

In collaboration with



ASSOCIATION OF
CONSULTING ENGINEERS
SINGAPORE



Our Ref: APPBCA-2025-18

22 Sep 2026

For enquiries, please contact:
Building Engineering Group (#10-01)
Tel: 1800 3425 222 (1800-DIAL-BCA)
or use our online feedback form at:
<https://www.bca.gov.sg/feedbackform/>

Dear Sir/Madam

CENTRAL REINFORCING STEEL REGISTRY – FRAMEWORK FOR CENTRALISED TESTING

Objective

This circular is to inform the industry of a proposed framework to streamline testing steel reinforcement bar (rebar) at project sites for rebars derived from the same supply sources produced under a permanent system of factory production control.

Background

2 This framework was jointly developed by the Prefabrication Association of Singapore for Precast and Steel Limited (PFAPS) and the Association of Consulting Engineers Singapore (ACES) in collaboration with the Building and Construction Authority (BCA).

3 Under the Building Control Act and Regulations, the Qualified Person (QP) has the statutory duty to ensure that construction materials such as rebars used for the reinforcement of concrete structures conform to the relevant material standards prescribed in the Approved Document.

4 In practice, steel mills carry out routine inspection and testing at the production stage according to the standard SS 560: Specification for steel for the reinforcement of concrete. Mill certificates issued for each batch of rebars are submitted to the project QP Supervision for compliance verification upon delivery of rebars at the construction site.

5 As part of the QP's responsibility in supervising building works, rebars delivered to the construction site are subject to random sampling and testing by accredited laboratories. However, testing frequency varies considerably across projects even when rebars are sourced

from the same supplier. Some sites also adopt similar testing frequencies used by steel mills for factory production control, and aligning these practices presents an opportunity to streamline the testing regime and support more sustainable construction practices.

Centralised testing framework

6 PFAPS, representing the majority of rebar fabricators in Singapore, has worked with ACES to develop a centralised testing framework for rebars and a Central Reinforcing Steel Registry to reduce repeated testing of rebars at construction sites. Under the framework, rebars will be tested when received by rebar fabricators, digitally certified and supply chain traceability captured in the Registry. This information will be available for verification by QPs and stakeholders who have purchased or using rebars from rebar fabricators who have adopted this new testing framework.

7 PFAPS will manage the Central Reinforcing Steel Registry for pre-tested steel, supported by procedures for independent sampling, accredited testing, digital traceability, audit records and governance measures to maintain confidence in the integrity of the registry. While the Registry provides assurance and easier verification of test records, QPs retain the discretion to require additional random rebar testing if they deem necessary.

Start of Framework

8 This Central Reinforcing Steel Registry framework will be implemented on 1 Oct 2026 for ongoing or new projects on a voluntary basis. Relevant stakeholders such as approved rebar fabricators, QPs and project teams are encouraged to participate and adopt this framework to benefit from the reduced testing of reinforcement bars at project sites. Participation in the framework does not alter the statutory responsibilities of the QP, who may continue to require additional testing where considered necessary.

9 Interested stakeholders and project parties can contact the following for further information.

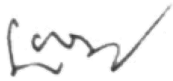
PREFABRICATION ASSOCIATION OF SINGAPORE FOR PRECAST AND STEEL LIMITED

Contact Person:
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For Clarification

10 We would appreciate if you could disseminate the contents of this circular to your members. Please contact us at Tel 1800-3425222 or through the online feedback form (<https://www.bca.gov.sg/feedbackform/>) should you need any clarification. Thank you.



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