Thank you for downloading the SEANM Special Inspections package. In this package you will find this overview of Special Inspections, AutoCAD file with the Schedule of Structural Special Inspections tables for you to include with your construction drawings for buildings that require Special Inspections, the Special Inspections Program document with instructions and recommendations to assist you to prepare technical specifications and to administer the construction when Special Inspections are required, and sample documents that you or the Special Inspectors may use during construction (Statement of Special Inspections Agreement, Special Inspections Record, Special Inspections Daily Report, Special Inspections Weekly Report, Special Inspections Discrepancy Notice, and Special Inspections Final Report).

The Structural Engineers Association of New Mexico Committee on Special Inspections has strived to insure accuracy of the Special Inspections documents offered on this website. However, design professionals that choose to use the subject documents assume all liability and responsibility for their use. By downloading the New Mexico Guideline Program for Special Structural Inspections and Testing and associated forms for Special Inspections, the design professional of record assumes binding responsibility for the accuracy of the content.

When using the AutoCAD tables, we ask that you only change the entries in the columns labeled “Special Inspection Required”. Insert these model-space tables into your drawings with sheet title blocks prepared for your project. All other table entries, their order and position, code references, etc. should remain as shown to insure uniformity of practice throughout the State and to make it easier for building officials and contractors to readily see what special inspections are and are not required for any project.

You will note that the Schedule of Special Inspections tables include only those Special Inspection items pertinent to the building structure. You should encourage the architect and the mechanical/electrical consultants to provide for Special Inspection requirements in their drawings for those few items (in blue, below) that require Special Inspections appropriate to their disciplines.

We intend that these documents be instruments that evolve to fit our community's needs. Therefore, we strongly encourage you to provide us with feedback about changes you would like to see, things that worked well or poorly with your use of these instruments and any other comments you feel would be helpful in our efforts to make the process of Special Inspection work well. Please send your comments to secretary@seanm.org.

SPECIAL INSPECTIONS — AN OVERVIEW

There are several areas of construction regulated by the International Building Code® (IBC®) where special inspections are mandatory. These inspections are to verify that work
that is considered critical to life safety and property protection is being or has been
constructed according to the approved plans and specifications. These special inspections are
in addition to the typical municipal inspections required by the building department that are
specified in Section 109 or specific structural observation as may be required by Section
1709. Section 1704 details when special inspections are required and for what types of work.
The registered design professional is required to prepare a Statement of Special Inspections
that outlines the special inspections to be performed.

A special inspector is a person who has been approved by the building official to perform
certain types of inspection as detailed in IBC Section 1704. Section 1704.1 of the IBC
requires the owner or the registered design professional acting as the owner's agent to
provide for specially qualified inspectors. The approval of these inspectors must be accepted
by the registered design professional, the owner, and the building official.

Special inspections requirements in the IBC are comprehensive and consist of fifteen major
categories. Eleven of those categories concern the structure that you design. Three
categories are the responsibility of the architect or other consultants. One category, when
required by the building official, may entail any of the design disciplines. The major
categories requiring Special Inspections are as follows:

1. Inspection of fabricators — (IBC Section 1704.2),
2. Steel construction — (IBC Section 1704.3),
3. Concrete construction — (IBC Section 1704.4),
4. Masonry construction — (IBC Section 1704.5),
5. Wood construction — (IBC Section 1704.6),
6. Soils — (IBC Section 1704.7),
7. Pile foundations — (IBC Section 1704.8),
8. Pier foundations — (IBC Section 1704.9),
9. Sprayed fire-resistant materials — (IBC Sections 1704.10.1 through 1704.10.5),
10. Mastic and intumescent fire-resistant coatings — (IBC Section 1704.11),
11. Exterior insulation and finish systems (EIFS) — (IBC Section 1704.12),
12. Special cases as required by the building official — (IBC Section 1704.13),
13. Smoke control — (IBC Section 1704.14),
14. Special inspection for Seismic Resistance — (IBC Section 1705.3), and
15. Special inspection for Wind Resistance — (IBC Section 1705.4).