



Government
of South Australia
Department of
State Development

South Australian Steel Industry Small Grant Scheme

August 2016

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DOCUMENT CONTROL

Managed by Division:	Office of the Industry Advocate	Approved by:	Industry Participation Advocate	File number:	A839610
				Version No:	1.0
Contact position:	Director, Office of the Industry Advocate	Date effective:	12 September 2016	Status:	CURRENT
Responsible position:	Director, Office of the Industry Advocate	Scheduled review date:	30 June 2020	Security classification:	UNCLASSIFIED 'For Official Use Only'

APPROVED

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1. Introduction

The Australian steel industry is under pressure from a global over supply of steel which is leading to a combination of unfair competition from abroad and a rapid downturn in iron ore and steel prices. For the Australian steel sector to remain competitive, viable and profitable, it needs to produce at (or near) capacity and sell as much of its product as possible into the domestic market.

The South Australian Steel Initiative is designed to give the local steel industry a competitive advantage against low quality imports.

Additionally, the policy mandates the use of third party certified Australian standard steel and steelwork on projects funded by the South Australian Government to create a “quality benchmark” based on compliance to Australian Standards and proven capability to supply certified product into SA Government projects.

Steelwork procured for public works in South Australia will be required to be supplied by independently verified fabricators who are capable of meeting quality requirements to ensure its quality and safety. The policy is designed to lift the capability and productivity of S.A. fabricator and manufacturer suppliers in the infrastructure and general structural construction sectors of the market.

These structural applications represent the areas of highest risk in infrastructure and construction and therefore are most at risk of systemic failure, rectification or premature maintenance. Ensuring that the work is undertaken by quality compliant suppliers is critical to meeting the design intent of government.

2. South Australian Steel Industry Small Grants Scheme

The South Australian Steel Industry Small Grants Scheme provides grant funding to steel fabrication businesses, based in South Australia, for:-

- The full cost of the first stage of SCA Certification to Construction Category 1, being a desktop audit (approx. \$1500);
- Approximately fifty percent of the cost of the second stage to achieve SCA Certification to Construction Category 2, being a physical site audit (to \$2,500); and
- Small grants of up to \$10,000 for business capability development assistance to fabricators undertake business development work required to achieve their desired level of SCA certification.

Information about the SCA and the Construction Categories can be found at <http://www.scacompliance.com.au/>.

3. Roles and Responsibilities

3.1. Australian Steel Institute

The Australian Steel Institute (ASI) has been contracted by the Office of the Industry Advocate to administer the Grants Scheme, reporting to the Steel Industry Advisory Panel (made up of Industry and Union representatives) and the Industry Participation Advocate.

For more information about the Grants Scheme, or to apply for a grant, please contact David Ryan on 0407 819 645 or davidr@steel.org.au.

3.2. Office of the Industry Advocate

The Office of the Industry Advocate (OIA) is responsible for providing oversight of the Grants Scheme.

4. National and International Agreements

The South Australian Industry Participation and the Steel Initiative operate within the context of relevant national and international agreements and procurement policies to which South Australia is a signatory including the Australia and New Zealand Government Procurement Agreement (ANZGPA). Consistent with these agreements, the policy does not mandate local content levels or provide unfair preferential treatment for local suppliers. It is a policy that focuses on capital investment, labour, supply chain opportunities and the associated economic contribution to the State.

5. Monitoring and Evaluation

The OIA will monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of the Grants Scheme.

The ASI will report progress against key performance indicators associated with the Grants scheme quarterly to the Steel Industry Advisory Panel.

6. Document Review

The OIA will review this document annually.

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For more information visit

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