



## IAS NEWS RELEASE

**For Immediate Release**  
September 30, 2011  
[www.iasonline.org](http://www.iasonline.org)

**Contact: Greg West**  
(562) 364-8201, ext. 3267  
(562) 201-0959 (cell)  
gwest@iasonline.org

### **IAS Expands Work Force Accreditation Services for Construction Sector**

The [International Accreditation Service](http://www.iasonline.org) (IAS) is expanding its Work Force Accreditation Services to include accreditation of personnel certifying bodies. This expansion of services is in response to requests from current IAS constituents who provide personnel qualification services for the construction sector – from the skilled trades through the design and inspection professions. Currently, the IAS Workforce Qualification Accreditation Program includes accreditation for training agencies (AC371) and curriculum developers (AC372).

“We are very excited about the benefits of this new IAS accreditation service in making a positive impact on the quality and integrity of the built environment, through accreditation of personnel certification bodies which serve the people who design, construct, inspect, and maintain buildings,” said Dr. Dave Nelson, IAS Work Force Qualification Program Manager.

The IAS accreditation program for personnel certifying bodies will be based on internationally-recognized quality standard ISO/IEC 17024 *Conformity assessment – General requirements for bodies operating certification of persons*.

The proposed/draft Accreditation Criteria AC474 is posted on the IAS website for public comment with final action by the IAS Accreditation Committee on October 7, 2011 (Norwalk, California). The public is encouraged to attend the October 7<sup>th</sup> meeting or to submit comments on these proposed accreditation criteria. If AC474 is approved, IAS will accept applications for accreditation immediately.

IAS accreditation services comply with internationally-recognized quality standards (ISO/IEC 17011), with active/voting membership in the [International Accreditation Forum](http://www.iasonline.org) (IAF), a global organization of recognized accreditation bodies that have agreed to adhere to the highest standards of professional practice.

IAS is a recognized accreditation body and a nonprofit, public benefit corporation. IAS accredits training agencies, curriculum developers, testing and calibration laboratories, product certification agencies, special inspection agencies, inspection programs for metal building manufacturers, fabricator inspection programs, inspection agencies, field evaluation bodies, building departments, fire prevention departments and building department service providers. A subsidiary of the [International Code Council](#) (ICC), IAS is one of the leading accreditation bodies in the United States and a signatory to several international mutual recognition arrangements (MRAs).

For more information, contact Dr. David S. Nelson, IAS Work Force Qualification Program Manager at [dnelson@iasonline.org](mailto:dnelson@iasonline.org), 866-427-4422 ext. 5275, or visit <http://www.iasonline.org>.

###