



Accreditation FAQ's



What is AC478 Accreditation Quality Assurance Program?

The AC478 Accreditation program is the most comprehensive quality assurance accreditation of its kind for metal building assembly. It is administered by the IAS which is a sister company to the ICC responsible for creating the IBC codes.

It focuses on several key areas:

- Documented training program following IAS guidelines
- Documented safety program following IAS guidelines
- Documented management system
- Onsite jobsite assessment
- Annual verification of system updates and compliance with the safety and training programs

This assures owners that the erector they have chosen follows a comprehensive quality driven metal building assembly program that has been assessed by an independent third party.

Why require an accredited metal building assembler?

Achieving the AC478 accreditation demonstrates that the erector has the personnel, experience, safety and training programs, and a commitment to assemble metal buildings according to the plans and specs. They have implemented a quality driven process that has been evaluated by a respected third party.

The Metal Building Contractors and Erectors Association supports the professional advancement and development of metal building contractors, erectors and our industry. For more information, visit www.mbcea.org.

What are the benefits to your customers?

- Greater confidence that the metal building will be assembled per plans and specs.
- Level of assurance that the metal building assembler meets or exceeds standards (OSHA, ASCE, IBC, etc)
- Assurance that an independent third party has evaluated the metal building assembler across multiple areas (erection activities, safety, training, compliance with project specs)
- Total project assurance - Architects, builders and owners can order a metal building system designed and fabricated by an IAS accredited manufacturer (AC472). Then it can be assembled by an IAS accredited erector (AC478).

Why was the AC478 accreditation process developed?

To establish a benchmark for erectors who have continually shown excellence in assembling metal buildings along with the ability to document, update and adhere to safety and training programs.

The MBMA has also pushed the AC478 accreditation as a sister program to their AC472 accreditation for the manufacturing of metal buildings. The AC478 program ensures that experienced, quality driven erectors are assembling their buildings.

The International Accreditation Service (IAS) is a nonprofit, public-benefit corporation that has been providing accreditation services since 1975. IAS accreditation programs are based on recognized national and international standards that ensure domestic and/or global acceptance of its accreditations. For more information, visit www.iasonline.org.