



CERTIFICATION PROGRAMS

Certification Bulletin:	2024-06
Issue Date:	September 11, 2024
Effective Date:	Immediately
Supersedes:	Bulletin 2022-04 Dual Audit Program and Bulletin 2023-01 Multi-site Audit Program
Bulletin Title:	Updates to the Multi-Site Audit Program
Inquiries:	certification@aisc.org
To:	All Participants

AISC Certification is folding the dual audit program into the multi-site audit program. The program will now include both multi-site audits, as previously defined in Bulletin 2023-01, and dual audits, as defined in Bulletin 2022-04. Moving forward, all audits outlined below will be called “multi-site audits.”

What are the benefits of the multi-site program?

- Saving time! Evaluating support processes at the primary location means that auditors do not need to repeat the audit of these processes at the other locations, which could potentially reduce the overall duration of your audit. Your audit plan will show the number of days auditors will need at each facility. (We'll do our best, but we can't promise that audits of all your facilities will take place within the same week.)
- Saving money! Multi-site program participants are eligible for a \$750 refund for each additional location. Refunds will be mailed out to you separately. You will still receive an individual invoice for each audit.

How do multi-site audits work?

Auditors will evaluate Chapter 1 of the *AISC Standard for Certification Programs (207-23)* for all fabricator and/or erector activities at the primary location (some requirements of Chapter 1 may need to be audited at other locations). Your audit plan(s) will identify the processes to be included in the audit of each location.



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Remember that::

- Each facility's audit will include the certification program(s) and any endorsement(s) held by that facility.
- Each erector holding a certification will need its own job site where the work is self-performed by the company holding the certificate. The job site must meet the *Supplemental Requirements for Erectors* (CSE), SE2.5.
- Work in one facility may not be used to demonstrate capability for another facility.
- CARs will be issued to the location where the nonconformance is observed. Your corrective action process will allow you to share the nonconformance across all sites and use them for continual improvement.

Will this decrease the rigor of audits?

Absolutely not. Auditors will continue to use the same audit criteria for companies regardless of size. Your customers specify certification for a reason, and we will ensure that your certification maintains its value. We're simply streamlining our review of support processes to eliminate duplicate efforts.

How do you participate?

This is a voluntary program, and multi-site participants can opt out anytime. If your audits were previously scheduled as multi-site or dual program audits, your audit will be automatically scheduled under the updated program at your next renewal audits, which will be noted in the audit plan you receive. If you are interested in participating and would like to know if you meet the eligibility requirements, please email certification@aisc.org.

Who is eligible?

Fabricators and erectors who meet the criteria below and would like their audits done in conjunction with one another can take advantage of this program. This includes fabricators with multiple fabrication facilities; companies that are both fabricators and erectors; companies with multiple erection companies that operate under different names; and erectors operating under the same name who want separate certificates for each location.

Fabricators and erectors must meet the below requirements to be considered for the program.

- Use the same quality manual and procedures for processes that take place at all facilities and/or locations while allowing for unique processes at individual locations.
- A primary location that mainly performs the support processes for all locations can be identified. These processes would include detailing, project management, and purchasing.
- Share nonconformance and corrective action information across all facilities to facilitate proactive improvements.



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- Centrally coordinate and perform management reviews and internal audits OR have a defined process to formally share these results across all facilities to drive proactive improvements and prevent potential nonconformances.

Who isn't eligible?

- Fabricators with multiple facilities that do not use the same QMS across all of their facilities or act as stand-alone facilities.
- Companies that do not use the same QMS in both their fabricator and erector operations.
- Companies with multiple erectors that do not share the same QMS and SMS.
- Companies with multiple fabricators and/or erectors or companies spread throughout the US where QMC cannot logistically accommodate the multi-site audit approach.
- New applicants are not eligible to be considered for the program until they have successfully completed their initial audit and hold certification.
- International participants are not eligible for the multi-site program. Only participants in the continental US can participate.

AISC will evaluate all requests to participate in the multi-site program in conjunction with QMC, and participants will be accommodated when possible.

How will my certificate work with the multi-site program?

Multi-site audits do not combine your facilities into one certificate. Each facility will continue to have its own audit number, invoice, and certificate. This program is a tool to streamline auditing common requirements amongst your facilities.

If you have questions, please contact AISC Certification directly at certification@aisc.org or 312.670.7520.