

APRIL 2026

IAS AccrediCom®

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



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

Meet the Building Department – ICC Chapter Events

Did you know that the International Code Council (ICC), the association that publishes the International Building Code (IBC), International Code Council is supported by more than 400 chapters across the country and around the world?

The building industry can actively participate in ICC Chapter meetings and benefit from engaging with local professionals who shape and apply building safety standards in their regions. Chapter meetings typically feature code updates, technical presentations, training sessions, and open discussions where building officials, designers, contractors, manufacturers, and other stakeholders share insights and address local challenges. By participating, industry members gain early awareness of code changes, build relationships with decision-makers, contribute practical perspectives to code discussions, and demonstrate leadership in advancing building safety and compliance—all while strengthening their professional network and credibility in the market. To locate an ICC Chapter, [click here](#).



IAS Celebrates 50 Years of Excellence!

Last September 25, 2025, IAS celebrated its 50th Anniversary at a local hotel in Brea, California. Technical experts from 15 countries attended the event which honored IAS's legacy of trust, integrity, and leadership in accreditation services around the world.

Since 1975, IAS has become a globally recognized accreditation body, serving government agencies, commercial businesses, and public entities across a wide range of sectors. The 50th Anniversary celebration dinner brought together key stakeholders, accreditation professionals, industry partners, and honored guests to celebrate five decades of service and progress.

The evening included a formal dinner, commemorative program, keynote remarks, and reflections on IAS's evolution and impact across the accreditation landscape. A commemorative [publication](#) documenting the 50-year legacy of the organization was released as well as [video](#) documenting the legacy.

"This milestone is not just a celebration of our past, but a reaffirmation of our commitment to excellence in the years to come. We looked forward to honoring our dedicated staff, valued clients, and partners who have helped shape IAS into the respected organization it is today,"

— Raj Nathan, IAS President.



(L-R) Raj Nathan, IAS President, and Sergio T. Ascunce, Chair of IAS Board, present the 50th Anniversary Commemorative Publication during the Gala Celebration.

About the **Metal Building Contractors and Erectors Association**

The Metal Building Contractors and Erectors Association (MBCEA) is a national trade organization dedicated to advancing the metal building industry and supporting the professionals who erect metal building systems. Through education, training programs, networking opportunities, and industry advocacy, MBCEA helps contractors and erectors strengthen their skills and stay current with evolving construction standards and technologies. The association also promotes best practices in safety, quality, and project efficiency while fostering collaboration across the industry. One way the MBCEA does this by supporting the IAS Metal Building Assemblers Inspection Accreditation Program, also known as AC478. By connecting members with valuable resources and a strong professional community, MBCEA plays an important role in driving innovation and excellence within the metal building sector. For more information about MBCEA, visit <https://www.mbcea.org/>.

Check the **Metal Building Manufacturers Association Annual Report**

The Metal Building Manufacturers Association (MBMA) has released its 2025 annual report, *“Enhancing the Built Environment.”* The report focuses on the many accomplishments the association and its members have achieved over the past year, the drive to shape the future of the industry and the retirement of W. Lee Shoemaker, P.E., Ph.D., longtime Director of Research and Engineering for MBMA. The report is available for free download at <https://mbma.com/annual-reports>.

ICC’s 2027 IBC Building Code Development Update

The [International Code Council \(ICC\)](#) is developing and updating the 2027 International Building Code (IBC) along with the interconnected codes that complement the IBC, that is the 2027 versions of the plumbing, mechanical, fire and other related ICC codes. ICC’s open code development process where anyone can participate is at the end of the three-year cycle and the 2027 IBC is expected to be published by ICC in late October 2026. The International Accreditation Service (IAS) is a subsidiary of the ICC. For more information about the code development process, [click here](#).

Updates to the Accreditation Criteria

If your company is accredited by IAS, then you need to make sure that you are following the most current accreditation criteria (AC). You can see the most current versions of the accreditation criteria on the IAS website. Any updates to the criteria are identified with a vertical line by the affected section of the AC. Being informed of these changes will give you time to start implementing the new requirements before your next assessment. See the latest versions of the criteria in the links below:

[AC172](#)

[AC472](#)

[AC473](#)

[AC478](#)

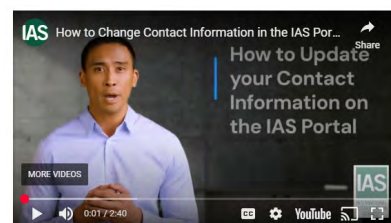


FREE Training Webinars are still available.

You can still take advantage of this opportunity and review IAS’ one-hour webinars that provide an overview of the AC472 and AC478 programs. There is no cost to view and use these webinars at chapter meetings or for general information purposes. IAS personnel will be glad to present a webinar at your chapter meeting or to another association. If you are interested in this service, please send your email to Laura Uraine at luraine@iasonline.org. IAS will be happy to assist.

Update Your Contacts with IAS

Most accredited companies will eventually need to update the contacts listed in the IAS Portal who receive accreditation information. Each customer has three designated contacts—Technical, Billing, and Legal—each with their own login, and these roles may be filled by the same or different individuals. To ensure you’re receiving important information from IAS, keep your contacts up to date, make sure multiple team members have access to your login credentials, and [watch our short video](#) for step-by-step instructions. Watch the how-to-video and see how to change your contacts in the IAS portal.



Assessor Positions for IAS AC478

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



Common Findings from Assessments

Based on recent IAS assessments, we want to point out these two recurrent issues where extra attention can help prevent nonconformities and strengthen overall compliance.

Measuring and Testing Equipment Requirements in AC172, AC472, and AC473

A recurrent issue during IAS assessments in the accreditation programs for Metal Building Systems (AC472), Metal Building Components (AC473), and Structural Steel Fabricators (AC172) is related to the requirements for testing and measuring equipment. These requirements are critical for manufacturers and fabricators to demonstrate the accuracy, reliability, and traceability of measurements used in quality control and product verification. Each accreditation program follows its own criteria; nevertheless, the control, calibration, and maintenance of measuring and testing equipment are largely consistent across AC472, AC473, and AC172. However, it is important to pay special attention to the sections where these requirements are found in each of the Accreditation Criteria. Although the sections referenced below do not cover every detail related to measuring and testing equipment, they address the key concepts and requirements that can prevent the lack of compliance often found during assessments and the resulting issues.

References: AC Required Data*

"A list of test and measuring equipment. {Note:} Test and measuring equipment must be calibrated and traceable to a national standard. The equipment list must include sufficient testing instruments to assure quality compliance as appropriate for the items being fabricated."

*This requirement is found in the following sections:

AC-172, Sections 4.3.13 and 4.5.7; AC-472, Section 4, Part A, 4.4.1.13 and Part B, 4.4.2.8 and 4.6.1.6; and AC-473 Section 4.4.7.

Finding

IAS assessors have been finding that manufacturers are not consistently verifying or calibrating all inspection, measuring, and testing equipment used to determine product conformity.

Common issues include instruments not properly identified, expired calibrations, missing or incomplete calibration records, and hand held measuring devices that are not included in the calibration or verification program.

Corrective Actions for Training per AC478 Metal Building Assemblers

Training is a key requirement for inspection practices, as indicated in the Accreditation Criteria for IAS Metal Building Assemblers Inspection Accreditation Program (AC478). Multiple aspects of training are required throughout AC478 such as MBI training, OSHA 10 training for employees who have been with the company for more than one year, ensuring that at least 25% of employees meet the Journey Worker definition, and meeting specific training provisions related to subcontracted labor.

IAS aims to support metal assemblers achieving compliance with AC478 training requirements. Based on recent assessments, here are some common areas where to direct additional attention to prevent nonconformities, strengthen internal processes, and continuously improve their management systems and technical operations.

References

4.2.5 Metal building assemblers accredited under these criteria, that rely on subcontracted or temporary labor must have documented procedures to show how they ensure compliance of subcontracted and temporary labor with the safety and training requirements of these criteria.

4.2.9.3.1 Develop, implement and maintain a documented training program that ensures at least 25% of all field workers meet the definition of Journey worker, Metal Building Assembly.

4.3.4.2 As a minimum, there must be training requirements established for all field personnel.

4.3.4.4 The training program must include passing grades on the MBI Quality and Craftsmanship Training Series.

4.3.4.5 The metal building assembler shall have provisions for storing, maintaining, and accessing training records and maintaining current personnel qualifications. Training records must include the following:

4.3.4.5.1 Completed and dated training attendance records.

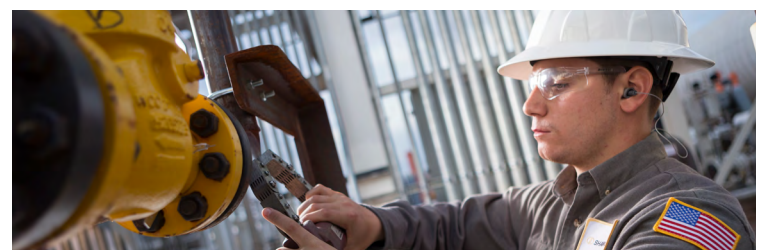
4.3.4.5.2 Documentation proving comprehension of training (e.g., test results and/or certificates).

4.3.4.5.3 Any required certifications and/or training necessary to perform the specific tasks assigned to that employee.

Findings

Meeting the Journey Worker definition is one of the primary challenges faced by program participants. Employee turnover and personnel rotation significantly impact compliance, as companies invest considerable time and resources in training only to have trained employees leave the organization. This turnover can make it difficult to consistently maintain the required percentage of Journey Workers.

Subcontracting also presents additional challenges. Temporary labor or specialized work is often subcontracted to meet project demands, which requires companies either to engage another accredited assembler or to ensure that their subcontractors understand, implement, and comply with the Management System requirements. This includes maintaining appropriate records and documentation related to personnel training and qualifications, such as OSHA training, MBI training, and compliance with the Journey Worker definition.

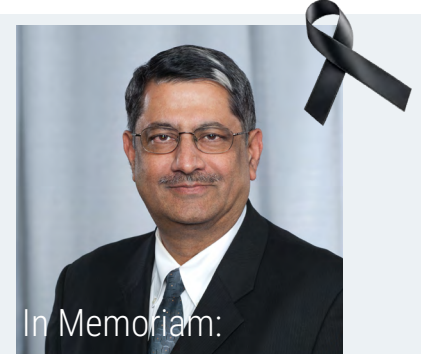


We are deeply saddened to share the passing of Chuck Ramani, Founding President of the International Accreditation Service (IAS), who passed away peacefully on April 1, 2026, surrounded by his family.

Chuck's contributions helped shape IAS into a globally respected accreditation body and left a lasting impact on the conformity assessment community worldwide. He will be remembered for his dedication, expertise, and commitment to excellence.

We extend our heartfelt condolences to his family, friends, and colleagues.

Read more about Chuck's life and legacy: [HERE](#).



In Memoriam:

Chuck Ramani

Founding President, International Accreditation Service (IAS)



Join the **MBCEA's AC478 Roundtable**, May 14, 2026

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 our [public Accreditation page](#).



Events in 2026

Make plans to attend the following events in 2026.

- ➔ **MBCEA Annual Conference / MBMA Spring Meeting**,
April 22 – 24 | Colorado Springs, CO
- ➔ **American Institute of Architects Annual Conference**
June 9 – 14 | San Diego, CA
- ➔ **International Code Council Annual Conference**
October 18–21 | Nashville, TN
- ➔ **MetalCon**
October 7-9 | Orlando, FL



BE SURE TO LIKE, FOLLOW AND SUBSCRIBE:



Need Answers? Get in Touch with IAS

ACCREDITATION ASSESSMENTS, SCHEDULING AND MANAGEMENT

- **Priya Kadarkarai**, Program Coordinator
pkadarkarai@iasonline.org
- **Tony Zavala**, Program Manager
azavala@iasonline.org
- **Prasanth Ramakrishnan**, Director
PRamakrishnan@iasonline.org
- **Greg West**, Senior Vice President
gwest@iasonline.org

INVOICES, ACCOUNTING

- **Jamie Lee Karim** | jlkarim@iasonline.org
- **Amy Gensicke** | agensicke@iasonline.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

- **Laura Uraine** | luraine@iasonline.org

