

MAY 2025

# IAS AccrediCom®

## Metal Building System Inspections, Assembler Inspections, and Steel Fabricator Inspections NEWSLETTER



### Welcome to the IAS Newsletter!

Welcome to this IAS update on the accreditation programs for Metal Building Systems Inspection Accreditation AC472, Metal Building Assemblers Inspection Accreditation AC478, and Structural Steel Fabricator Inspections (AC172). This newsletter was created to update customers about some of the important happenings at IAS and the industry that may impact your accreditation and business.

### Architects Learn about Specifying Accreditation Programs

Architects have become more and more active in projects where they are specifying accredited companies that design and manufacture metal building systems and use of accredited metal building assemblers. This has been, in part, due to the innovations, efficiencies, and lower costs of metal buildings being used for business and communities. IAS has been in conjunction with the Metal Building Contractors and Erectors Association (MBCEA) and the Metal Building Manufacturers Association (MBMA) to educate architects about the benefits of specifying IAS Accredited Metal Building Assemblers under the AC478 program and Accredited Metal Building Manufacturers under the AC472 program. In 2024 these efforts included presenting a webinar to AIA chapters, creation of a new brochure for architects that was distributed from our exhibit booth at the AIA Annual Conference in San Francisco, and a [new web page](#) created just for architects. IAS is continuing these outreach efforts to architects in 2025. Please email and let us know if you know of an AIA Chapter that would be interesting in having our live webinar.

Watch the recording of the webinar, AC472 & AC478 Accreditations, Improving Quality and Success in Metal Building Design and Construction, presented to The American Institute of Architects. [Watch](#)



### IAS moves into a new office

The IAS staff have moved into a new office in Brea, California. The new space is in the same building as the previous IAS location. *"This new office space has given us the opportunity to expand our office to accommodate growth,"* said Raj Nathan, IAS President. *"It also enabled us to update the environment to reflect the IAS brand, and modernize the space with better IT and furnishing to support productivity."* The IAS office is located in the same building as the parent company, the International Code Council. The address for the new office is 3060 Saturn Street, Suite 101, Brea, California, 92821.

### ICC's Building Code Process

Have you ever thought about how the building code requirements are created? The [International Code Council \(ICC\)](#) is the nonprofit professional association that is responsible for developing and updating the International Building Code (IBC) and related family of codes that includes the plumbing, mechanical, fire and related codes. ICC follows a process for updating the codes that anyone can participate in and they come out with a new edition every three years. The current edition is the 2024 IBC and ICC is currently working on the 2027 edition of the codes. Once the codes are published by ICC, then, the state, county and city will update their codes based off of the International Codes published by ICC. The International Accreditation Service (IAS) is a subsidiary of the ICC. For more information about the code development process, [click here](#).



## How are IAS Accreditation Criteria Updated

If your company is accredited to any IAS accreditation program, then you are aware that there is an Accreditation Criteria (AC) for the program. The Metal Building Systems Inspection Accreditation is based on [AC472](#), while the Metal Building Assemblers Inspection Accreditation is based on [AC478](#), and the Fabricator Inspection Accreditation for Structural Steel is based on [AC172](#). Anyone interested in submitting a proposed change to the criteria can submit their proposed language change to IAS anytime. IAS will bring the proposed language before the Accreditation Committee in a public forum that allows for open discussion. The committee may decide to accept, reject or edit the proposed language. The next IAS Accreditation Committee meeting will be held Wednesday, June 11, 2025. For more information, [click here](#).



## Training Webinars

IAS has a one-hour webinar that provides an overview about the AC472 and AC478 programs. These webinars are offered at no cost and available to be presented at meetings for various associations. If you are interested in having IAS present a webinar for your association, please email Laura Uraine at [luraine@iasonline.org](mailto:luraine@iasonline.org).

## Have there been updates to the Accreditation Criteria that affect your company's accreditation?

Don't get caught off guard about accreditation criteria updates during your next assessment. Periodically there is an opportunity for changes are made to the accreditation criteria that impact your company's accreditation. (see previous article). It is important for your company to be aware of these changes to be prepared for the next assessment. This will give you time to start implementing the new requirements. You can see the most current versions of the accreditation criteria on the IAS website. When you look at the accreditation criteria, the changes will be identified with a vertical line by the affected section of the AC. See the latest versions of the criteria in the links below:

[AC172](#)

[AC472](#)

[AC473](#)

[AC478](#)

## New – Remote Assessments of the Management Systems for AC478

The world of assessments and inspections have begun to incorporate technology that supports remote work being done by building departments, inspection agencies and accreditation bodies. In an effort to improve the process and make the overall assessment more efficient, IAS assessors now have the option to conduct the management system assessment virtually using programs like Webex or Microsoft Teams. The IAS accreditation process for the Metal Building Assemblers program (AC478) includes an assessment of the management system and an assessment of the quality and technical systems at the job site. The use of remote assessments for the management system makes the process more convenient to schedule the assessment, allows the assessor to work remotely, and enables the customer to learn about any potential nonconformances before the assessment is done at the jobsite.



## Events in 2025

Make plans to attend the following events in 2025.

- ➔ **MBCEA Annual Conference / MBMA Spring Meeting**  
Charlotte, NC | May 7- 9, 2025
- ➔ **American Institute of Architects Annual Conference**  
Boston, MA | June 4-7, 2025
- ➔ **International Code Council Annual Conference**  
Cleveland, OH | October 19-30, 2025
- ➔ **MetalCon**  
Las Vegas, NV | October 21-23, 2025



## Join the MBCEA's AC478 Roundtable, May 15

The MBCEA Roundtable is a bi-monthly forum where members of the association can learn about the Metal Building Assembler Inspection Accreditation Program, also known as AC478. If you are interested in this powerful quality initiative, please visit the [Members Only](#) area of the MBCEA website for everything you need to know. Introductory information, especially for non-MBCEA members can be found on the [public Accreditation page](#).



## Interview with **Dan Halme** about **AC478 Accreditation**

Dan Halme is president of Halme Builders, and his company is accredited under the IAS Metal Building Assembler Inspection Accreditation program, also known as AC478 program. Dan is also chairman of the MBCEA Accreditation Committee. Below is a short excerpt from a conversation with Dan.

### Why did your company decide to get accredited?

Probably one of the biggest reasons we decided to get accredited is that we believe in the IAS AC478 Accreditation Program. We worked hard to develop our quality and safety programs, and we wanted to let our customers know about it. So, when the accreditation program became available, we wanted to take advantage of it and get the recognition that comes with accreditation. We believe the industry does better when there are programs like this where you can differentiate between companies that are accredited and not accredited. Accreditation makes it easier for architects to differentiate between contractors and how to get a quality project done.

### How has getting accredited helped your company?

There are multiple ways it has helped our company. It has helped us to improve our existing process and to become a more professional company. Now we have documented procedures and processes that can help with training new employees and help ensure that there is a standardized approach that is tried and true. It also helps us to strive for ways to improve our company. The reality is that having a 3rd party accreditation body like IAS come in to assess your company, really makes you walk-the-walk and stay on track running your business the way you want it to run.



## Need to update your contact with IAS?

At one point or another, most accredited companies will need to know how to replace the person(s) they have entered into the IAS Portal to receive information about their accreditation from IAS.

The IAS Portal is set up so each accredited customer has three contacts that receive information from IAS. These contacts are for the customer's Technical Contact, Billing Contact, and Legal Contact. Customers can have the same, or different persons, in all three contact areas. Each of these contacts has their own login information. In order to change one of the contacts, the customer will need to login and change it. That is why it is important for multiple persons in your company to have access to the login information for your company. IAS has created a short video that explains how are customers can easily and quickly change your contact in the portal. To view the video, [click here](#).



## Staff Enhancements at MBMA

The Metal Building Manufacturers Association (MBMA) has added John Paul (JP) Cardin, PE, to its staff and promoted Vincent Sagan, PE. Cardin recently joined the association as Assistant Director of Research and Engineering, while Sagan has been elevated to Director of Codes and Standards.

"We are very excited to bring on JP and promote Vince," says Tony Bouquot, MBMA general manager. "It is with great pride that we announce Vince's new position. He will be our point person with respect to codes, expanding a role in which he has performed admirably for many years. JP has a wealth of experience in the industry and his work with AISI is a great asset to the MBMA. It's our pleasure to welcome him aboard."

Cardin is a licensed professional civil engineer in Washington state and has worked in the steel industry for the past 12 years. He was previously a Regional Director of Codes and Standards for the American Iron and Steel Institute (AISI) and was most recently Principal in his consulting firm, CFSteel Group. At AISI, he worked with MBMA and its members and is currently an active member of numerous code development committees and organizations, including the ICC Structural Code Development Committee, ASCE 7 Load Combinations Subcommittee, ASCE 7 Rain and Snow Loads Subcommittee, AISC Fire Design Subcommittee and others.

Sagan joined MBMA in 2015 as Senior Staff Engineer and has worked in that roll until his promotion. He has been responsible for the administration of metal building industry research and engineering projects, answering technical inquiries on metal building systems, and interacting with United States code and standards organizations on behalf of the MBMA.

MBMA serves as the voice of the metal building systems industry and works with industry professionals, architects and building designers, educators, building code officials and others to advance the metal building systems industry. The work of member volunteers and association staff regularly leads to industry improvements and groundbreaking research. MBMA also focuses on education to increase the prominence and usage of metal building systems as the premier solution for performance, aesthetics and sustainability in building construction. To learn more about the work that the association does, visit [MBMA.com](http://MBMA.com) or email MBMA at [mbma@mbma.com](mailto:mbma@mbma.com).

## 2024 Metal Building Systems Manual Now Available

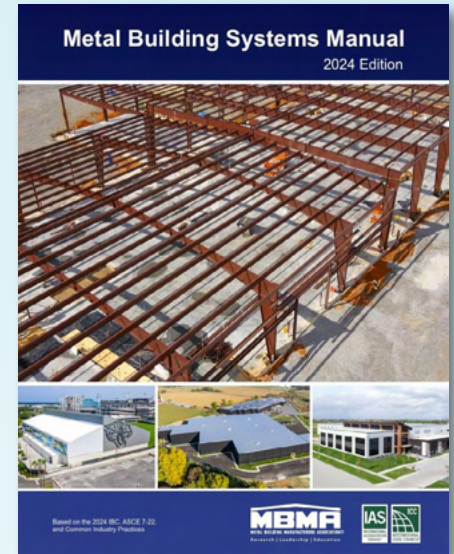
The Metal Building Manufacturers Association (MBMA) has released the 2024 edition of its Metal Building Systems Manual, a comprehensive resource for professionals involved in the design, construction, and inspection of metal building systems. This updated manual aligns with the latest codes, including the 2024 International Building Code (IBC) and ASCE 7-22, ensuring compliance with current industry standards.

Key features of the 2024 edition include:

- Step-by-step examples for calculating wind, tornado, and snow design loads
- Guidelines for crane systems, including bridge, monorail, jib, and gantry cranes
- Recommended criteria for drift and deflection in various wall systems
- Updated information on wind, snow, and rainfall design based on data from USGS and NOAA
- New appendices covering large doors, bulk grain loads, and hail considerations

This manual serves as an essential tool for engineers, architects, building officials, and plan reviewers, providing practical guidance to ensure metal building designs meet current code requirements.

The *Metal Building Systems Manual, 2024 Edition* is available for purchase through the International Code Council (ICC) at [shop.iccsafe.org](http://shop.iccsafe.org).



Buy it from ICC  
[Metal Building Systems Manual, 2024 Edition](http://Metal Building Systems Manual, 2024 Edition)



### Assessor Positions for IAS AC478

IAS is looking for qualified individuals interested in becoming assessors for the Metal Building Inspection Assemblers Accreditation Program AC478. If you would like more information, [click here](#).



### IAS Celebrates 50th Anniversary

IAS is thrilled to celebrate its 50th anniversary of providing accreditation services in 2025! Our journey began in 1975, when we recognized the first testing laboratory under our former name, the International Conference of Building Officials. This laboratory was approved for testing building materials, marking the start of our commitment to excellence.

Over the years, IAS has grown significantly, now offering more than 20 accreditation programs. We proudly serve diverse industries, including food, construction, environmental sciences, information technology and more.

Headquartered in the city of Brea, California, IAS has become a global leader, accrediting organizations worldwide. Our programs are recognized by major regulatory agencies such as the EPA, FDA, DoD, and many others, underscoring our dedication to quality and trust.

Join us as we celebrate five decades of advancing accreditation and supporting industries worldwide!

### Need Answers? Get in Touch with IAS

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