



International
Accreditation Service, Inc.

NEWS RELEASE

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Bureau Veritas, Plano, Texas becomes first IAS-Accredited Third-Party Building Department Service Provider

The Bureau Veritas office in Plano, Texas is the first company to achieve accreditation under the International Accreditation Service (IAS) Third-Party Permitting, Plan Review and Inspection Service Providers Accreditation Program (AC 402). The IAS accreditation program was developed to verify the competence of companies that provide services for building departments. "Building departments often call on third-party companies to assist with inspections, plan reviews and permitting. The accreditation program provides building officials assurance that the service providers they select are operating at the highest standards using industry best practices," said Rick Archer, Program Manager with IAS.

Van Tran, Vice President of Bureau Veritas said "The accreditation demonstrates to our current and future clients that we have processes in place to ensure consistency in how we perform plan reviews, inspections and administrative actions. Through the periodic evaluation by IAS, it also reinforces our business values of customer focus, share collective knowledge and constant learning, transparency, teamwork and solidarity."

Building departments can use the IAS program to verify that the companies they hire are qualified to provide building safety services for the jurisdiction. For Bureau Veritas, accreditation is a way to provide independent verification of its established quality procedures and best practices that have been an integral part of the company since its

founding in 1828. Albert Ray III, Vice President of Planning Services for Port San Antonio said “Their achievement of this new IAS accreditation is a testament to their competence and commitment within their chosen industry.”

To achieve IAS accreditation, IAS evaluators assessed the Bureau Veritas Plano office across several distinct categories including code administration, construction codes, plan review processes, professional credentials and licensing, and inspection procedures. In addition, IAS also assessed critical elements of the services provided to jurisdictions such as contract details, operational procedures and plans, and fiscal year budgets.

AC 402 requires accredited third-party service providers to submit annual reports addressing key elements of the criteria as well as changes in key staff, facilities or operating procedures or any problems that could potentially affect the entity’s accredited status. At the end of the three-year term commencing from the initial date of accreditation, the accredited agency will be subject to full on-site reevaluation by IAS.

The [International Accreditation Service](http://www.iasonline.org) (IAS) is a nonprofit, internationally recognized, accreditation body and a subsidiary of the International Code Council (ICC), www.iccsafe.org. IAS accredits building departments, third-party building department service providers, special inspection agencies, product certification agencies, inspection programs for metal building manufacturers, fabricator inspection programs, testing and calibration laboratories, inspection agencies, training agencies, curriculum developers, and field evaluation bodies. IAS is signatory to several international mutual recognition arrangements (MRAs), which facilitates acceptance of its accreditation certificates around the world.

For more information about the IAS Accreditation Program for Third-party Permitting, Plan Review and Inspection Service Providers, visit <http://www.iasonline.org/AC402/>.

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