



## **Why OSSFA Form 11.2 Was Created & An Introduction.**

**(2 pages)**

OSSFA Form #11.2 was created in consultation with many Industry members and other Associations. We have spent 18 months in preparing this document. We want to work better with our Industry partners. Our end goal is to be the best partners we can be for General Contractors, Consultants and their clients. We have addressed specific issues that are common when tendering structural steel. We have found common ground on many issues. I think you would agree from experience, that bidding structural steel is a very complex task that needs to be transparent and includes standardized bidding practices. We would like to avoid disputes, perform our work professionally and efficiently, with understanding and we realized we need to educate our clients and consultants with our exact scope of work, clearly defining what we include, what we do not include and what we need to get the job done properly, on budget and on time. We recently completed this document and members are now starting to use it and include it with their bids. You will see this document come on-stream more and more in the future.

OSSFA only helps facilitate the policy(s) as requested by our 36 members. OSSFA also has seen a clear need for this document in our Construction Industry.

In general, there is nothing new with this OSSFA Form 11.2. We as the Structural steel Industry in Ontario have been working this way for many years. The initial talks with Industry professionals have been positive. By working together and understanding each other, we can avoid arguments and project delays. The entire Construction Industry wants this. By all of us working together and understand the dangers, liabilities and general complexities of the structural steel Trade we can achieve so much more.

Further, we now have a new Lien Act and Prompt Payment/ Adjudication changes coming and as such, it's a good time to help our members and Industry partners understand the work we perform and the new legislation we are all working to.

### **5 Reasons for OSSFA Form 11.2:**

1. PEO Guidelines- we are upholding the values and standards as set by the PEO- Professional Engineers of Ontario. With respect to the Engineering profession. We want to make Engineers accountable, giving us all the required engineering documents and information that we need to deliver a quality product to our clients.

Continued... 5 Reasons for OSSFA Form 11.2:

We need our shop drawings fully reviewed and all questions answered to start fabrication. This has been a challenge for many years and the PEO has created a much-needed guideline booklet for licensed Ontario Engineers/ Architects to use. We want them and our clients to know what we need and what we expect. Again- what we expect is what PEO calls for! But in some cases, we get missing information, incomplete drawings and little or delayed cooperation and we are blamed for delaying the project? Not fair is it.

2. Education- Our belief is that if we educate each other- it is for the common good of working better together, fewer issues arise when we all are educated to the highest possible level and therefore the project team wins. This is what we want and expect moving forward. OSSFA Form #11.2 was created to help the entire construction Industry understand our Trade, work better and more efficiently together. Going through these steps as presented by OSSFA Form #11.2 will remind all of us on what we all need to do- working together. Everybody wins!
3. Scope: We typically have 6 projects to bid a week, sometimes more. Each bid comes with hundreds of pages of conditions, clauses and specifications that can be contradicting and often are confusing as they always note to use the most stringent specification even if not correct or applicable for the specific project? In our view this cut & paste specification system doesn't work properly or give the owner the best value solution for the project. We are properly defining the way we work and best practices we follow doing our work. We also define what specific steel we supply and what is supplied by others. Its only Fair.
4. Delivery of steel. Our Fabricator members want to perform and deliver. We want to fabricate the steel to a high-quality standard, accurately the first time. We need specific items supplied to be able to deliver our steel products properly. Thus, we need to tell our clients exactly what we need, when and why, to deliver on time.
5. Trade Associations- Until recently structural steel fabricators did not have their own Trade specific Association- in Ontario. We now have OSSFA to represent our best interests for a fair and professional approach to our work. We have unique challenges in Ontario, and we want to educate our members and our Industry partners on how we operate and thus avoid bidding problems and arguments down the road.

OSSFA – Ontario Structural Steel Fabricators Association

We serve our entire Structural Steel Fabrication Industry for a better and safer tomorrow.