

**1704.2.2 Fabricator approval.** Pursuant to Section 96.200 of the *Los Angeles Municipal Code*, special inspections required by this Code are not required where the work is done on the premises of an approved fabricator licensed and approved to perform the work without special inspection. Approval shall be based upon review of the fabricator's written procedural and quality control manuals and periodic auditing of fabrication practices by the Department. At completion of fabrication, the approved fabricator shall submit a certificate of compliance to the Superintendent of Building stating that the work was performed in accordance with the approved construction documents.

**1704.3 Steel construction.** The special inspections for steel elements of buildings and structures shall be as required by Section 1704.3 and Table 1704.3.

**Exceptions:**

1. Special inspection of the steel fabrication process shall not be required where the fabricator does not perform any welding, thermal cutting or heating operation of any kind as part of the fabrication process. In such cases, the fabricator shall be required to submit a detailed procedure for material control that demonstrates the fabricator's ability to maintain suitable records and procedures such that, at any time during the fabrication process, the material specification, grade and mill test reports for the main stress-carrying elements are capable of being determined.
2. The special inspector need not be continuously present during welding of the following items, provided the materials, welding procedures and qualifications of welders are verified prior to the start of the work; periodic inspections are made of the work in progress; and a visual inspection of all welds is made prior to completion or prior to shipment of shop welding.
  - 2.1. Single-pass fillet welds not exceeding  $5/16$  inch (7.9 mm) in size.
  - 2.2. Floor and roof deck welding.
  - 2.3. Welded studs when used for structural diaphragm.
  - 2.4. Welded sheet steel for cold-formed steel framing members such as studs and joists.
  - 2.5. Welding of stairs and railing systems.

**1704.3.1 Welding.** Welding inspection shall be in compliance with AWS D1.1. The basis for welding inspector qualification shall be AWS D1.1.

**1704.3.2 Details.** The special inspector shall perform an inspection of the steel frame to verify compliance with the details shown on the approved construction documents, such as bracing, stiffening, member locations and proper application of joint details at each connection.