STEEL FABRICATION CERTIFICATION FOR FABRICATORS

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IN ASSOCIATION WITH SCNZ AND HERA
SFC: A QUALITY POINT OF DIFFERENCE

The Steel Fabrication Certification (SFC) scheme introduces a mark of quality to New Zealand’s structural steel sector.

Notably, SFC reduces the compliance risk for engineers, architects, quantity surveyors, builders, and building and infrastructure owners. It provides procurers of locally fabricated structural steel confidence that certified fabricators have the appropriate personnel and procedures in place to consistently produce work of the required quality.

Today, SFC is transitioning to become a compulsory requirement: all existing Steel Construction New Zealand (SCNZ) fabricators must be certified by 2020; fabricators seeking SCNZ membership must first become SFC qualified.

What’s more, a new Fabrication and Erection (AS/NZS 5131) Standard has been published. Once adopted in New Zealand, it will provide a standards framework for the technical and quality requirements of the SFC scheme. SFC will help identify fabricators capable of meeting the requirements of this new standard.

SFC BENEFITS

- Independently verifies your capability to meet the requirements of AS/NZS 5131, via HERA Certification Ltd
- Demonstrates your commitment to quality
- Ability to improve productivity and reduce rework
- Provides a point of difference to imported steelwork
- Pre-qualification scheme that will, in time, save time and cost in tender submissions

For more details visit www.steelfabcert.co.nz
**SFC IN PRACTICE**

**Structural Engineer**
The designer specifies a construction category (CC), or categories, for the structural steelwork as a whole or for various components. Four construction categories, CC1-CC4, enable specifiers to select a level of quality management appropriate to how safety critical the component will be in the construction.

**Builder**
Builders must ensure that the fabricators they engage for steelwork contracts are certified for the appropriate construction category specified by the designer.

**Fabricator**
- Fabricators are certified to a construction category, CC1-CC4
- Certification is valid for five years and includes annual surveillance audits
- Certified fabricators display an SFC quality mark
- The SFC website lists all certified fabricators and their CC rating

**SFC: STEPS TO CERTIFICATION**

1. Contact independent auditing body HERA Certification
2. Define Construction Category (CC) required
3. Establish system to ISO 3834.2 (CC3 and CC4) or AS/NZS 1554 (CC2) as applicable
4. Address other requirements of the SFC scheme
5. Pre-audit meeting, signed contract
6. Appointment of auditors
7. On-site assessment
8. Interview with welding coordination team
9. SFC, including IIW MCS ISO 3834 (for CC3 and CC4, valid for five years)
10. Report and resulting actions
11. Annual surveillance (via audit)

For more details visit www.steelfabcert.co.nz
“Compliant product that meets New Zealand standards is of paramount importance to our building and infrastructure projects. As a major customer to the structural steel industry, we applaud SCNZ and its members for taking this positive step to bolster the quality assurance of the fabricated steelwork produced locally. It’s a welcome development that will give us increased confidence in New Zealand fabricated product.”
– Terry Buchan, Auckland Regional Manager, Hawkins Construction

“The SFC scheme is a crucial step for us to tangibly demonstrate the superiority of our product compared to low-quality imported product. We’re hugely supportive of our New Zealand industry working together to achieve this high standard of differentiation.”
– Wayne Carson, Director and General Manager, D&H Steel

“Engineering consultants want solid assurances of our ability and our product. The various systems and controls that we’ve implemented in the past have all been difficult to manage and maintain. The SFC scheme is different – it’s based on proven international best practice. It’s a comprehensive quality management system that will give us – and our customers – confidence in our quality and our systems.”
– Murray Scaife, Director, Whakatiki Engineering

“Third-party certification is invaluable to consultants and the industry. The SFC scheme provides peace of mind that the steel fabrication team working on the project has the necessary level of expertise to allow the project to run smoothly and deliver a quality product of the required specification.”
– Samir Govind, Technical Director, Structural Engineering, Beca