



For Immediate Release

Contact: Laurie Farrell
Marketing Communications Manager
(202) 785-2022, x13
lfarrell@steel framing.org

LATEST SFA RESOURCE PUBLICATION AIMED AT ELECTRICIANS AND PLUMBERS
“How To” Guide Designed to Make Transition to Steel Framing Easier for Sub-Trades

Washington, D.C., June 12, 2008 – Electricians and plumbers should find it easier to work with steel framing now that the Steel Framing Alliance (SFA) has released “Steel Trade Contractor” as the latest in a family of resource guides. In addition to a comprehensive list of frequently asked questions for both electrical and plumbing contractors, this easy-to-read, illustrated booklet also features a checklist for steel trade contractors, information about “tools of the trade,” and even building code references for wiring and plumbing in steel framing.

While cold-formed steel has long been a favored framing material for commercial projects, its use in other segments has gained a lot of traction in the past several years for its durability, sustainability and cost-competitiveness in multifamily and mid-rise structures especially. Thanks to the valuable input of veterans in the field, Larry Williams, SFA, president, says “Steel Trade Contractor” should be a big help to those electrical and plumbing subcontractors who are new to steel framing.

“When we developed this guide, we talked to a number of veterans from both the electrical and plumbing trades who are now successfully installing their systems in steel-framed structures. But first they had to become familiar with a framing system they had not previously worked with. Like anyone who tries something new, there’s going to be a learning curve,” Mr. Williams said. “But with some pre-planning, the use of pre-manufactured punchouts in steel-framed studs and now all of the construction methods and tips covered in our new guide, anyone can learn to work with steel framing as easily as they learned to work with other framing systems.”

“Steel Trade Contractor Guide” is now available on the Steel Framing Alliance’s Web site as a FREE download at www.steel framing.org (look for it under “Quick Links”). The SFA’s comprehensive menu of educational programs and resource materials makes it easy to learn current best practices for design and construction. In addition to training curriculums and seminars, these resources include technical notes, design guides and specifications, and “how to” guides such as “A Builder’s Guide to Steel-Frame Construction.”

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Funding support for “Steel Trade Contractor Guide” was also provided by the Steel Stud Manufacturers Association (SSMA). For more information, contact the Steel Framing Alliance at (202) 785-2022 or visit www.steel framing.org.

About the Steel Framing Alliance

The Steel Framing Alliance (SFA) was established and is funded by the steel framing industry, and charged with enabling and encouraging the growth of cold-formed steel framing in both the residential and commercial construction markets. In addition to education and training, research and solutions development, and supporting the development of codes and standards for steel framing, SFA activities include marketing and promotion, technical services, and special initiatives that continue to improve the competitive position of steel framing. Headquartered in Washington, D.C., the SFA has more than 1,700 corporate, organizational and individual members representing the full spectrum of trades, professions and virtually every product category within the construction industry.

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