**Summary**

**Failures – Could it be Me?**

This is a 1-hour power point presentation describing common failures seen in tile installations. The power point is followed by a series of hands-on demonstrations illustrating how not to have failures. Audience involvement is encouraged. This is then followed by a 1-hour hands on session where attendees are encouraged to participate.

**Hands on:**

* Checking substrate for flatness with 10’ straight edge
* Proper tools for applying self-leveling underlayment
* Proper mixing speeds for SLU and thinset
* 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

**Detailed Description**

**Failures – Could it be Me?**

NTCA’s “Failures, Could It Be Me?” workshop program introduces attendees to a variety of failures commonly seen in tile installations across the United States. Types of failures identified include: improper or incomplete surface preparation; improper troweling techniques; improper bond coat coverage and thickness; improper use and preparation of setting materials; lack of expansion or movement joints; improper shower or wet area construction; and others.

As a solution to not have their failures shown during the presentation, attendees are introduced to recognized tile industry standards, best practices, manufacturer instructions and the concept of “Qualified Labor”.

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.

This program is AIA accredited.

**Learning Objectives:**

* Be introduced to the types of failures that can and do occur within tile installations.
* Learn why these failures occurred.
* Learn what needs to change within the installation to ensure failures do not occur.
* Be introduced to the tile industry’s recognized standards and reference materials that should be used to design, bid and install every tile installation.
* Learn proper installation methods, best practices and techniques to ensure installation failures do not occur.