

# NACE International's Annual Corrosion Career Survey Results for 2015

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Average annual salaries reported in 2015 for corrosion professionals in the United States, Canada, and Europe reached new highs, while those in the United Kingdom decreased slightly compared to last year, according to the results of the 17th annual corrosion career and salary survey sponsored by *Materials Performance* magazine. More than 2,100 respondents participated this year, representing ~8% of the total number of NACE International members contacted. The survey was conducted by Newlio, an independent survey development and management company.

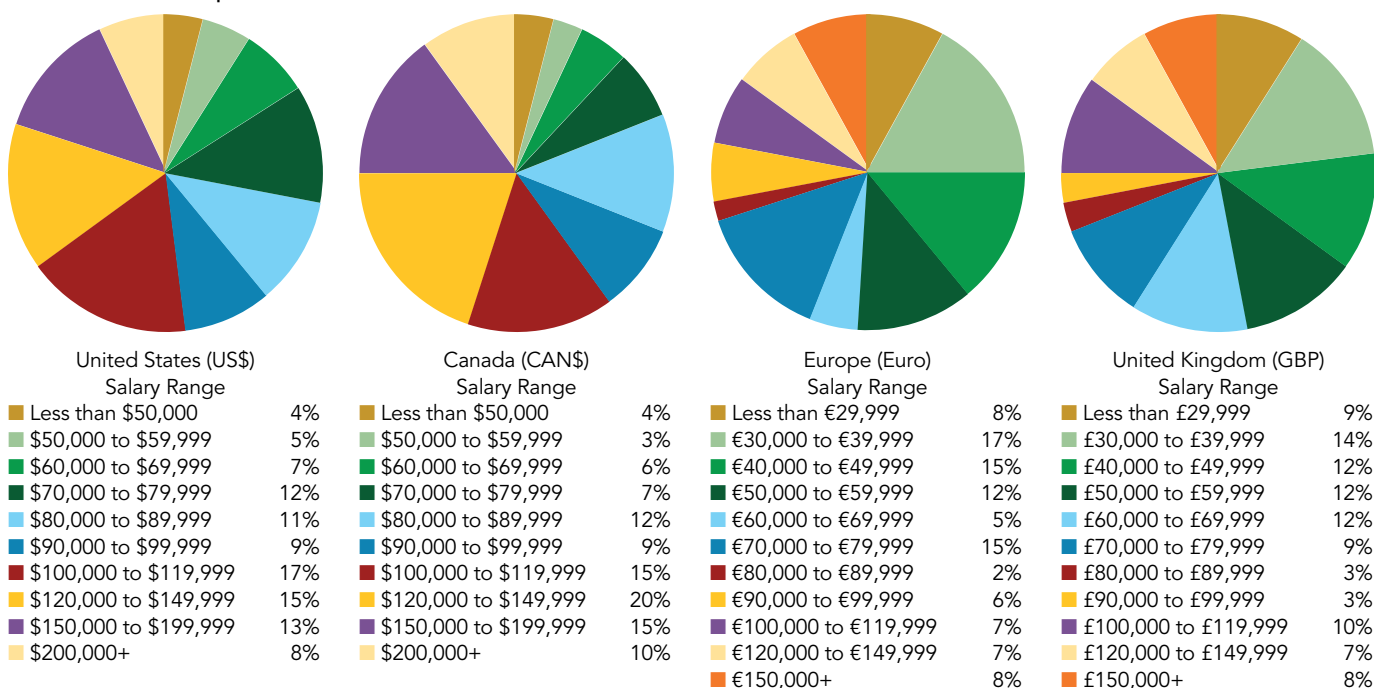
## Average Annual Salaries

The average annual U.S. compensation including salary and bonuses is \$113,734, an increase of 4.71% over the average annual salary of \$108,615 reported in 2014, but less than last year's increase of ~5.3%. The average annual Canadian taxable income this year is CAN\$121,538 (US\$97,377), a modest increase (0.88%) over last year's average annual salary of CAN\$120,480 and significantly less than the ~11.4% increase experienced by Canadian respondents in 2014. The average annual European salary increased this year to €76,147 (US\$85,856),

up by ~13.75% from last year's reported average annual salary of €66,944, and a substantial reverse of the 2.5% decrease in average annual salary reported for Europe in 2014. The average annual salary for survey participants in the United Kingdom is £75,690 (US\$116,256), down 3.81% from £78,690 reported in 2014. At press time (June 4, 2015), the currency exchange rates were as follows: US\$1 equaled CAN\$1.2481, €0.8869, and £0.6511.<sup>1</sup> Table 1 lists average annual corrosion salaries for the past five years.

The 2015 survey results indicate that the average annual salaries for the United

FIGURE 1 Annual Compensation for Corrosion Professionals.<sup>(A)</sup>



<sup>(A)</sup>Salary plus bonus.

**TABLE 1: History of Average Annual Corrosion Salaries<sup>(A)</sup>**

Year	United States (US\$)	Canada (CAN\$)	Europe (Euro)	United Kingdom (GBP)
2015	\$113,734	\$121,538	€76,147	£75,690
2014	\$108,615	\$120,480	€66,944	£78,690
2013	\$103,148	\$108,108	€68,637	N/A
2012	\$98,384	\$107,364	€66,098	N/A
2011	\$95,802	\$104,917	€67,281	N/A

Source: NACE International Annual Career Surveys

<sup>(A)</sup>Salary plus bonus.

N/A: Information not available.

**TABLE 2: Average Annual Salary by Most-Held NACE Certifications**

NACE Certification	United States (US\$)	Canada (CAN\$)	Europe (Euro)	United Kingdom (GBP)
CIP Level 1	\$109,092	\$114,177	€ 67,812	£49,200
CIP Level 2	\$110,091	\$130,000	€ 63,571	£60,882
CIP Level 3—Peer Review	\$115,695	\$133,000	€ 97,727	£100,000
Corrosion Technician	\$101,092	\$113,784	N/A	N/A
Corrosion Technologist	\$117,218	\$138,704	N/A	N/A
CP Specialist	\$143,008	\$142,917	€ 96,000	N/A
CP Technician	\$103,802	\$104,900	€ 85,714	N/A
CP Technologist	\$117,589	\$130,217	N/A	N/A
CP Tester	\$98,134	\$101,808	N/A	N/A
Internal Corrosion Specialist	\$120,734	N/A	N/A	N/A
Senior Corrosion Technologist	\$132,213	\$166,250	N/A	£77,857

N/A: Fewer than five responders selected this category.

States, Canada, and United Kingdom are above average as compared to the U.S. mean annual wage of US\$93,630 for engineers reported for May 2014 by the U.S. Bureau of Labor and Statistics.<sup>2</sup>

The percentage of respondents in several annual earnings ranges generally increased or remained the same compared to last year, although there were declines in some ranges. For U.S. respondents, survey results indicate that ~72% earned \$80,000 or more (compared to ~68% last year); ~61% earned \$90,000 or more (compared to ~56%); ~52% earned \$100,000 or more (compared to ~46%); ~20% earned \$150,000 or more (compared to ~18%), and ~8% earned \$200,000 or more (compared to ~6%).

The results for Canadian participants show that ~80% (compared to ~76% in 2014) earned CAN\$80,000 or more annually; ~68% (compared to ~67%) earned CAN\$90,000 or more; ~59% (same as last year) earned

CAN\$100,000 or more; ~24% (compared to ~25%) earned CAN\$150,000 or more; and ~10% (compared to ~8%) earned CAN \$200,000 or more.

Survey results for the Europe show that ~61% of participants (compared to ~56% last year) earned an annual salary of €50,000 or more per year; ~49% (compared to ~42%) earned €60,000 or more; ~44% (compared to ~32%) earned €70,000 or more; ~29% (the same as last year) earned €80,000 or more; ~27% (compared to ~22%) earned over €90,000 or more; and ~22% (compared to ~16%) earned over €100,000 or more.

When comparing results for the United Kingdom, ~66% of respondents (compared to ~64% last year) earned £50,000 or more; ~53% (compared to ~56%) earned £60,000 or more; ~41% (compared to ~49%) earned £70,000 or more; ~32% (compared to ~37%) earned £80,000 or more; ~28% (compared to ~29%) earned £90,000 or more; and ~25%

(compared to ~26%) earned over £100,000. Average annual compensation by salary range is shown in Figure 1.

## Average Annual Salaries by Certification and Education Level

Today's corrosion control workforce in the United States, Canada, United Kingdom, and Europe continues to be comprised of many individuals with corrosion-control training as well as higher education. The majority of respondents hold at least one NACE certification, with the percentage of certification holders increasing this year for the United States, Europe, and the United Kingdom. Coating Inspector Program (CIP) Level 1 continues to be the most-held NACE certification in all regions surveyed, with CIP Level 2 and Level 3 following as the second and third most-held NACE certification, respec-

**TABLE 3: Average Annual Salary by Highest Education Level**

Education	United States (US\$)	Canada (CAN\$)	Europe (EURO)	United Kingdom (GBP)
High School	\$99,932	\$119,211	€62,500	£66,896
Associate's Degree	\$104,076	\$127,574	€59,091	£60,000
Bachelor's Degree	\$118,798	\$121,095	€63,518	£66,800
Master's Degree	\$137,964	\$112,000	€72,678	£81,061
Doctorate Degree	\$149,519	\$116,111	€117,222	£93,667
Post-Doctorate	\$152,500	\$154,167	€96,111	£92,500

**TABLE 4: Average Annual Salary by Years of Corrosion Experience**

Corrosion Experience	United States (US\$)	Canada (CAN\$)	Europe (EURO)	United Kingdom (GBP)
Less than 2 Years	\$80,479	\$89,490	€35,000	£40,500
2 to 4 Years	\$88,582	\$101,066	€52,000	£50,500
5 to 9 Years	\$102,562	\$115,755	€55,333	£55,000
10 to 19 Years	\$117,456	\$135,224	€105,682	£79,355
20 to 29 Years	\$132,766	\$144,381	€94,500	£95,109

**TABLE 5: Average Annual Salary by Years of NACE International Membership**

NACE International Membership	United States (US\$)	Canada (CAN\$)	Europe (EURO)	United Kingdom (GBP)
Less than 2 Years	\$91,347	\$102,908	€61,000	£52,179
2 to 4 Years	\$104,247	\$112,923	€74,074	£70,577
5 to 9 Years	\$110,377	\$126,406	€73,684	£75,208
10 to 19 Years	\$122,168	\$136,721	€133,333	£131,333
20 Years or more	\$140,000	\$151,154	N/A	£95,417

N/A: Fewer than five responders selected this category.

tively, in Europe, and the United Kingdom. Table 2 lists average annual salaries for the most-held NACE certifications.

Additionally, the majority of survey participants have attended educational, course-based training in the past 10 years: ~79% in the United States, ~85% in Canada, ~80% in Europe, and ~82% in the United Kingdom. Other professional certifications, such as those from API, ASNT, AWS, CGSB, FROSIO, ICORR, SSPC, etc., are also held by some of the respondents: ~24% in the United States, ~35% in Canada, ~41% in Europe, and ~51% in the United Kingdom. Those with a Professional Engineer (P.E.) license comprise ~9% of U.S., ~18% of Canadian, ~22% of European, and ~24% of United Kingdom respondents. About 50% of respondents in the United States, 44% in Canada, 71% in Europe, and 70% in the

United Kingdom also possess a bachelor's degree or higher. Average annual salaries by education level are shown in Table 3.

## Average Annual Salaries by Experience

Across all surveys, respondents serving in the industry for 10 years or more outnumber those with less corrosion experience; however, the number of participants who have worked in corrosion for four years or less has increased for each region.

The percentage of participants involved in corrosion prevention and mitigation for 10 years or more are ~60% for the United States, ~50% for Canada, ~51% for Europe, and ~66% for the United Kingdom. Of those, ~39% in the United States, ~30% in Canada, ~29% in Europe, and ~40% in the United Kingdom have

more than 20 years of corrosion experience. Those working in corrosion control for four years or less account for ~22% of U.S. respondents, ~33% of Canadian respondents, ~20% of European respondents, and ~17% of U.K. respondents.

Generally, respondents earned higher average annual salaries as their years of experience increased; and those with 20 or more years of corrosion experience earned the highest average annual salaries in the United States, Canada, and the United Kingdom. Table 4 shows average annual salaries by years of corrosion experience.

Average annual salaries for respondents in the United States and Canada also increased as years of NACE membership increased, with the highest average annual salaries reported for those with 20 or more years with NACE. For the other regions surveyed, this trend was not observed;

**TABLE 6: Average Annual Salary by Company Size**

No. of Employees	United States (US\$)	Canada (CAN\$)	Europe (EURO)	United Kingdom (GBP)
1 to 5	\$119,333	\$114,102	€105,313	£97,727
6 to 19	\$105,203	\$106,000	€70,833	£70,000
20 to 49	\$96,648	\$110,500	N/A	£41,000
50 to 99	\$110,952	\$103,095	€44,500	£75,000
100 to 499	\$112,500	\$110,700	€67,353	£60,714
500+	\$115,914	\$131,016	€78,444	£74,836

N/A: Fewer than five responders selected this category.

**TABLE 7: Average Annual Salary by Hours Worked Per Week**

Hours Worked per Week	United States (US\$)	Canada (CAN\$)	Europe (EURO)	United Kingdom (GBP)
Less than 30	\$84,872	\$98,571	N/A	N/A
30 to 39 Hours	\$115,091	\$107,308	€52,083	£67,439
40 to 49 Hours	\$106,510	\$119,634	€72,812	£76,364
50 to 59 Hours	\$125,774	\$127,843	€90,833	£100,000
60 Hours or More	\$138,908	\$153,200	€134,000	£82,500

N/A: Fewer than five responders selected this category.

**TABLE 8: Average Annual Salary by Gender**

Gender	United States (US\$)	Canada (CAN\$)	Europe (EURO)	United Kingdom (GBP)
Female	\$99,173	\$113,281	€94,000	£53,750
Male	\$115,010	\$122,458	€74,293	£78,317

however, for both Europe and the United Kingdom, the highest average annual salary by NACE membership was earned by survey participants with 10 to 19 years of membership with NACE. Table 5 shows average annual salary by years of NACE membership. In May 2015, the total number of NACE members worldwide was 36,072, a 6% increase over last year.

## Average Annual Salaries by Employer and Work Week

In addition to working in the corrosion profession for many years, a number of respondents have stayed with their employers on a long-term basis, although the percentages have decreased compared to the 2014 survey.

About 35% (vs. ~37%) of U.S., 25% (vs. ~29%) of Canadian, 23% (vs. ~32%) of European, and 16% (vs. ~31%) of U.K. participants have worked for their current employer for 10 or more years. Those staying

with the same employer for 20 years or more are ~18% (vs. ~21%) for the United States, ~14% (vs. ~16%) for Canada, ~9% (vs. ~15%) for Europe, and ~6% (vs. ~18%) for the United Kingdom. About 19% of U.S., 22% of Canadian, 16% of European, and 14% of U.K. respondents have been with their employer less than two years. Those who have changed jobs at least once in the past 10 years are ~62% of U.S. respondents, ~59% of Canadian respondents, ~53% of European respondents, and ~64% of U.K. respondents. Those who are self-employed comprise ~8% for the United States, ~12% for Canada, ~23% for Europe, and ~21% for the United Kingdom.

Many of the survey participants work for companies with 500 or more employees: ~60% of U.S., ~55% of Canadian, ~44% of European, and ~53% of U.K. respondents—with ~17% (United States), ~15% (Canada), ~17% (Europe), and ~12% (United Kingdom) of respondents working for companies with 100 to 499 employees. For average annual

salaries by company size, see Table 6.

The majority of respondents—~63% in the United States, ~62% in Canada, and ~63% in Europe—work 40 to 49 hours per week. In the United Kingdom ~47% work 40 to 49 hours per week and ~35% work 30 to 39 hours per week. Table 7 shows average annual salary by hours worked per week.

According to the survey results, the corrosion field continues to be predominantly male. Women comprise ~8% of the U.S., ~10% of the Canadian, ~10% of the European, and ~10% of the U.K. respondents. Table 8 lists average annual salaries by gender.

## Average Annual Salaries by Job Type

In the United States, the types of job selected by the largest percentages of respondents are again similar to survey findings from the past several years. They are technicians/technologists (~22%), engineers (~21%), and quality control/

**TABLE 9: Average Salary by Most-Held Job Types**

Job Type	United States (US\$)	Canada (CAN\$)	Europe (EURO)	United Kingdom (GBP)
Chemist	\$91,800	\$111,250	N/A	N/A
Consultant	\$130,940	\$116,563	€71,000	£91,207
Contractor	\$125,000	\$117,500	N/A	N/A
Engineer	\$127,958	\$124,638	€62,500	£73,710
Inspector/QA/QC	\$110,594	\$135,980	€72,833	£69,762
Maintenance	\$87,717	\$122,500	N/A	N/A
Management	\$135,684	\$156,410	€122,143	£86,111
Sales/Marketing	\$114,074	\$130,000	€103,077	N/A
Technician/Technologist	\$86,619	\$103,895	€56,875	N/A

N/A: Fewer than five responders selected this category.

**TABLE 10: Average Salary by Dominant Company Functions**

Company Function	United States (US\$)	Canada (CAN\$)	Europe (EURO)	United Kingdom (GBP)
Anodic/Cathodic Protection	\$103,626	\$81,923	€58,000	£37,500
Chemical Processing	\$117,273	\$137,143	N/A	N/A
Coatings & Linings	\$103,222	\$106,333	€76,786	£65,263
Engineering/Architecture Consulting Firm	\$122,338	\$115,000	€49,375	£79,231
Natural Gas Utility	\$92,253	\$95,000	N/A	N/A
Oil & Gas Extraction	\$149,903	\$150,882	€116,429	£116,000
Oil & Gas Pipelines/Storage Tanks	\$119,804	\$132,538	€87,500	£54,167
Power Plant/Electric Utility	\$107,321	N/A	N/A	N/A
Refining	\$144,348	\$141,875	€77,500	N/A
Research & Development	\$136,429	\$86,428	N/A	N/A
Ships/Marine/Offshore Platforms	\$99,500	\$102,143	€88,333	£67,500
Testing Services	\$91,774	\$91,111	€66,250	£63,750
Transportation	\$87,600	N/A	N/A	N/A
Water Distribution/Treatment	\$103,333	\$96,000	N/A	N/A

N/A: Fewer than five responders selected this category.

quality assurance (QC/QA) inspectors (~18%). The positions with the highest average annual salaries are professor/teacher (\$146,429), management (\$135,684), and consultant (\$125,000). The largest percentages of Canadian respondents classified their job function as technicians/technologists (~26%), engineers (~21%), and QC/QA inspectors (~16%), which are also comparable to previous years' survey results. The highest Canadian average annual salaries are CAN\$156,410 for management, CAN\$135,980 for QC/QA inspectors, and CAN\$130,000 for sales/marketing.

For Europe participants, the jobs held by the largest percentages of respondents

are QC/QA inspectors (~29%), engineers (~24%), and sales/marketing (~13%); and the highest average annual salaries are reported for chemists (€127,500), management (€122,143), and sales/marketing (€103,077). The jobs held by the largest percentages of respondents in the United Kingdom are engineers (~27%), consultants (~25%), and QC/QA inspectors (~18%). The highest average annual salaries are reported for professor/teacher (£135,000), consultant (£91,207), and management (£86,111). Table 9 lists most-held job types and corresponding average annual salaries.

For corrosion professionals in the United States, Canada, Europe, and the

United Kingdom, oil and gas as well as coatings and linings continue to be dominant industries. Respondents selecting oil and gas pipelines/storage tanks as their company's primary industry included ~26% in the United States, ~20% in Canada, and ~10% in Europe, while ~22% of U.K. respondents selected oil and gas extraction as their company's primary industry. Respondents employed in the coatings and linings industry include ~28% in Europe, ~16% in the United Kingdom, ~14% in Canada, and ~12% in the United States.

The highest average annual salaries in the United States by industry are reported for pulp and paper (\$175,000), oil and gas

# CAREER SURVEY RESULTS FOR 2015

**TABLE 11: Average Salary by U.S. State (U.S.\$)**

State	Average Salary	State	Average Salary	State	Average Salary	State	Average Salary
Alabama	\$113,889	Illinois	\$111,900	Montana	\$89,286	Rhode Island	N/A
Alaska	\$135,152	Indiana	\$87,800	Nebraska	\$98,438	South Carolina	\$109,333
Arizona	\$96,591	Iowa	\$92,188	Nevada	\$105,455	South Dakota	N/A
Arkansas	\$99,500	Kansas	\$90,926	New Hampshire	N/A	Tennessee	\$113,571
California	\$121,798	Kentucky	\$80,000	New Jersey	\$134,231	Texas	\$133,205
Colorado	\$116,667	Louisiana	\$110,915	New Mexico	\$113,261	Utah	\$97,500
Connecticut	\$103,500	Maine	N/A	New York	\$113,200	Vermont	N/A
Delaware	N/A	Maryland	\$110,556	North Carolina	\$107,143	Virginia	\$95,000
District of Columbia	N/A	Massachusetts	\$108,000	North Dakota	\$106,500	Washington	\$110,641
Florida	\$98,000	Michigan	\$97,857	Ohio	\$101,111	West Virginia	\$95,714
Georgia	\$103,125	Minnesota	\$96,379	Oklahoma	\$120,224	Wisconsin	\$103,333
Hawaii	N/A	Mississippi	\$86,765	Oregon	\$97,500	Wyoming	\$112,500
Idaho	\$84,000	Missouri	\$99,762	Pennsylvania	\$101,846	U.S. Average	\$113,734

N/A: Fewer than five responders selected this category.

**TABLE 12: Average Salary by Canadian Province and Territory (CAN\$)**

Province/Territory	Average Salary	Province	Average Salary
Alberta	\$134,787	Nunavut	N/A
British Columbia	\$98,194	Ontario	\$111,583
Manitoba	\$99,000	Prince Edward Island	N/A
New Brunswick	N/A	Quebec	\$87,813
Newfoundland and Labrador	N/A	Saskatchewan	\$104,500
Northwest Territories	N/A	Yukon	N/A
Nova Scotia	N/A	Canadian Average	\$121,538

N/A: Fewer than five responders selected this category.

**TABLE 13: Average Salary by European Union Country (Euro)**

Country	Average Salary	Country	Average Salary
Austria	N/A	Latvia	N/A
Belgium	N/A	Luxemburg	N/A
Cyprus	N/A	Malta	N/A
Estonia	N/A	The Netherlands	€81,579
Finland	N/A	Portugal	€39,999
France	€100,909	Slovakia	N/A
Germany	€121,538	Slovenia	N/A
Greece	N/A	Spain	€53,055
Ireland	N/A	European Average	€ 76,147
Italy	€48,333		

N/A: Fewer than five responders selected this category.

**TABLE 14: Average Salary by U.K. Country (GBP)**

Country	Average Salary	Country	Average Salary
England	£70,549	Wales	N/A
Northern Ireland	N/A	U.K. Average	£75,690
Scotland	£94,800		

N/A: Fewer than five responders selected this category.

## The Challenges of a Corrosion Control Career

When answering the question on career priorities, many U.S. and Canadian corrosion professionals reported the job aspects they would most like to change continue to be more advancement opportunities and a larger budget for corrosion control. Many European and United Kingdom respondents also selected more advancement opportunities as something they would most like to change; but Europeans rated improved access to effective corrosion control technologies as important, and better job security was rated as the next top priority for U.K. participants. This year, as in the past, many respondents in all regions commented they would like to have lighter workloads; less travel; more vacation time; more corrosion education for co-workers, customers, and upper management; and better pay. Results for this question are listed in Table 15.

A number of participants shared written comments about the challenges facing corrosion-control professionals. Several emphasized the need to create understanding among non-corrosion personnel (i.e., owners, managers, operators, engineers, regulators, etc.) that corrosion is a major problem across all industrial and government sectors and that it can be prevented or controlled through proper material selection, design, manufacturing, assembly, testing, application, inspection, and maintenance. One respondent notes a challenge is getting companies to understand the need to address corrosion issues before they become catastrophic failures, rather than act afterward to address the identified needs. "Everyone is in favor of asset integrity until they have to budget and pay for the implementation." Another says the challenge is getting upper management to realize that corrosion control is very important and funding capital and maintenance projects for corrosion control is cost effective. "...with a little expenditure now, a lot could be saved in the future (an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure)." This thought is paralleled with a comment

by a respondent who says the challenge is "educating finance and procurement professionals that the cheapest answer can cost more in the long term." Still another adds the challenge is "educating clients about the importance of corrosion control and that it [a structure] must be maintained rather than 'build it and forget it.'"

Persuading upper management to invest in corrosion prevention strategies is also challenging, writes a Canadian respondent, adding that short-term profit typically seems to be preferable to holistic long-term asset integrity. Another comments that "corrosion protection is usually an afterthought, and needs more recognition in industry," while another says, "Corrosion becomes the last priority more often than it should. Then when an incident happens, everyone responds reactively. This must change."

Some respondents in the United Kingdom shared those sentiments. According to one, "Whilst we talk a lot about life-cycle costs as the way to design, significant pressure always comes to reduce costs in the design stage so we end up compromising on selecting the corrosion control methods, with the result that we increase inspection burden during operations and costs for maintenance."

Corrosion monitoring also was mentioned as a challenge by other respondents. One would like to "convince management to invest time and money up front on all projects to determine what threat mechanisms will be encountered and prepare for them ahead of time instead of dealing with the issues after they have become a huge corrosion problem." Another adds that their challenge is "convincing senior management to spend the money necessary for the appropriate level of monitoring and prevention rather than waiting until major repairs or replacement." According to a U.S. respondent, "We collect tons of data and have little time to sift through it. I've spent most of my time reacting to whatever problem or project is at hand rather than looking at data sets for

connections that would allow a proactive approach to pipeline integrity."

A European respondent notes the challenge is "to convince the client that when there is a corrosion problem in the system, the solution is not a single one; that prevention measures suitable for that specific system cannot be taken out from a table or flowchart. A much higher level of investigation is necessary to get to the root cause of the corrosion problem, and convincing the client on investing his money on 'investigations' is hard."

As one respondent sums it up, the challenge is to reduce the budget while maintaining the integrity of the equipment. Some respondents say they are expected to deliver adequate corrosion control with narrowing budgets and demands for reactive corrosion management, and others note they are doing more with less and meeting compliance requirements and deadlines with inadequate staffing levels or budget dollars. Finding resources (time, money, etc.) to effectively control corrosion beyond satisfying the "bare minimum" industry requirements is a challenge.

As in past surveys, respondents also comment on the loss of experienced workers and the need to transfer corrosion knowledge from the older generation to the younger generation, and still mention concerns about the lack of young people entering the corrosion-control profession. "There appears to be more experienced people leaving this industry and [they are] not being replaced fast enough," says one participant, while another observes that "There needs to be more passing on of experience to the younger generation of engineers."

In spite of the challenges, many respondents report that they are very happy with a corrosion-control career. "[I am] very happy to have been able to develop a career in corrosion investigation and mitigation," says one Canadian respondent. "I wish I had started sooner and could influence young people to consider this field. It is fascinating, challenging, and rewarding."

# CAREER SURVEY RESULTS FOR 2015

**TABLE 15: Career Priorities**

Career Priorities	United States (US\$)	Canada (CAN\$)	Europe (EURO)	United Kingdom (GBP)
More advancement opportunities	24.4 %	23.0 %	30.4 %	27.6 %
A larger budget for corrosion control	23.0 %	24.2 %	20.6 %	11.2 %
Improved access to effective corrosion control technologies	11.0 %	12.4 %	21.6 %	18.1 %
Improved relationship with upper management	12.4 %	13.0 %	8.8 %	7.8 %
Better job security	13.0 %	9.7 %	5.9 %	19.0 %
Other	16.0 %	16.7 %	12.7 %	16.4 %

**2015 Corrosion Career Survey Highlights**

	United States (US\$)		Canada (CAN\$)		Europe (EURO)		United Kingdom (GBP)	
	%	US\$	%	CAN\$	%	EU€	%	GBP(£)
Participants with 20 years or more corrosion experience	39%	\$132,766	30%	\$144,381	29%	€94,500	40%	£95,109
Participants who have been a NACE member for 20 years or more	21%	\$140,000	12%	\$151,154	4%	€83,750	10%	£95,417
Participants who joined NACE within the last two years	21%	\$91,347	30%	\$102,908	39%	€61,000	34%	£52,179
Participants holding at least one NACE certification	79%		67%		70%		56%	
NACE certifications held by most participants:								
CIP Level 1	27%	\$109,092	24%	\$114,177	31%	€67,812	22%	£49,200
CP Technician	20%	\$103,802	15%	\$104,900				
CP Tester	17%	\$98,134	14%	\$101,808				
CIP Level 2					21%	€63,571	15%	£60,882
CIP Level 3—Peer Review					11%	€97,727	10%	£100,000
Most-held jobs by participants								
Technician/Technologist	22%	\$86,619	26%	\$103,895				
Engineer	21%	\$127,958	21%	\$124,638	24%	€62,500	27%	£73,710
Inspector/OC/QA	18%	\$110,594	16%	\$135,980	29%	€72,833	18%	£69,762
Sales/Marketing					13%	€103,077		
Consultant							25%	£91,207
Dominant industries:								
Oil & gas pipelines/storage tanks	26%	\$119,804	20%	\$132,538	10%	€87,500		
Coatings & linings	12%	\$103,222	14%	\$106,333	28%	€76,786	16%	£65,263
Natural gas utilities	11%	\$92,253						
Oil & gas extraction			16%	\$150,882			22%	£116,000
Engineering/architecture consulting							11%	£79,231
Participants' main geographical regions:								
Texas	25%	\$133,205						
California	7%	\$121,798						
Alberta			58%	\$134,787				
Ontario			18%	\$111,583				
The Netherlands					37%	€81,579		
Spain					18%	€53,055		
England							78%	£70,549
Scotland							22%	£94,800



extraction (\$149,903), and refining (\$144,348). For Canada, the highest average annual salaries by industry are reported for original equipment manufacturer (CAN\$180,000), metals and mining (CAN\$155,000), and oil and gas extraction (CAN\$150,882). The chemical processing industry commanded the highest average annual salary in Europe at €122,500, followed by oil and gas extraction at €116,429, and original equipment manufacturer at €95,000. In the United Kingdom, the industries with the highest reported average annual salaries were oil and gas extraction (£116,000), original equipment manufacturer (£100,000), and engineering/architecture consulting (£79,231). See Table 10 for all average annual salaries by dominant company functions.

### Average Annual Salaries by Geographic Location

At least five responses were received from participants in 43 U.S. states; six

Canadian provinces; six European countries that use the Euro; and two countries in the United Kingdom. Tables 11 through 14 depict average annual salaries by U.S. state, Canadian province and territory, European country, and U.K. country respectively.

### Survey Methodology

In April 2015, ~19,175 NACE International members in the United States, 3,811 in Canada, 1,180 in Europe (who use the Euro as their currency), and 1,088 in the United Kingdom received an e-mail with an invitation to participate and a link to their respective online survey. At the close of the survey, 1,588 U.S. surveys were completed, representing a 95% confidence level in the survey results plus or minus 2.4% for error; 330 Canadian surveys were submitted, resulting in a 95% confidence level with a margin of error of plus or minus 5.2%; 102 European members participated, for a confidence level of 95% plus or minus an error margin

of 9.3%; and 116 members from the United Kingdom completed the survey, which is a 95% confidence level plus or minus 8.6% for a margin of error.<sup>3</sup>

*To all who shared the information that helped create this report for NACE members and others who work in corrosion control, the MP staff extends its appreciation and thanks.*

### References

- 1 Yahoo! Finance, Currency Converter, <http://finance.yahoo.com/currency-converter> (June 4, 2015).
- 2 U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, "Occupational Employment Statistics, May 2014 National Occupational Employment and Wage Estimates, United States," [http://www.bls.gov/oes/current/oes\\_nat.htm#17-0000](http://www.bls.gov/oes/current/oes_nat.htm#17-0000) (June 4, 2015).
- 3 The Survey System, <http://www.surveysystem.com/sscalc.htm> (June 4, 2015).

## NACE Corrosion Career Surveys Are Online



The most recent corrosion career survey results can be found on the NACE International Web site, [nace.org/salariesurvey.aspx](http://nace.org/salariesurvey.aspx). NACE members can view survey results back to 2005 through past issues of *MP*, accessible via the online digital version of *MP* through the new *MP* Web site, [naceMP.com](http://naceMP.com). For information on NACE membership, see the NACE Web site, [nace.org](http://nace.org), or contact the *FirstService* Department at tel: +1 281-228-6223 or e-mail: [firstservice@nace.org](mailto:firstservice@nace.org).