

CITY OF SAMMAMISH
POLICY STATEMENT REGARDING WHAT CONSTITUTES AN APPROVED FABRICATOR
2015 International Building Code

PURPOSE

This policy statement is to provide the basis for how the City of Sammamish evaluates the competency and the level of quality of proposed fabricators in order to approve and register the fabricator in accordance with IBC Section 1703.1.

This applies to fabrication of all structural load bearing members and assemblies such as: Structural Welding, Moment Resisting Frames, Precast Concrete or Masonry Curtain Walls and Related Products, Masonry, Cold-Formed Steel Framing, Steel Buildings, Wood or Steel Trusses & Joists, Glue Laminated Products, Laminated Veneer Lumber, Parallel Strand Lumber Products, etc.

1702.1 Definitions defined in Chapter 2.

APPROVED FABRICATOR. An established and qualified person, firm or corporation approved by the building official pursuant to Chapter 17 of this code.

1704.2.4 Report requirement.

Approved agencies shall keep records of special inspections and tests. The approved agency shall submit reports of special inspections and tests to the building official and to the registered design professional in responsible charge.

1704.2.5 Special Inspection of fabricated items.

Where fabrication of structural load-bearing or lateral load-resisting members or assemblies is being conducted on the premises of a fabricator's shop, special inspections of the fabricated items shall be performed during fabrication.

Exceptions:

1. Special inspections during fabrication are not required where the fabricator maintains approved detailed fabrication and quality control procedures that provide a basis for control of the workmanship and the fabricator's ability to conform to approved construction documents and this code. Approval shall be based upon review of fabrication and quality control procedures and periodic inspection of fabrication practices by the building official.
2. Special inspections are not required where the fabricator is registered and approved in accordance with Section 1704.2.5.1.

1704.2.5.1 Fabricator approval.

Special inspections during fabrication are not required where the work is done on the premises of a fabricator registered and approved to perform such work without special inspection. Approval shall be based upon review of the fabricator's written procedural and quality control manuals and periodic auditing of fabrication practices by an approved agency. At completion of fabrication, the approved fabricator shall submit a certificate of compliance to the owner's authorized agent for submittal to the building official as specified in Section 1704.5 stating that the work was performed in accordance with the approved construction documents

WHAT CONSTITUTES AN APPROVED FABRICATOR?

Special inspection is typically required when structural load bearing members and assemblies are fabricated away from the job site. As stated in the exception to Section 1704.2.5 (see code above). Per Section 1704.2.5.1 in the 2015 IBC Commentary "...If the fabricator is approved by the building official, then its internal quality control procedures are deemed to be sufficient without the need for special inspection. A certificate of compliance provides the building official with evidence on each project that the work has been performed in accordance with the code and construction documents.

PREFERRED LIST FOR FABRICATORS

WABO.org > Special Inspection > Steel Fabricator Program

WABO Steel Fabricator Registration Program: <http://www.wabo.org/steel-fabricator-program>

Follow the link above to view the WABO Registered Steel Fabrication Facilities

"This registration program was developed to assist building officials in meeting the requirements imposed in Chapter 17 of the International Building Code (IBC) by 'establishing and recognizing' a person, firm or corporation as an "Approved Fabricator. 'The program also aids the design community, registered WABO Special Inspection/Testing Agencies and the fabrication industry by providing a standardized process for evaluating and registering fabricators of structural steel. Work done on the premises of an 'Approved Fabricator' is not subject to special inspection as required by IBC chapter 17 for such work done within the scope of fabricators quality system manual.

"This program is not intended to prevent any fabricator who is not registered with WABO to manufacture structural steel components for building construction. These fabricators, however, would be subject to special inspection at the fabrication facility. WABO's registration program is not intended to provide inspection and/or evaluation of product quality for individual projects. Neither is it intended to guarantee the quality of specific fabricated structural steel products. The use of this program in part or in its entirety is completely voluntary.

WABO.org > Welder Program > Welder Testing Agencies

WABO Testing Agencies: <http://www.wabo.org/welder-testing-agencies>

WABO.org > Welder Program > Welder Forms

WABO Welder forms: <http://www.wabo.org/welder-forms>

ALTERNATE AGENCY APPROVAL

Any fabricator that is currently approved by the one of the following agencies is deemed to be approved by MBP jurisdictions for the applicable discipline:

- AISC for structural steel,
- ICC-IAS Fabricator Inspection Program,
- WABO,
- City of Seattle,
- City of Portland,
- State of Oregon,
- PCI Plant Certification for precast concrete,
- Los Angeles Department of Building and Safety,

Other equivalent testing agencies approved by the building official.

On-premises special inspection shall be provided for fabricators who are not approved by one or more of the above mentioned agencies. Fabricated items manufactured in a non-approved shop and which are not provided with appropriate on-premises special inspection oversight will be rejected unless on- site special inspection can be done in accordance with Section 1704.

The plans shall identify which items are to be fabricated off-site. The contractor, owner or owner's representative shall provide documentation to the building official which specifies the name of the fabricator's shop along with supporting information for evaluation by the building official. Approval by the building official, in writing, is required prior to off-site fabrication of structural load bearing members or assemblies.