

process. This evaluation will include quality assurance reviews of shop drawings, material test reports, QC documentation, and shop QA inspection. The fabricator may also be evaluated by the District construction personnel on fit-up quality during field erection. If field evaluations are performed the results will be incorporated into OSE's final rating.

OSE shall perform random and/or specific QA inspections. OSE may choose to waive any or all parts of the QA inspection. OSE will also perform QA reviews of Contractor approved shop drawings and fabricators material test reports and documentation. The rating forms associated with each process are in the Appendix II of this specification.

The Fabricator shall perform QC and provide documentation for each main material member at specified check, hold or witness points ( Appendix II).

Check points require QC inspection and documentation by the fabricator before the fabrication process continues.

Hold points require QC inspection and documentation by the fabricator before QA inspection can be performed by OSE. The fabrication process can continue after QA inspection.

Witness points require concurrent QC inspection by the fabricator and QA inspection by OSE to physically witness the welding or nondestructive testing .

The results of OSE and field construction QA evaluations shall be the fabricator's rating. This rating shall be reported to the fabricator and shall effect the future qualification of the fabricator as follows:

**A Rated Fabricators:** Fabricators that perform fabrication resulting in ratings of 90% and above, based upon the average of five(5) consecutive reference numbers, within the last 36 months and with no individual rating less than 80% will be defined as an A rated fabricator. These fabricators shall have the A rating hold points and random QA inspection performed. The A rating hold point is a final shop inspection, prior to shipping or storage, for levels one thru five and all hold and witness points concerning level six. A single rating below 80%, or the average of five(5) consecutive ratings dropping below 90%, will result in the fabricator's pre-qualification being lowered to a B rating.

**B Rated Fabricators:** Fabricators that perform fabrication with ratings 89% to 80%, based upon the average of five(5) consecutive reference numbers, within the last 36 months and with no individual rating less than 70% will be defined as a B rated fabricator. These fabricators shall have all B rating hold points and random QA inspection performed. The B rating hold points are: Radiographic film review, Ultrasonic Inspection witnessing, and final shop inspection prior, to shipping or storage, for levels one thru five and all hold and witness points concerning level six. A single rating below 70%, or the average of five(5) consecutive ratings dropping below 80%, will result in the fabricator's pre-qualification being lowered to a C rating.

**C Rated Fabricators:** The C rating is an interim level for fabricators, newly approved, to validate their QC performance and upgrade to the Department's B and/or A rating level. These fabricators shall have all C rating hold points and random QA inspection performed. The C rating hold or witness points are: Radiographic film review, Ultrasonic Inspection witnessing, Magnetic Particle Inspection witnessing, prime painting inspection and final shop inspection prior to shipping or storage for levels one thru five and all hold or witness points concerning level six .

The C rating is not a permanent qualification level for fabricators. Fabricators who fail to achieve an average rating above 79% but average between 70% to 79% based on five(5) consecutive reference numbers within the last 36 months, with no individual rating less than 60%, will be reduced one level on the pre-qualification list. The reduced level fabricator shall then have three(3) additional consecutive reference numbers to be averaged with the previous five(5) to achieve a B rating. Fabricators that still do not achieve a B rating will result in removal from the pre-qualified fabricator list. Any time the average of three(3) consecutive ratings drops below 70%, the fabricator shall be removed from the Pre-qualified Fabricator List. The fabricator can request pre-qualification, 863.03, 36 months after removal.

Any rated fabricator that receives a single rating below 60% shall be removed from the Pre-qualified Fabricator List. The fabricator can request pre-qualification, 863.03, 36 months after removal.

**863.061 Fabricator Rating Review Process.** Fabricator may request in writing a reconsideration of the performance rating by a board created by the Department. The board shall be comprised of the Deputy Director, Division of Engineering Policy or his representative, the Administrator of the Office of Structural Engineering or his representative and the Chief Structural Steel Inspector from the Office of Structural Engineering. The board shall hear appeals concerning the Fabricator's performance rating on a specific bridge reference number. The board has no authority to hear appeals for revocation or suspension of a fabricator from the prequalification list.

Within ten days upon receipt of the Department's performance rating the Fabricator may write to the Office of Structural Engineering requesting that the board evaluate the rating. The Fabricator shall also submit additional documentation or evidence bearing on the performance of the work.

The Office of Structural Engineering shall schedule an informal hearing where the Fabricator shall have an opportunity to present Its case. The Department may have representatives at the hearing offering evidence in rebuttal. The board shall consider the evidence and issue its decision within fifteen days of the hearing.

**863.07 General.** All steel fabrication including the shop application of paint shall be performed in a Pre-qualified structural steel fabricating shop having permanent buildings of adequate size