
USACE / NAVFAC / AFCEC UFGS-05 40 00 (May 2015)
Change 1 - 08/18

Preparing Activity: NAVFAC Superseding
UFGS-05 40 00 (May 2010)

UNIFIED FACILITIES GUIDE SPECIFICATIONS

References are in agreement with UMRL dated July 2025

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SECTION 05 40 00

COLD-FORMED METAL FRAMING

05/15, CHG 1: 08/18

NOTE: This guide specification covers the requirements for framing components and erection of load-bearing cold-formed metal framing and trusses.

Edit section for one of the following:

1. Describe the components of the design performed by the designer of record.
2. Prescribe the design of all components to the Contractor.

Adhere to [UFC 1-300-02](#) Unified Facilities Guide Specifications (UFGS) Format Standard when editing this guide specification or preparing new project specification sections. Edit this guide specification for project specific requirements by adding, deleting, or revising text. For bracketed items, choose applicable item(s) or insert appropriate information.

Remove information and requirements not required in respective project, whether or not brackets are present.

Comments, suggestions and recommended changes for this guide specification are welcome and should be submitted as a [Criteria Change Request \(CCR\)](#).

NOTE: The following information shall be shown on the project drawings:

1. The extent and location of all framing indicating thickness, size, section modulus, and other structural properties required.
2. Connections and other installation details.

3. Indicate concentrated loads, e.g., pipe supports, that may overstress a flange or connection.

PART 1 GENERAL

1.1 REFERENCES

NOTE: This paragraph is used to list the publications cited in the text of the guide specification. The publications are referred to in the text by basic designation only and listed in this paragraph by organization, designation, date, and title.

Use the Reference Wizard's Check Reference feature when you add a Reference Identifier (RID) outside of the Section's Reference Article to automatically place the reference in the Reference Article. Also use the Reference Wizard's Check Reference feature to update the issue dates.

References not used in the text will automatically be deleted from this section of the project specification when you choose to reconcile references in the publish print process.

The publications listed below form a part of this specification to the extent referenced. The publications are referred to within the text by the basic designation only.

AMERICAN CONCRETE INSTITUTE (ACI)

ACI 318 (2019; R 2022) Building Code Requirements for Structural Concrete (ACI 318-19) and Commentary (ACI 318R-19)

AMERICAN IRON AND STEEL INSTITUTE (AISI)

AISI S100 (2016) North American Specification for the Design of Cold-Formed Steel Structural Members

AISI S110 (2007; Suppl 1; Reaffirmed 2012) Standard for Seismic Design of Cold-Formed Steel Structural Systems - Special Bolted Moment Frames

AISI S200 (2007) North American Standard for Cold-Formed Steel Framing - General Provision

AISI S201 (2007) North American Standard for Cold-Formed Steel Framing - Product Data

AISI S202 (2011) Code of Standard Practice for Cold-formed Steel Structural Framing

AISI S211	(2007) North American Standard for Cold-Formed Steel Framing - Wall Stud Design
AISI S212	(2007) North American Standard for Cold-Formed Steel Framing - Header Design
AISI S213	(2007; Suppl 1 2009) North American Standard for Cold-Formed Steel Framing - Lateral Design
AISI S214	(2012) North American Standard for Cold-Formed Steel Framing - Truss Design

AMERICAN WELDING SOCIETY (AWS)

AWS D1.1/D1.1M	(2025) Structural Welding Code - Steel
AWS D1.3/D1.3M	(2018) Structural Welding Code - Sheet Steel

ASTM INTERNATIONAL (ASTM)

ASTM A123/A123M	(2024) Standard Specification for Zinc (Hot-Dip Galvanized) Coatings on Iron and Steel Products
ASTM A153/A153M	(2023) Standard Specification for Zinc Coating (Hot-Dip) on Iron and Steel Hardware
ASTM A307	(2023) Standard Specification for Carbon Steel Bolts, Studs, and Threaded Rod 60 000 PSI Tensile Strength
ASTM A370	(2024) Standard Test Methods and Definitions for Mechanical Testing of Steel Products
ASTM A653/A653M	(2023) Standard Specification for Steel Sheet, Zinc-Coated (Galvanized) or Zinc-Iron Alloy-Coated (Galvannealed) by the Hot-Dip Process
ASTM A1003/A1003M	(2023; E 2024) Standard Specification for Steel Sheet, Carbon, Metallic- and Nonmetallic-Coated for Cold-Formed Framing Members
ASTM C955	(2024) Standard Specification for Cold-Formed Steel Structural Framing Members
ASTM C1007	(2020; R 2024) Standard Specification for Installation of Load Bearing (Transverse and Axial) Steel Studs and Related Accessories

ASTM C1513	(2024) Standard Specification for Steel Tapping Screws for Cold-Formed Steel Framing Connections
ASTM E119	(2024) Standard Test Methods for Fire Tests of Building Construction and Materials
ASTM E329	(2023) Standard Specification for Agencies Engaged in Construction Inspection, Testing, or Special Inspection
ASTM E488/E488M	(2022) Standard Test Methods for Strength of Anchors in Concrete Elements
ASTM F1554	(2020) Standard Specification for Anchor Bolts, Steel, 36, 55, and 105-ksi Yield Strength
ASTM F1941/F1941M	(2016; R 2025) Standard Specification for Electrodeposited Coatings on Threaded Fasteners (Unified Inch Screw Threads (UN/UNR))
ASTM F2329/F2329M	(2015; R 2023) Standard Specification for Zinc Coating, Hot-Dip, Requirements for Application to Carbon and Alloy Steel Bolts, Screws, Washers, Nuts, and Special Threaded Fasteners

INTERNATIONAL CODE COUNCIL (ICC)

ICC IBC	(2024) International Building Code
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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE (DOD)

UFC 3-301-01	(2023; with Change 3, 2025) Structural Engineering
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1.2 SUBMITTALS

NOTE: Review Submittal Description (SD) definitions in Section 01 33 00 SUBMITTAL PROCEDURES and edit the following list, and corresponding submittal items in the text, to reflect only the submittals required for the project. The Guide Specification technical editors have classified those items that require Government approval, due to their complexity or criticality, with a "G." Generally, other submittal items can be reviewed by the Contractor's Quality Control System. Only add a "G" to an item if the submittal is sufficiently important or complex in context of the project.

For Army projects, fill in the empty brackets following the "G" classification, with a code of up to three characters to indicate the approving authority. Codes for Army projects using the

Resident Management System (RMS) are: "AE" for Architect-Engineer; "DO" for District Office (Engineering Division or other organization in the District Office); "AO" for Area Office; "RO" for Resident Office; and "PO" for Project Office. Codes following the "G" typically are not used for Navy and Air Force projects.

The "S" classification indicates submittals required as proof of compliance for sustainability Guiding Principles Validation or Third Party Certification and as described in Section 01 33 00 SUBMITTAL PROCEDURES.

Government approval is required for submittals with a "G" or "S" classification. Submittals not having a "G" or "S" classification are for Contractor Quality Control approval. Submittals not having a "G" or "S" classification are for information only. When used, a code following the "G" classification identifies the office that will review the submittal for the Government. Submit the following in accordance with Section 01 33 00 SUBMITTAL PROCEDURES:

SD-02 Shop Drawings

Framing Components; G, [_____]

SD-03 Product Data

Steel Studs, Joists, Tracks, Bracing, Bridging and Accessories

Recycled Content of Steel Products; S

[SD-05 Design Data

NOTE: Require calculations for items considered critical by the designer. Delete paragraph if calculations are not necessary.

Metal Framing Calculations; G, [_____]

] SD-07 Certificates

Load-Bearing Cold-Formed Metal Framing

Welds

1.3 DELIVERY, STORAGE, AND HANDLING

Steel framing and related accessories shall be stored and handled in accordance with the AISI S202, "Code of Standard Practice for Cold-Formed Steel Structural Framing".

1.4 LOAD-BEARING COLD-FORMED METAL FRAMING

NOTE: Include the second set of brackets when

design is to be performed by the contractor.

Section 09 22 00 SUPPORTS FOR PLASTER AND GYPSUM BOARD references ASTM C754 for partition framing which provides tables for allowable partition stud heights. For partition heights greater than 15 feet or when lateral partition loads are greater than 5 psf special consideration needs to be taken beyond the standard 3 5/8" stud.

Include[top and bottom tracks,] bracing, fastenings, and other accessories necessary for complete installation. Framing members shall have the structural properties indicated. Where physical structural properties are not indicated, they shall be as necessary to withstand all imposed loads.[Design framing in accordance with AISI S100.][Non-load-bearing metal framing, furring, and ceiling suspension systems are specified in Section 09 22 00 SUPPORTS FOR PLASTER AND GYPSUM BOARD.][Metal suspension systems for acoustical ceilings are specified in Section 09 51 00 ACOUSTICAL CEILINGS.]

Submit mill certificates or test reports from independent testing agency, qualified in accordance with ASTM E329, showing that the steel sheet used in the manufacture of each cold-formed component complies with the minimum yield strengths and uncoated steel thickness specified. Test reports shall be based on the results of three coupon tests in accordance with ASTM A370.

1.5 MAXIMUM DEFLECTION

NOTE: Delete paragraph if design was performed by the designer of record. Modify to suit project requirements.

Deflections of structural members shall not exceed the more restrictive of the limitations of ICC IBC and UFC 3-301-01.

[For scissor roof trusses limit the horizontal deflection at supports to less than [32 mm 1-1/4 inches][_____].

1.6 QUALITY ASSURANCE

NOTE: Delete paragraph "a" ENGINEERING RESPONSIBILITY, the bracketed section of paragraph DRAWING REQUIREMENTS and paragraph DESIGN DATA REQUIRED if design was performed by the designer of record.

- a. Engineering Responsibility: Preparation of Shop Drawings, design calculations, and other structural data by a registered professional engineer.
- b. Testing Agency Qualifications: An independent testing agency, acceptable to authorities having jurisdiction, qualified according to ASTM E329 for testing indicated.

- c. Product Tests: Mill certificates or data from a qualified independent testing agency[, or in-house testing with calibrated test equipment] indicating steel sheet complies with requirements, including base-metal thickness, yield strength, tensile strength, total elongation, chemical requirements, and metallic-coating thickness.
- d. Welding Qualifications: Qualify procedures and personnel according to the following:
 - (1) AWS D1.1/D1.1M, "Structural Welding Code - Steel".
 - (2) AWS D1.3/D1.3M, "Structural Welding Code - Sheet Steel".
- e. Fire-Test-Response Characteristics: Where indicated, provide cold-formed metal framing identical to that of assemblies tested for fire resistance per ASTM E119 by, and displaying a classification label from, a testing and inspecting agency acceptable to authorities having jurisdiction.
- f. AISI Specifications and Standards: Comply with:
 - (1) AISI S100, "North American Specification for the Design of Cold-Formed Steel Structural Members".
 - (2) AISI S110, "Standard for Seismic Design of Cold-Formed Steel Structural Systems - Special Bolted Moment Frames".
 - (3) AISI S200, "North American Standard for Cold-Formed Steel Framing - General Provision".
 - (4) AISI S201, "North American Standard for Cold-Formed Steel Framing - Product Data".
 - (5) AISI S202, "Code of Standard Practice for Cold-Formed Steel Structural Framing".
 - (6) AISI S211, "North American Standard for Cold-Formed Steel Framing - Wall Stud Design".
 - (7) AISI S212, "North American Standard for Cold-Formed Steel Framing - Header Design".
 - (8) AISI S213, "North American Standard for Cold-Formed Steel Framing - Lateral Design".
 - (9) AISI S214, "North American Standard for Cold-Formed Steel Framing - Truss Design".

1.6.1 Drawing Requirements

Submit framing components to show sizes, thicknesses, layout, material designations, methods of installation, and accessories including the following:

- a. Cross sections, plans, and/or elevations showing component types and locations for each framing application; including shop coatings and material thicknesses for each framing component.

- b. Connection details showing fastener type, quantity, location, and other information to assure proper installation.
- c. Drawings depicting panel configuration, dimensions, components, locations, and construction sequence if the Contractor elects to install prefabricated/prefinished frames.

[Sign and seal fabrication drawings by a registered professional engineer.

[1.6.2 Design Data Required

Submit metal framing calculations with design criteria and structural loading to verify sizes, thickness, and spacing of members and connections signed and sealed by a registered professional engineer. Show methods and practices used in installation.

]PART 2 PRODUCTS

2.1 STEEL STUDS, JOISTS, TRACKS, BRACING, BRIDGING AND ACCESSORIES

Framing components shall comply with ASTM C955 and the following.

- a. Provide products with an average recycled content of steel products so postconsumer recycled content plus one half of preconsumer recycled content not less than [25][_____] percent.
- b. Steel Sheet: ASTM A1003/A1003M, Structural Grade, Type H, metallic coated, of grade and coating weight as follows:
 - (1) Grade: [ST33H (ST230H)][ST50H (ST340H)][[_____]][As required by structural performance].
 - (2) Coating: [G60 (Z180), A60 (ZF180), AZ50 (AZ150), or GF30 (ZGF90)][G90 (Z275)][[_____]].
- c. Steel Studs: Manufacturer's standard C-shaped steel studs, of web depths indicated, punched, with stiffened flanges, and as follows:
 - (1) Minimum Base-Metal Thickness: [0.84 mm 0.0329 inch][1.09 mm 0.0428 inch][1.37 mm 0.0538 inch][1.72 mm 0.0677 inch][2.45 mm 0.0966 inch].
 - (2) Flange Width: [35 mm 1-3/8 inches][41 mm 1-5/8 inches][51 mm 2 inches][63 mm 2-1/2 inches].
- d. Steel Track: Manufacturer's standard U-shaped steel track, of web depths indicated, unpunched, with straight flanges, and as follows:
 - (1) Minimum Base-Metal Thickness: [0.84 mm 0.0329 inch][1.09 mm 0.0428 inch][1.37 mm 0.0538 inch][1.72 mm 0.0677 inch][2.45 mm 0.0966 inch][Matching steel studs].
 - (2) Flange Width: [[32 mm] [_____] [1-1/4 inches] [_____]].
- e. Roof Truss Members: Manufacturer's standard C-shaped steel sections, of web depths indicated, unpunched, with stiffened flanges, and as follows:
 - (1) Minimum Base-Metal Thickness: [0.84 mm 0.0329 inch][1.09 mm

0.0428 inch][1.37 mm 0.0538 inch][1.72 mm 0.0677 inch][2.45 mm
0.0966 inch][Matching steel studs].

- (2) Flange Width: [[41 mm] [_____] [1-5/8 inches] [_____]], minimum at top and bottom chords connecting to sheathing or directly fastened construction.

f. Floor Truss Members: Manufacturer's standard C-shaped steel sections, of web depths indicated, unpunched, with stiffened flanges, and as follows:

- (1) Minimum Base-Metal Thickness: [0.84 mm 0.0329 inch][1.09 mm 0.0428 inch][1.37 mm 0.0538 inch][1.72 mm 0.0677 inch][2.45 mm 0.0966 inch][Matching steel studs].

- (2) Flange Width: [[41 mm] [_____] [1-5/8 inches] [_____]], minimum at top and bottom chords connecting to sheathing or directly fastened construction.

NOTE: It is assumed that members will be protected from the weather. If members will be exposed or subject to moisture directly, by water infiltration, or via vapor transmission and condensation or indirectly in a corrosive atmosphere, delete carbon steels (painted) and specify coating Class Z275 (G90) for such members. Specify G40 for brick ties and screw fasteners. See special option below for deflection limit on exterior wall brick construction. Grades specified are normally used for this type of framing. See manufacturer's current literature for other grades and section properties available.

2.1.1 Studs and Joists of 1.37 mm 54 mils (0.054 Inch) and Heavier

Galvanized steel, ASTM A653/A653M and ASTM A1003/A1003M, SS Grade 50, [Z180] [Z275] [G60] [G90].

2.1.2 Studs and Joists of 1.09 mm 43 mils (0.043 Inch) and Lighter

Studs and Joists of 1.09 mm 43 mils (0.043 Inch) and Lighter, Track, and Accessories (All thicknesses): Galvanized steel, ASTM A653/A653M and ASTM A1003/A1003M, SS, Grade 345 230 MPa Grade 33 33,000 psi Z180 G60.

2.1.3 Sizes, Thickness, Section Modulus, and Other Structural Properties

Size and thickness [as indicated][as required].

2.2 MARKINGS

Studs and track shall have product markings stamped on the web of the section. The markings shall be repeated throughout the length of the member at a maximum spacing of 1200 mm 4 feet on center and shall be legible and easily read. The product marking shall include the following:

- a. An ICC number.

- b. Manufacturer's identification.
- c. Minimum delivered uncoated steel thickness.
- d. Protective coating designator.
- e. Minimum yield strength.

2.3 CONNECTIONS

2.3.1 Steel-To-Concrete Connections

- a. Anchor Rods: [ASTM F1554](#), [Grade 36][Grade 55]; galvanized per [ASTM A153/A153M](#).
- b. Post-Installed Concrete Anchors: Adhesive or expansion anchors fabricated from corrosion-resistant materials with allowable load capacities in accordance with ICC-ES AC193 and [ACI 318](#) greater than or equal to the design load as determined by testing per [ASTM E488/E488M](#) conducted by a qualified testing agency.

NOTE: The use of power-actuated fasteners is not recommended where the construction activity is in close proximity of occupied spaces due to the "gunshot"-like sound that the tool emits. This "gunshot"-like sound can be disturbing to personnel, especially experienced warfighters.

- c. Power-Actuated Fasteners: Fabricated from corrosion-resistant materials with allowable load capacities in accordance with ICC-ES AC 70 greater than or equal to the design load as determined by testing per ASTM E1190 conducted by a qualified testing agency.

2.3.2 Steel-To-Steel Connections

- a. Screws: [ASTM C1513](#), corrosion-resistant-coated, self-drilling, self-tapping steel screws of the type and size indicated. Provide low-profile head beneath sheathing and manufacturer's standard elsewhere. Electroplated to a minimum of 5 micron zinc coating per [ASTM F1941/F1941M](#) or hot-dipped galvanized per [ASTM A123/A123M](#) or [ASTM A153/A153M](#).
- b. Bolts: [ASTM A307](#) coated by hot-dip process per [ASTM F2329/F2329M](#) or zinc-coated by mechanical-deposition process per ASTM B695, Class 55.
- c. Welding Electrodes: Comply with AWS standards.

2.4 PLASTIC GROMMETS

Supply plastic grommets for stud webs as recommended by stud manufacturer, to protect electrical wires and plumbing piping. Prevent metal-to-metal contact between wiring/piping and studs.

2.5 SEALER GASKET

Closed-cell neoprene foam, [6.4 mm 1/4-inch](#) thick, selected from manufacturer's standard widths to match width of bottom track on concrete

slab or foundation.

PART 3 EXECUTION

3.1 TRUSS FABRICATION

- a. Fabricate cold-formed steel trusses and accessories plumb, square, and true to line, and with connections securely fastened, according to referenced AISI's specifications and standards, manufacturer's written instructions, and requirements in this Section.
- b. Truss must be fabricated either on site or off site prior to erection.
- c. Fabricate trusses using jigs or templates.
- d. Splices can only occur at joints.
- e. Cut truss members by sawing or shearing: do not torch cut.
- f. Fasten cold-formed steel truss members by welding, screw fastening, clinch fastening, pneumatic pin fastening, or riveting as standard with fabricator.
- g. Fasten other materials to cold-formed steel trusses by welding, bolting, pneumatic pin fastening, or screw fastening, according to Shop Drawings.
- h. Reinforce, stiffen, and brace trusses to withstand handling, delivery, and erection stresses. Lift fabricated trusses to prevent damage or permanent distortion.

3.2 FASTENING

Fasten framing members together by welding or by using self-drilling, self-tapping screws. Electrodes and screw connections shall be as required and indicated in the design calculations.

3.2.1 Welds

NOTE: The welding of cold-formed steel should be performed by qualified workmen. The Contractor, Subcontractor, or Fabricator shall provide verification that welders are qualified in accordance with AWS D1.3/D1.3M.

All welding shall be performed in accordance with AWS D1.3/D1.3M, as modified by AISI S100. All welders, welding operations, and welding procedures shall be qualified according to AWS D1.3/D1.3M. Submit certified copies of welder qualifications test records showing qualification in accordance with AWS D1.3/D1.3M. All welds shall be cleaned and coated with rust inhibitive galvanizing paint. Do not field weld materials lighter than 1.09 mm 43 mils.

3.2.2 Screws

Screws shall be of the self-drilling self-tapping type, size, and location [as indicated][as required]. Screw penetration through joined materials

shall not be less than three exposed threads. Minimum spacings and edge distances for screws shall be as specified in **AISI S100**. Screws covered by sheathing materials shall have low profile heads.

3.2.3 Anchors

Anchors shall be of the type, size, and location [as indicated][as required].

3.2.4 Powder-Actuated Fasteners

Powder-actuated fasteners shall be of the type, size, and location [as indicated][as required].

3.3 INSTALLATION

Install cold-formed framing in accordance with **ASTM C1007** and **AISI S200**.

Install cold-formed steel framing according to **AISI S202** and to manufacturer's written instructions unless more stringent requirements are indicated.

3.3.1 Tracks

Provide accurately aligned runners at top and bottom of studs. Install sealer gasket under bottom of track on concrete slab or foundation. Anchor tracks as indicated in design calculations. Butt weld joints in tracks or splice with stud inserts. Fasteners shall be at least **75 mm 3 inches** from the edge of concrete slabs.

3.3.2 Studs

Cut studs square and set with firm bearing against webs of top and bottom tracks. Position studs vertically in tracks and space as indicated in design. Do not splice studs. Provide at least two studs at jambs of doors and other openings **600 mm 2 feet** wide or larger. Provide jack studs over openings, as necessary, to maintain indicated stud spacing. Provide tripled studs at corners, positioned to receive interior and exterior finishes. Fasten studs to top and bottom tracks by welding or screwing both flanges to the tracks. Framed wall openings shall include headers and supporting components as shown on the drawings. Headers shall be installed in all openings that are larger than the stud spacing in a wall. In curtain wall construction, provide for vertical movement where studs connect to the structural frame. Provide horizontal bracing in accordance with the design calculations and **AISI S100**. Bracing shall be not less than the following:

<u>LOAD</u>	<u>HEIGHT</u>	<u>BRACING</u>
Wind load only	Up to 3000 mm 10 feet	One row at mid-height
	Over 3000 mm 10 feet	Rows 1500 mm 5'-0" o.c. maximum

<u>LOAD</u>	<u>HEIGHT</u>	<u>BRACING</u>
Axial load	Up to 3000 mm 10 feet	Two rows at 1/3 points
	Over 3000 mm 10 feet	Rows 900 mm 3'-4" o.c. maximum

3.3.3 Joists and Trusses

- a. Provide a stud directly under each joist or truss. The maximum spacing of studs as indicated shall be maintained.
- b. Install, bridge, and brace cold-formed steel trusses according to AISI S200, AISI S214, AISI's "Code of Standard Practice for Cold-Formed Steel Structural Framing," and manufacturer's written instructions unless more stringent requirements are indicated.
- c. Install temporary bracing and supports. Maintain braces and supports in place, undisturbed, until entire integrated supporting structure has been completed and permanent connections to framing are secured.
- d. Do not alter, cut, or remove framing members or connections of trusses.

3.3.4 Erection Tolerances

- a. Framing members which will be covered by finishes such as wallboard, plaster, or ceramic tile set in a mortar setting bed, shall be within the following limits:
 - (a) 1) Layout of walls and partitions: 6 mm 1/4 inch from intended position;
 - (b) 2) Plates and runners: 6 mm in 2400 mm 1/4 inch in 8 feet from a straight line;
 - (c) 3) Studs: 6 mm in 2400 mm 1/4 inch in 8 feet out of plumb, not cumulative; and
 - (d) 4) Face of framing members: 6 mm in 2400 mm 1/4 inch in 8 feet from a true plane.
- b. Framing members which will be covered by ceramic tile set in dry-set mortar, latex-portland cement mortar, or organic adhesive shall be within the following limits:
 - (a) 1) Layout of walls and partitions: 6 mm 1/4 inch from intended position;
 - (b) 2) Plates and runners: 3 mm in 2400 mm 1/8 inch in 8 feet from a straight line;
 - (c) 3) Studs: 3 mm in 2400 mm 1/8 inch in 8 feet out of plumb,

not cumulative; and

- (d) 4) Face of framing members: 3 mm in 2400 mm 1/8 inch in 8 feet from a true plane.

-- End of Section --