



10 January 2011 (revised 11 September 2013)

Understanding your ACRS certificate

Who can hold an ACRS Certificate and for what products or processes?

Upon satisfactory assessment by ACRS of a supplier, an ACRS Certificate of Approval is issued covering the Approved Materials (that is, those materials sold as conforming with the stipulated Australian/New Zealand Standards, or associated specifications) manufactured by, or processed by the supplier.

The scope of the materials and/or processes described in the Certificate of Approval is highly significant and it is important for customers and users to verify that they are receiving what they have ordered.

It is important to note that ACRS does not issue general certificates of approval for all possible materials that might be delivered by a supplier and therefore the scope of each ACRS certificate is very clearly defined and limited.

It is a condition of ACRS certification that all Assessable Materials supplied by a supplier are declared to ACRS and noted on the supplier's certificate as Approved Materials. That is, all products that are eligible for certification and all supplier locations at which these products are manufactured, or processed, or supplied from must be assessed, verified and certified by ACRS.

ACRS certificates are web-based and any printed copies are "uncontrolled". That is, customers should check the validity of any ACRS certificate presented to them by visiting the ACRS website at www.steelcertification.com.

What is shown on an ACRS Certificate?

Each ACRS Certificate of Approval states:

- a) The name of the supplier to which the certificate applies, with its company logo;
- b) The supplier facility to which the successful assessment applies;
- c) The products &/or services covered by the Approval, including applicable Australian/New Zealand Standards and/or ACRS assessment schedules;
- d) The dates of validity of the certificate;
- e) The date of first certification of the supplier location.

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How many different types of ACRS certificate are there?

ACRS may issue a supplier one or more of eleven different types of certificate:

Mill manufacturers:

1. Hot-rolled steel bar manufacture to AS/NZS 4671
2. Hot-rolled steel bar-in-coil manufacture to AS/NZS 4671;
3. Prestressing steel materials manufacture (PC bar and/or PC wire & strand) to AS/NZS 4672;
4. Cold-formed structural steel hollow section manufacture to AS/NZS 1163;
5. Hot-rolled steel plate, floor plate and slab manufacture to AS/NZS 3678 and/or AS/NZS 1594;
6. Hot-rolled steel bar and section manufacture to AS/NZS 3679.1;
7. Structural steel I-Section manufacture to AS/NZS 3679.2;
8. Non-producer (i.e. a mill that is not currently producing any materials to Australian/New Zealand Standards, but intends to resume production at a future date),

Rebar Processors:

9. Cold-drawn steel wire manufacture to AS/NZS 4671;
10. Steel mesh (fabric) manufacture to AS/NZS 4671;
11. Steel reinforcement processing to AS/NZS 4671.

In addition, certificate types 1 to 7 and types 9 & 10 will also have an accompanying product declaration form detailing all the materials covered by the supplier's certification.

What do I need to check?

When verifying products are ACRS approved, it is important to ensure the supplier's current certificate is of the relevant type (1 to 10, above) and that the material types, sizes and processes of your intended supply are included on certificate types 1 to 9, and lastly that there is an unbroken chain of certification from the ACRS Certified mill, to the ACRS Certified rebar processor, to you.

The bottom-line?

1. ***Your supplier must have a valid ACRS certificate;***
2. ***You must check the certificate on the ACRS website. Do not simply accept printed copies. They may be counterfeit;***
3. ***Verify the chain of supply. If you get a product that is not listed on both the supplier's certificate AND that of their upstream supplier (see fig 1), that product is not ACRS approved!***

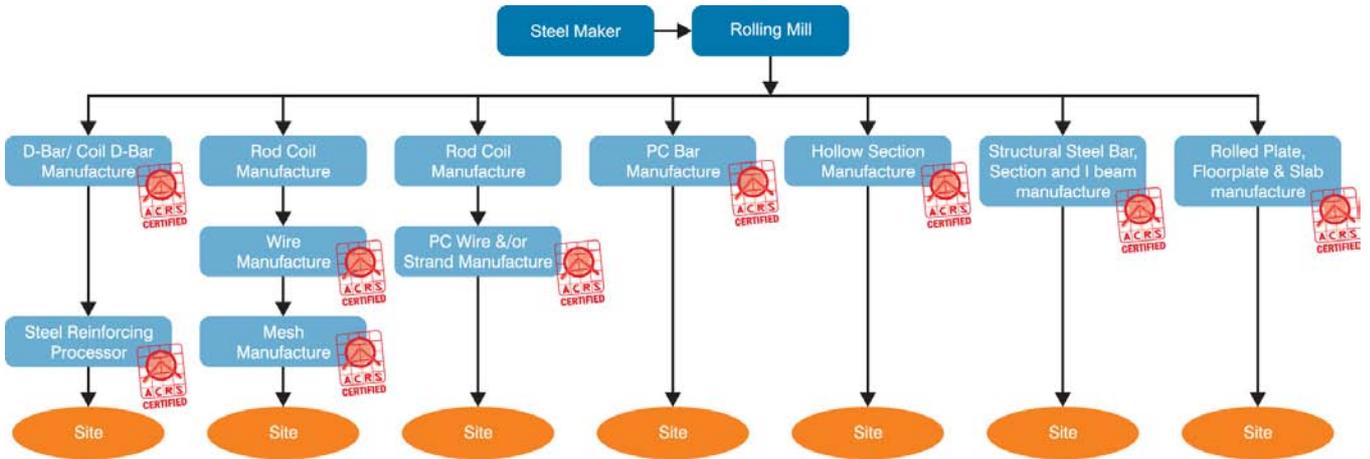


fig 1: Flow-chart showing supply chain of Approved Materials manufacture & processing (where applicable), and which ACRS certificates should be checked to ensure your steel construction materials supplier is ACRS certified.

Would you like further information?

For any further information or advice on the ACRS Scheme, please contact:
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For and on behalf of the ACRS board of directors,



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