Prove the steel reinforcement conforms

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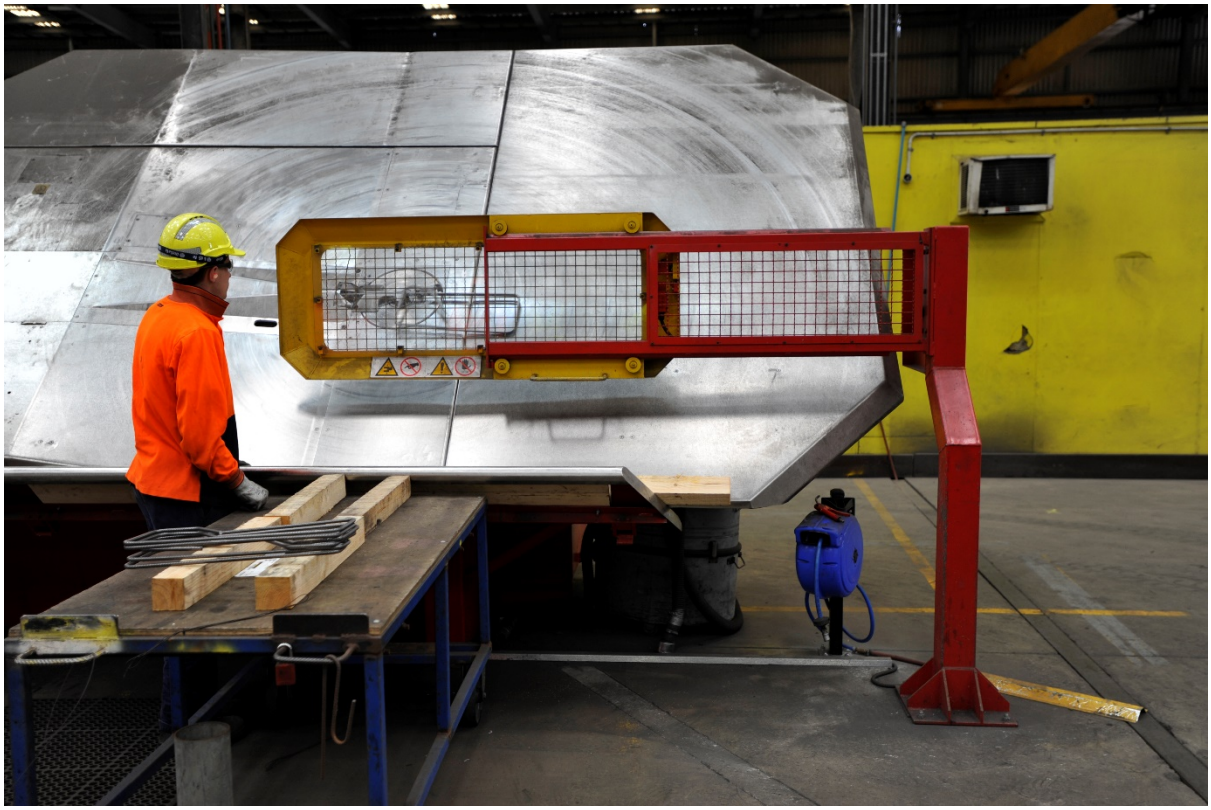
I recently presented to a group of engineers about the importance of **3rd party PROCESSOR certification** to guarantee the steel bar and mesh conforms to Australian Standards. After my presentation, an engineer came up to me and said:

> *I had no idea you needed a Processor Certificate. I've been relying on Mill Certification to prove reo product conformance.*

Unfortunately, the engineer was not alone. Builders, engineers, architects and surveyors are incorrectly relying on mill certificates to prove steel reinforcement product conformance.



The mechanical properties of steel reinforcement change when a bar is bent or straightened from a feed coil (most small-diameter bar sizes up to 20 mm are supplied by coil). Similarly, when bars are welded together to make a sheet of mesh the mechanical properties of the final product have changed.

Once the bar is processed or welded, a mill certificate can no longer be used to verify product conformance.

That's why the SRIA supports a nationally recognised JAS-ANZ accredited 3rd party certification scheme for Processors of steel reinforcement. Organisations, such as the Australian Certification Authority for Reinforcing and Structural Steels (ACRS) or equivalent, assess the conformance of processed bar and/or welded mesh and certify that it meets Australian Standards.

To help you specify steel reinforcement that conforms to AS/NZS 4671 Steel reinforcing materials, AS 3600 Concrete structures, AS 5100.5 Bridge design Part 5: Concrete, and AS 2870 Residential slabs and footings, **we recommend inserting the following specification on your drawings:**

A **3rd party processor certification** (ACRS or equivalent) must be supplied with all steel reinforcement at procurement, before any concrete is placed, to guarantee conformance of the reinforcement to Australian Standards.

Non – conforming building products endanger Australia's building industry. Don't take the risk.

Insert the above steel reinforcement specification on your drawings.