

IAS Fabricator Accreditation Program

from International Accreditation Service, Inc.



Courtesy of Haven's Steel

**Continuous
special inspection or
IAS accreditation?**

It's your choice!



INTERNATIONAL
ACCREDITATION SERVICE, INC.
Leading Accreditors Since 1975

IAS approved fabricators can streamline their construction projects, assure their clients that work complies with the code and eliminate continuous special inspection.

Section 109 of the *International Building Code*[®] (IBC[®]) requires that all construction or work for which a building permit is required be subject to inspection by a building official. Under Section 1704 of the IBC, certain types of construction, such as structural welding, concrete and critical high-strength bolting, require continuous special inspection, which can be costly and time-consuming. Companies involved with these types of construction are required to have their work overseen by a "Special Inspector" approved by the building official for the duration of the project.

Section 1704.2.2 of the IBC permits, as an alternative to these special inspection requirements, having the types of work described above performed by an "Approved Fabricator." An approved fabricator is registered and approved by the building official based upon review of the fabricator's written procedural and quality control manuals and periodic auditing of the fabrication processes by an approved inspection agency. A fabricator can satisfy code requirements, save considerable time and money and avoid costly delays in construction projects by becoming accredited by International Accreditation Service, Inc.[™] (IAS[™]).

IAS, an International Code Council[®] (ICC[®]) subsidiary, is the only organization qualified to provide assurance that a fabricator has been evaluated in accordance with Section 1704.2.2 of the IBC.

INTERNATIONAL ACCREDITATION SERVICE
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Partnering with Building Departments

IAS has a long history of working with building departments. For over 25 years, we operated as a division of ICBO Evaluation Service, Inc., accrediting fabricators based on requirements in the *Uniform Building Code*™. IAS was created as a nonprofit, public-benefit corporation prior to the consolidation of the nation's model-code organizations into the International Code Council.

Today, building departments depend on IAS accreditation of fabricators as evidence the fabricators comply with the IBC requirements. Building departments refer to the list of accredited fabricators on the IAS web site (www.iasonline.org) whenever a question is raised regarding fabricator approval. A direct link is provided from the International Code Council web site to the IAS web site. IAS also communicates regularly with building departments through *Building Safety Journal* (ICC's official magazine), presentations at ICC Chapter meetings and at other ICC venues. IAS provides its fabricator accreditation services free to governmental agencies.

Benefits of IAS Accreditation

IAS-accredited fabricators enjoy the following benefits:

- Evidence of compliance with ICC, BOCA, ICBO, SBCCI and other codes
- Assurance to the building department that the fabricator has a well-managed quality system and can consistently meet project requirements
- Increased operational efficiency on the part of the fabricator, and ability to meet project demands
- Enhanced quality assurance for fabrication processes
- The confidence that comes with working with IAS, an organization that has served building departments for a quarter of a century

- The opportunity to reduce the number of required inspections by having a Designated Accreditation Representative on staff

Accredited Fabricators List

IAS-accredited fabricators are listed on the IAS web site at www.iasonline.org. On this site, you may download a complete list of accredited organizations or search for an individual company by construction category.

The Accreditation Process

The process for becoming an accredited fabricator involves documentation of the plant quality control procedures; an initial on-site assessment to verify competence and compliance with requirements; and ongoing monitoring to confirm that the fabricator continues to operate in accordance with the procedural manual and that work complies with plans and specifications. Fabricators are required to notify IAS and the accredited inspection agency whenever there is a change to the documented quality system or a change in key personnel or equipment at the fabrication facility.

More Information about Becoming an Accredited Fabricator

Widespread adoption of the IBC throughout the United States has made it critically important for fabricators to prove they meet the requirements of the code. IAS welcomes the opportunity to answer any questions about how our fabricator accreditation program can help you meet code requirements. IAS accreditation will provide you with a valuable tool to gain acceptance of your work and an edge over your nonaccredited competition. For more information, or to request an accreditation application packet, please call IAS toll-free at 1-866-427-4422; e-mail info@iasonline.org; or visit our web site at www.iasonline.org.