

ICC Structural Steel and Bolting Certification Practice Test (Sample)

Study Guide



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SAMPLE

Questions

- 1. To whom should the special inspector furnish inspection reports?**
 - A. Only to the contractor**
 - B. Building Official and Registered Design Professional**
 - C. Site Manager and Chief Inspector**
 - D. Architect and Contractor**
- 2. Which bolts shall not be reused according to specifications?**
 - A. A325 bolts**
 - B. A490 and galvanized A325 bolts**
 - C. A307 bolts**
 - D. A192 bolts**
- 3. Which ASTM standard applies to samples for structural steel plates according to the relevant specifications?**
 - A. A36, A283, and A242**
 - B. A530, A300, and A490**
 - C. A992, A572, and A500**
 - D. A36, A240, and A36M**
- 4. In which section of the Code of Standard Practice can the permitted tolerances for detailed erection be found?**
 - A. Section 5.6**
 - B. Section 7.10**
 - C. Section 6.4**
 - D. Section 7.13**
- 5. What is a requirement for the installation of high-strength structural fasteners?**
 - A. All fasteners must be visibly inspected**
 - B. Fasteners must be installed with electric tools**
 - C. Only pre-approved fasteners can be used**
 - D. Fasteners should never be reused**

- 6. According to the AISC Steel Construction Manual, which of the following is not an acceptable method for setting column base plates?**
- A. Steel shims**
 - B. treated-hardwood shims**
 - C. Concrete pads**
 - D. Plastic shims**
- 7. According to the IBC, who approves a person's qualifications to act as a special inspector?**
- A. Project Manager**
 - B. Building Official**
 - C. Site Supervisor**
 - D. Structural Engineer**
- 8. What is a benefit of conducting material tests on structural steel?**
- A. It simplifies building codes**
 - B. It helps confirm the material's intended use**
 - C. It increases overall project costs**
 - D. It eliminates the need for all inspections**
- 9. How is special material steel identified according to the Code of Standard Practice?**
- A. By color coding**
 - B. By its weight**
 - C. Marked by the supplier**
 - D. Using RFID tags**
- 10. In which scenario does the code permit waiver of special inspections?**
- A. When a project is delayed**
 - B. When an approved fabricator is involved**
 - C. When the inspector is unavailable**
 - D. When inspections are costly**

Answers

SAMPLE

- 1. B**
- 2. B**
- 3. A**
- 4. D**
- 5. D**
- 6. B**
- 7. B**
- 8. B**
- 9. C**
- 10. B**

SAMPLE

Explanations

1. To whom should the special inspector furnish inspection reports?

A. Only to the contractor

B. Building Official and Registered Design Professional

C. Site Manager and Chief Inspector

D. Architect and Contractor

The special inspector plays a critical role in the construction process, particularly in ensuring that materials and workmanship comply with the specified standards and regulations. The proper recipients of inspection reports from the special inspector include the building official and the registered design professional. Furnishing reports to the building official is essential because this individual oversees compliance with building codes and safety regulations. The building official needs this information to make informed decisions regarding inspections, approvals, and compliance with the overall safety of the construction project. The registered design professional, typically the architect or engineer responsible for the project, also needs to receive these reports to assess compliance with design specifications and details. This feedback allows for timely adjustments and ensures that the construction aligns with the intended plans. By sending reports to both the building official and the registered design professional, the special inspector helps maintain a clear line of communication and accountability among the various parties involved in the construction process. This approach promotes transparency and facilitates problem-solving if issues arise during the inspection process.

2. Which bolts shall not be reused according to specifications?

A. A325 bolts

B. A490 and galvanized A325 bolts

C. A307 bolts

D. A192 bolts

The rationale for identifying A490 and galvanized A325 bolts as not suitable for reuse aligns with their specific material properties and application requirements. A490 bolts, which are high-strength bolts, require precise tension and load-bearing capabilities created during the initial installation. Reusing these bolts can lead to compromised structural integrity, as they may have already experienced loading cycles that could weaken their tensile strength. Galvanized A325 bolts are also discouraged from reuse due to their coating process, which may influence the threads and overall performance of the bolt upon reuse. The galvanization can create surface irregularities, and once the bolts are reused, the integrity of the coating is also at risk, potentially leading to corrosion and loss of mechanical properties. On the other hand, the other types of bolts in the question, such as A325, A307, and A192, do not have the same level of restrictions against reuse. While care should be taken when reusing any type of bolt, these particular bolts have specifications and applications that allow for their reuse under proper conditions, provided they are checked for wear or damage. Thus, emphasizing the importance of adhering to the guidelines around the reuse of A490 and galvanized A325 bolts ensures that the structural connections maintain their intended reliability and safety standards.

3. Which ASTM standard applies to samples for structural steel plates according to the relevant specifications?

- A. A36, A283, and A242**
- B. A530, A300, and A490**
- C. A992, A572, and A500**
- D. A36, A240, and A36M**

The correct answer is based on the standards established by ASTM for structural steel plates, which set the requirements for materials used in construction. A36, A283, and A242 are all ASTM standards that specifically address different grades of structural steel. ASTM A36 is a widely used structural steel specification that covers carbon structural steel shapes, plates, and bars of structural quality for use in riveted, bolted, or welded construction. ASTM A283 specifies the requirements for low and intermediate strength carbon steel plates, which are suitable for use in certain construction applications. ASTM A242 is for weathering steel used in structural applications exposed to the elements, which is designed to develop a protective rust layer that improves durability. These standards provide the necessary mechanical properties, composition requirements, and testing methods needed to ensure the materials meet safety and performance criteria for structural integrity. Therefore, they are applicable to samples of structural steel plates as indicated in the question. The other options list ASTM standards that, while relevant to various steel products and applications, do not specifically focus on structural steel plates in the same way as the mentioned standards do. This is key in understanding why A36, A283, and A242 is the most appropriate selection for the question regarding structural steel plate samples.

4. In which section of the Code of Standard Practice can the permitted tolerances for detailed erection be found?

- A. Section 5.6**
- B. Section 7.10**
- C. Section 6.4**
- D. Section 7.13**

The correct answer pertains to the specific section of the Code of Standard Practice that contains the permitted tolerances for detailed erection. Section 7.13 addresses the dimensional tolerances and establishes the criteria necessary for the alignment and fit-up of structural steel members during erection. This section is crucial for ensuring that all members are erected according to acceptable industry standards, facilitating proper connections and overall structural integrity. The tolerances defined in this section are essential for engineers, fabricators, and erectors to understand, as they directly affect the performance and safety of the completed structure. Knowledge of these tolerances helps ensure compliance with the design specifications and allows for adjustments that might be needed during the erection process to accommodate real-world conditions. By focusing on these standards, the integrity of the structure and its performance can be upheld.

5. What is a requirement for the installation of high-strength structural fasteners?

- A. All fasteners must be visibly inspected**
- B. Fasteners must be installed with electric tools**
- C. Only pre-approved fasteners can be used**
- D. Fasteners should never be reused**

The requirement that fasteners should never be reused is crucial in ensuring the integrity and safety of structural connections. High-strength structural fasteners are designed with specific properties to withstand significant loads and stresses. When a fastener is removed and reused, it may not retain its original strength or may have incurred damage during the removal process. Additionally, the surface conditions of a reused fastener may not meet the necessary specifications for optimal performance in structural applications. Using new fasteners ensures that they meet the required standards for quality, strength, and reliability, which is particularly important in high-stress environments where structural integrity is vital. Reusing fasteners could lead to failures, potentially compromising the safety of the entire structure. Therefore, adhering to the guideline of using new fasteners is a fundamental practice in the installation of high-strength structural fasteners.

6. According to the AISC Steel Construction Manual, which of the following is not an acceptable method for setting column base plates?

- A. Steel shims**
- B. treated-hardwood shims**
- C. Concrete pads**
- D. Plastic shims**

Setting column base plates properly is crucial for ensuring the stability and integrity of a structure. The American Institute of Steel Construction (AISC) Steel Construction Manual outlines acceptable methods and materials for this important task. Steel shims are widely accepted due to their durability and ability to maintain their form under load. They provide a reliable means of leveling and supporting the base plate. Concrete pads also serve as a solid foundation for column base plates, offering significant compressive strength and stability. Plastic shims can be used as well, particularly in situations where moisture control and corrosion are considerations, such as in environments that are prone to rust. However, treated-hardwood shims are not considered an acceptable method for setting column base plates. While hardwood can provide some level of support, it is subject to degradation over time due to environmental factors, such as moisture and pests. Additionally, hardwood does not provide the same level of load-bearing capacity and consistency as the other options. Therefore, selecting materials that maintain structural integrity over time is crucial for safety and performance, making treated-hardwood shims unsuitable for this application as per the AISC guidelines.

7. According to the IBC, who approves a person's qualifications to act as a special inspector?

- A. Project Manager**
- B. Building Official**
- C. Site Supervisor**
- D. Structural Engineer**

The correct choice, which states that the building official approves a person's qualifications to act as a special inspector, aligns with the requirements set forth in the International Building Code (IBC). The building official plays an essential role in ensuring that all personnel involved in the inspection process meet the necessary qualifications and adhere to established standards. This includes verifying that special inspectors possess the required certifications and expertise to inspect specific areas of construction, such as structural steel and bolting. The authority of the building official is established to maintain consistency, safety, and compliance with the building code. By having a designated official responsible for the approval of qualifications, the IBC ensures that only those with the appropriate training and credentials are tasked with significant inspection roles, ultimately contributing to the integrity of the construction process and the safety of the built environment. In the context of the other roles, project managers, site supervisors, and structural engineers may have important responsibilities within a construction project, but they do not hold the authority to formally approve qualifications of special inspectors as per the standards outlined in the IBC. Therefore, it is the building official who is key to the scrutiny of qualifications related to inspection duties.

8. What is a benefit of conducting material tests on structural steel?

- A. It simplifies building codes**
- B. It helps confirm the material's intended use**
- C. It increases overall project costs**
- D. It eliminates the need for all inspections**

Conducting material tests on structural steel is essential for ensuring that the material meets the specifications necessary for its intended application. This process helps to verify properties such as strength, ductility, and toughness, which are crucial for structural integrity and safety. By confirming that the steel behaves as expected under load, engineers and construction professionals can confidently use the material in designs and constructions tailored for specific requirements. This testing ultimately guides decision-making in choosing appropriate materials for different structural applications, ensuring the safety and reliability of the built environment. The other choices do not accurately reflect the significance of material testing; for example, simplification of building codes is not a direct outcome of testing, nor does material testing eliminate the necessity for inspections, which remain a critical part of construction quality assurance. Additionally, while testing may incur costs, its benefits in risk reduction and assurance far outweigh these considerations.

9. How is special material steel identified according to the Code of Standard Practice?

- A. By color coding**
- B. By its weight**
- C. Marked by the supplier**
- D. Using RFID tags**

Special material steel is identified according to the Code of Standard Practice by being marked by the supplier. This marking process typically includes the application of identification codes or tags that provide essential information about the material, including its specifications and compliance with relevant standards. The supplier is responsible for ensuring that the steel is correctly marked to convey its properties and to help in tracking and verifying compliance throughout the construction process. While color coding, weight considerations, and RFID tags may be relevant in other contexts or industries, they are not the primary means outlined in the Code for identifying special material steel. The emphasis on supplier marking ensures a consistent and reliable method of identification that aligns with safety and regulatory requirements in the structural steel industry.

10. In which scenario does the code permit waiver of special inspections?

- A. When a project is delayed**
- B. When an approved fabricator is involved**
- C. When the inspector is unavailable**
- D. When inspections are costly**

The correct choice pertains to the scenario involving an approved fabricator. The purpose of special inspections in structural steel and bolting is to ensure that construction adheres to the specified design and code requirements. When an approved fabricator is involved, they typically have a proven track record of compliance with relevant codes and standards. This relationship can allow for a waiver of special inspections, reflecting the confidence in their quality control measures. Approved fabricators often undergo rigorous evaluation and must demonstrate their ability to produce structural steel components that meet stringent quality requirements. As a result, the code may recognize this assurance of quality and allow for the waiver of certain additional inspections, streamlining the process while maintaining safety and compliance. In contrast, the other scenarios provided do not align with regulatory standards. Project delays, inspector unavailability, or the cost of inspections do not typically warrant waivers, as they do not justify the diminishing of quality assurance protocols that are crucial for the safety and integrity of structural components. The integrity of structural systems is paramount, and regulations are designed to uphold rigorous inspection processes to prevent failure.