

The New AISC Certification Web Site

Detailed information about Certification is only a click away.

By Brian Raff

So you've finally made it to the AISC web site! What next? Well, if you're looking for information regarding the AISC Quality Certification program, things have just gotten easier. The Certification portion of the AISC web site has been revamped, reorganized, and improved, and we're very excited to show it off. All the information from the previous version of the web site is still there, along with many new features. Take a few minutes to browse portions of the site not discussed here.



Organization

The Certification portion of the AISC web site has now been organized into four main sections that represent our four major user groups shown at left. This separation of interest allows users from all facets of the construction industry to find information more quickly and easily. Click on the AISC Certification button to visit the main Certification page shown right, or select one of the four user groups.

Quality Corner

If you have been following Quality Corner in *Modern Steel Construction*, then you know there have been a wide range of articles that address many different aspects of AISC Certification. All of these articles have now been archived in one centralized location, and can now be downloaded for free by clicking on this link, or visiting www.aisc.org/QualityCorner.

The Standard

In 2002, the *Certification Standard for Steel Building Structures* was created, and has replaced both the old Conventional and Complex Steel Building Structures categories for building fabrication. AISC is asking specifiers to update their specifications to reflect this change accordingly. Specifiers can now visit the "Designers, Contractors, Owners" section of the web site and download new language that they can include in their project specifications regarding AISC Certification. The introduction of the *Building Standard* has given rise to a new Certification category—STD (Standard for Steel Building Structures). The AISC web site has been updated to reflect these changes and also explains in great detail the differences between all of the current AISC Certification categories.

AISC Search Engine

AISC has provided a free search engine for all parties interested in ascertaining who is and who is not currently an AISC Certified company. The search engine provides users with the flexibility to search by company name, city, state, and Certification category, allowing specifiers to find out which companies are certified in a particular area. The search engine can also help "pre-qualify" bidders so that the level of quality they expect can be maintained. In addition, this feature gives Certified companies a chance to market their achievements free of charge. The AISC Certified Company search engine is used hundreds of times each month, and can help put specifiers in contact with Certified companies.

No More Waivers!

If you are involved in a project where the specification requirements for an AISC Certified fabricator or erector are in jeopardy of being waived—we can help! AISC has been helping companies defend against these waivers with some astonishing success by contacting the decision-makers of these projects, and educating them on the benefits of AISC Certification. For more information, click on this link or visit www.aisc.org/NoMoreWaivers.

Fabricators, Erectors, and Metal Buildings

For companies that are currently certified, or looking to become certified, AISC has made it easier to find what you are looking for. In less than three mouse clicks, users can now locate and download documents such as the *Building Standard*, audit checklists, current audit policies, mock girder instructions, sample procedures, etc. In addition, AISC has developed a downloadable brochure that Certified companies can use to market their quality management system to potential specifiers.

The screenshot shows the AISC Certification website. At the top, the navigation bar includes links for Home, Jobs, Join AISC!, My AISC, Steel Availability, Competitions & Awards, Find a Company / Person, Site Map, and Contact Us. The main header features the AISC logo and the slogan "Structural Steel: The Material of Choice". A search bar is located on the right side of the header.

The main content area is titled "Welcome to AISC Certification" and features a QMC (Quality Management Company, LLC) logo. The text explains that AISC Certification sets a standard for the steel industry and that companies are subject to yearly reviews. It lists the criteria for certification: personnel, knowledge, organization, equipment, experience, capability, procedures, and commitment to produce the required quality of work. A link to "Quality Corner" is provided for additional information.

The main content is organized into four categories, each with a "More..." link:

- Designers, Contractors, Owners:**
 - Specify an AISC Certified Company.
 - Find an AISC Certified Company in your region.
 - No More Waivers! - Learn what you can do to prevent the waiving of specification requirements.
- Erectors:**
 - Become AISC Certified
 - Download Audit Policies
 - Download a current checklist: Certified or Advanced Certified
- Fabricators:**
 - Become AISC Certified
 - Get help with the Building Standard
- Metal Buildings:**
 - Review the Procedure for Certification and Evaluation Criteria

A sidebar on the left contains a menu with the following items: Steel Solutions Center, Bookstore, ePubs, Learning Opportunities, AISC Certification (highlighted), Designer, Contractor, Owner, Fabricators, Erectors, Metal Buildings, Calendar, News, and About AISC. Below the menu is a login section with fields for "Login:" and "Password:", a "Remember Me" checkbox, and a "Login" button. There are also links for "Forgot My Login/Password" and "New User".

On the right side, there is a "ATTENTION!" section with the text: "DESIGNERS FABRICATORS ERECTORS. If you are involved in a project where AISC Certification is in jeopardy of being waived as a project requirement: CONTACT US 312.670.7520 certinfo@aisc.org We can help!". At the bottom right, there is an AISC logo and the text "CERTIFICATION".

At the bottom of the page, there is a footer with a list of links: Steel Solutions Center, Bookstore, Training & Education, AISC Certified, Events Calendar, News, About AISC, Steel Availability, Competitions & Awards, Find a Company / Person, Join AISC, Jobs, My AISC, Site Map, Contact Us, Advanced Search, Home.

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