

Prefabricated buildings, modules, and panels: Inspections and certification

Convenient certification services through expert-led inspection activities

Prefabricated buildings, modules, and panels are built off site in a factory and can be completed in just weeks instead of months, making them faster to create than structures built entirely on site. Without the delays and challenges on-site builds typically encounter. Prefabricated buildings, modules, and panels are an efficient alternative; they are also a green building option growing in popularity for both residential and commercial applications. Manufacturers must meet extensive requirements, guidelines, and building codes specifically developed for prefabricated buildings, modules, and panels.

Understanding the requirements for manufacturing prefabricated buildings, modules, and panels

Knowing the requirements of the applicable standards in advance can ensure that the plans developed for a prefabricated building represent a model that can be certified via the proper inspection activities. CSA Group is well versed in the standards and building codes impacting prefabricated buildings, modules, and panels. Our experts can walk you through everything you need to know regarding the relevant Canadian standards before manufacturing begins.

CSA Group is an accredited organization for assessment of conformance with the following standards:

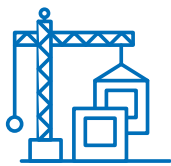
- CSA A277 Procedure for certification of prefabricated buildings, modules, and panels
- CSA Z240MH Series manufactured homes

Completing the inspection and certification process

CSA Group certifiers conduct a manufacturing location inspection to ensure that building practices are in line

with what is required by the applicable codes(s) and standard(s). Our experts inspect the construction, quality control program, electrical, HVAC, and plumbing of prefabricated buildings, modules, and panels. The complete inspection and certification process includes:

1. Review of design drawings
2. Quote provided by CSA Group
3. Completion of construction review
4. Completion of Quality Control (QC) systems review
5. Scheduling and completion of the first inspection at the rough-in phase
6. Review of non-conformance issues
7. Scheduling the second inspection, once non-conformance issues are addressed
8. Completion of the second inspection at the final complete/walkthrough stage
9. Issuance of certification and inspection labels, once second inspection and final walkthrough is completed/passed and certification has been granted by CSA Group



Did you know?

Prefabricated buildings, modules, and panels are often built with environmentally friendly materials and best practices and are more energy efficient than traditional structures.

Working with an experienced certification and inspection provider

CSA Group certifiers and inspectors have decades of experience evaluating structures according to the requirements of a wide range of applicable standards and provincial building codes. Our knowledge in this area allows us to support various types of projects with unique certification and inspection needs. As a recognized certification mark in North America, the CSA mark is widely accepted by Authorities Having Jurisdiction (AHJs), manufacturers, and retailers.

Factory inspection program

CSA Group offers certification for common factory-built structures, such as prefabricated buildings, modules, and panels. Our convenient factory inspection program allows us to approve locations to construct certified structures that are built according to local and provincial requirements. This gives buyers the recognition required for regulatory approval and to obtain insurance for their new home or building. After a factory is inspected and becomes certified, the CSA mark can be applied to additional units built, without the need to have each unit inspected.

CSA Group's wide range of services and inspection programs can keep your projects moving without costly delays. Many AHJs also don't have the expertise to perform quality program inspections which are crucial to the manufacturing process. With CSA Group's factory inspection program, you can schedule builds more freely because you do not have to schedule inspections with the AHJ on each of the builds.

Technical Information Service

Through CSA Group's Technical Information Service, our experts can review your drawings or initial plans to see if a product would be a good fit for certification. This service includes meeting with a certifier to discuss the standard requirements prior to opening a certification project to help determine if any potential issues need to be addressed before you start building the structure in your factory.

Why CSA Group?

When you work with CSA Group, you will interact directly with the certifier assigned to your project. This gives you access to a wealth of technical expertise in the standards that affect your business. Our direct-contact approach helps your compliance testing run efficiently.

In the unfortunate event of a failure or non-compliance, our experts provide reports to help you understand where the product did not meet the requirements.

The CSA Group Difference

Rely on an internationally recognized company with over 100 years of expertise and knowledge. From our early beginnings facilitating standards development for railway bridges to today's latest sustainable technologies, we are always looking forward, facilitating new standards and creating innovative testing programs for the most advanced and emerging technologies. Drawing on our industry accreditations, our customer-focused experts can meet your unique testing, inspection, and certification needs. That is how we are committed to your business.

Let's work together

Put CSA Group's industry-leading knowledge and experience to work for you.

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