Tile Matters – Best Practices for Pros**

NTCA’s “Tile Matters: Best Practices for Pros” workshop program introduces and reinforces critical installation methods, standards and best practices.

The workshop begins with an Introduction to Tile Industry Standards where attendees learn what these standards are, who publishes them, why they are important to own, understand, and use to produce successful tile installations and have increased levels of success.

The workshop will emphasize hands on training with discussions, instruction and attendee practice in these critical areas:

* Proper shower installations with different types of drains and membranes using industry standards and manufacturer instructions.
* The necessity of soft joints and application of appropriate sealants.
* Understanding dry-set, thin-set mortars and using industry standards and manufacturer instructions to achieve bond and support of tile to substrate.
* Proper tool selection and usage for mixing mortar and achieving required tile to substrate bond coat, support and meet standards for joint width, patterns, and lippage.
* Application of liquid and/or sheet applied water proofing membranes.

Lastly, a presentation on OSHA’s Respirable Silica regulation is given to inform and educate tile industry professionals to understand their obligation to the law. Best practices and engineering controls for containing respirable airborne silica are highlighted in all hands-on demonstrations.

Whether union or non-union, installation contractors and companies of all types and sizes find NTCA’s workshops very engaging and informative. Architects, Designers and Specifiers frequently attend and participate.

All attendees have the opportunity to network with other industry professionals and be introduced to new products by manufacturer vendor representatives. Attendees are fed and typically have a chance to win door prizes. The workshop includes an instructional presentation and hands-on demonstration with attendee participation. All attendees are encouraged to ask questions of and interact with the NTCA Trainer.

**Learning Objectives:**

* Be introduced to the industry standards and beneficial reasons to own, understand and apply them along with material manufacturer instructions.
* Examine a variety of methods and materials for successful shower pan, drain and waterproofing installations.
* Learn about OSHA Silica regulations and how the tile industry and its contractors and installers and affected and protected by them.
* Be introduced to the tile industry standards and reference materials that should be used in every tile installation.
* Learn proper installation methods, best practices and techniques to ensure installation failures do not occur.