

## TECHNICAL BULLETIN

**SUBJECT: AISC Certification**

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### **AISC CERTIFICATION IS NOW THE STANDARD IN THE GRANDSTAND INDUSTRY**

For 6 years, Dant Clayton has stood alone in the grandstand industry as the only AISC certified fabricator. In recent months, however, other grandstand companies have followed our lead and have also become certified fabricators.

AISC certified fabricators are subjected to a rigorous annual examination to evaluate their quality management system, from contract through delivery, including detailing, purchasing, production, and shipping.

Specifying AISC certified fabrication has long been a common practice in school projects and other public construction.

#### **What is AISC Certification?**

Certification by the *American Institute of Steel Construction* ensures that steel fabricators maintain high standards of quality control and pass an annual independent quality audit.

### **Why specify AISC certification for your stadium or grandstand project?**

- Steel framed grandstand structures are Occupancy Category III, representing substantial hazard to human life in the event of a failure.
- The certification program audits the entire fabrication process, preventing errors before they occur, not after they are found.
- Competitive bidding can be maintained as (3) manufacturers are now certified, and the next largest (3) manufacturers have at least (2) AISC certified fabricators within 30 miles of their factories
- Certification eliminates the need for owner supplied special inspection of steel fabrication as required by Section 1704 of the International Building Code. This can cost up to \$10,000 for each project.

We estimate that over half of the volume in the national grandstand industry is produced by an AISC certified steel fabricator. Certification is now the standard, not the exception.

#### **Want to learn more?**

Visit [www.aisc.org](http://www.aisc.org) and click "Certification". Here, you can find further information, and search for certified fabricators nationally

Or, contact Todd Alwood with AISC.  
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Some grandstand companies will attempt to have this certification requirement removed and threaten not to participate in the bid process. Most grandstand projects use professional engineers hired by the manufacturer. As such, the responsibility to uphold the steel quality standard lies with architects and their clients.