

AUSTRALIAN CONCRETE CONSTRUCTION

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CONSTRUCTION
ENGINEERING
ARCHITECTURE
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the **Key Piece**
of the **Puzzle**



Why **ACRS** is the Product Certification You Should Specify

While to the casual observer, all steel may look to be created equal, in reality this is far from the case. Whether as a result of inferior raw materials, contamination during manufacturing, incorrect or inappropriate manufacturing processes, or manufacturing to alternative Standards, there are steel reinforcing, prestressing and structural steel products which, quite simply, do

not meet the requirements of the relevant Australian Standards.

Notwithstanding the potential safety issues that can result from using sub-standard construction materials, in these days of widespread litigation and strict 'chain of responsibility' legislation, the use of 'non-Australian Standard' compliant materials can spell disaster for engineers, specifiers, suppliers and builders in more ways than one.

Independent Third Party Assessment

With that in mind, the Australian Certification Authority for Reinforcing Steels (ACRS) provides fully independent, non-biased, professional third party assessment and certification of steel construction materials supplied to the construction industry, to ensure that they meet Australian and New Zealand Standards.

Established in 2001 with the support of leading building and construction industry groups, such as the Master Builders Association, Housing Industry Association, Austroads, Engineers Australia and the Australian Constructors Association, ACRS is a non-profit organisation that provides assurance of the quality and fitness for purpose of steel reinforcing materials, regardless of origin of manufacture.

Independent of any commercial interests, ACRS assessors, auditors and management are experienced professionals with extensive experience in steel manufacture, supply, design and construction.

ACRS provides a centralised, streamlined certification process for:

- Rebar & Mesh
- Prestressed Material
- Cold-formed structural steel hollow sections
- Structural steel - hot-rolled bars and sections

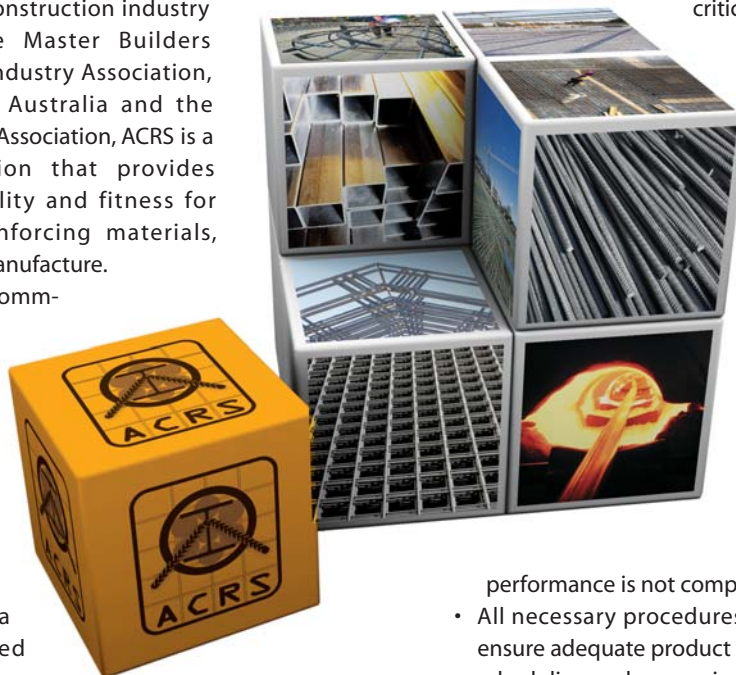
Certification of Products and Processes

Importantly, ACRS certifies the two streams of materials supply: materials manufacture (i.e. mills) **AND** materials processing (fabrication). Verification of the outputs of both these supply streams are essential for any materials claiming to be Standards-compliant. After all, it's no good having great steel then ruining it with poor processing – it won't meet Standards and could critically affect the quality of building work.

By providing a 'one stop shop' for demonstrating compliance with nominated Standards, ACRS provides peace of mind for architects, specifiers, engineers, contractors, owners and developers alike. ACRS certification of fabricators and processors provides a vital link between the steel manufacturer and the end-user on the construction site, ensuring that:

- All materials are from an approved manufacturer and satisfies the requirements of the relevant product Standard
- Materials are correctly handled and processed so that material performance is not compromised during processing
- All necessary procedures and documentation are in place to ensure adequate product traceability from steel mill through bar scheduling and processing

For products to be ACRS certified they must meet the specifications of the relevant Australian Standards at every phase of production. Any break in the 'chain of certification' will result in the product not being certified.





ACRS Makes it Easy!

ACRS certification makes checking for compliance with the relevant Australian & New Zealand Standards easy. Beyond checking the supplier's ACRS certificate and tags, there's no need for you to make any further checks on certified materials.

- No more checking materials properties against technical specifications;
- No more checking batch numbers against the test certificates.

ACRS also gives you real choice. ACRS certifies not just domestic suppliers, but also world-class, overseas manufacturers, giving Australian and international customers the widest choice of products complying with Australian & New Zealand Standards.

The bottom line... with ACRS it's easy for your suppliers, easy for your customers and easy for you!

For further information about the validity of certification for any materials being supplied into your project, please visit the ACRS website www.steelcertification.com, or contact ACRS, Ph: (02) 9965 7216.

ACRS Certificates

ACRS has three types of certificate: Manufacturer, Non-Producer and Processor.

ACRS two-page steel manufacturer certificates have been specifically designed to provide engineers, designers, builders and end-users with full details of certification in relation product categories and individual products within each category in a clear, concise and easy-to-read format.

Page one of the manufacturer certificate details company name and logo; location; scope of certification; certificate number; and date of validity, while page two details individual Product Declarations - showing each individual product, grade and size that is covered by the ACRS certificate.



Quick & Easy Web-Based Verification

The ACRS website www.steelcertification.com also forms an integral part of the process of verification of supply claims and helps to protect against fraudulent certification claims. Visitors to the website are able to search for all current ACRS certified suppliers by location (globally) and/or product category. Search results include a full listing of all certified suppliers for the selected criteria, detailing: company name; location, certification status and certificate

number. The certificate number also provides a 'link' to a pdf version of the current certificate. Most entries also contain additional 'links' which provide visual details of product markings, together with a scanned example of an actual product tag from the supplier.

