

**STEEL FRAMING INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION OBSERVATION REPORT PROTOCOL****NONSTRUCTURAL FRAMING****GUIDELINES FOR THE INSPECTOR**

1. On site Observation Report by Recognized Engineer (PE) every year (prior to issuance of certification, or during the 12-month period prior to application for renewal of certification)
2. Framing (panel system or the project framing) to be at least 75% complete
3. Not everything on the following list must be observed. However, there some key items that must be evaluated.

Nonstructural applications, including:

- i. Composite vs. non-composite design
  - ii. Rough openings
  - iii. Fire / sound ratings
  - iv. Head-of-wall
  - v. Shaft walls
4. When reviewing an installation, first establish the area to be inspected on the project location and limit observation to that area. For example:
  - i.e. Third floor, Northwest Corner, specific wall type, floor type, or roof type
  - Observe installation practice with no comments as to design
5. Limitations:
  - This guide is limited to steel materials that can be verified.
  - This guide is limited to standard products contained in the Steel Framing Industry Association "**Technical Guide for Cold-formed Steel Framing Products.**" Nonstandard/proprietary products may have certain limitations and requirements beyond the scope of this document, but which are provided in manufacturer literature.
  - This guide is limited to conventional framing practices with stud framing spaced at 24" on center or less.

This guide should only be used as an aid to observing **structural cold- formed steel framing installations**. It is not intended to approve installation as to project design or to meet local building code requirements.

## Observation Checklist for Structural Applications

SFIA Contractor: \_\_\_\_\_

### About the Project / Assembly Inspected

Project Name/Identifier: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Observation: \_\_\_\_\_

#### 1. Observe Cold-formed steel track to stud interface

- Appropriate attachment of track to structure
- Appropriate top and bottom track
- Proper installation of top track to structural steel – spray fireproofing/stand-off clip

Comments \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

#### 2. Observe stud framing

- Size
- Mil thickness or gage
- Spacing
- Joist and rafter bracing
- Facing same direction with aligned knock-outs
- Attachment to track

Comments \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

(Observation report, Non-Structural, page 2, \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ )  
(project name/identifier) (date)

### 3. Observe lateral bracing

- Furred walls
- Chase walls
- As required to meet limiting heights

Comments \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

### 4. Observe allowance for structural movement

- At partition head
- At primary structural elements

Comments \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

### 5. Observe Rough openings

- Proper framing and installation

Comments \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

### 6. Observe resilient channel

- Type
- Spacing orientation

Comments \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

(Observation report, Structural, page 3, \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ )  
(project name/identifier) (date)

7. Observe allowance for fire / sound rating.

- Framing appropriate to specific tested assembly
- Stud/track interface meets specific test

Comments \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

8. Observe shaft conditions

- Framing installed as required
- Attention to fire-proofing
- Proper materials

Comments \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Attestation .....