

August 2023

“Buy America”, “Buy American” and “Build America, Buy America” Requirements for Steel Framing

In the steel framing industry, what is often referred to as “Buy America” or “Buy American” in regards to direct contracts with the federal government and projects by state or local governments funded by federal grants are really a multitude of statutory and regulatory requirements.

Typically, **“Buy American”** refers to the *Buy American Act of 1933 (BAA)*. The BAA also may be modified by the Trade Agreements Act (TAA). List as follows:

1. Buy American Act of 1933 (BAA)
2. Trade Agreements Act (TAA)

Typically, **“Buy America”** refers to the *Buy America, Surface Transportation Act of 1982*. However there are five other regulations with very similar provisions that are commonly referred to as “Buy America”. List as follows:

1. Buy America, Surface Transportation Assistance Act of 1982 (STAA)
2. American Iron and Steel Requirements (AIS) (part of Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2014)
3. Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) (49 U.S.C. 50101)
4. Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) (49 U.S.C. 24405)
5. National Railroad Passenger Corporation (AMTRAK) (49 U.S.C. 24305)
6. Federal Transit Administration (FTA) (49 U.S.C. 5323)

Finally, there are relatively new statutes that do not fall neatly under the Buy America/Buy American Act descriptions. These new statutes, however, have similar requirements related to the content of steel or iron products. These are:

1. Build America, Buy America Act (BABA) (part of Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act)
2. Inflation Reduction Act (applies to qualified clean energy projects)

To meet these requirements, we will need to know the following information BEFORE we process the order:

- Which regulatory requirements listed above apply to this project? (Mark all applicable regulations and email along with your order so we can meet your project needs)
- Complete the Project Information Table on page 2 below.
- Email both pages to your ClarkDietrich Sales representative and/or support@clarkdietrich.com.

As you can see, these are very complex regulatory requirements, and we will seek more specific information about your project depending on the selection(s) you make above to make sure we fulfill your order correctly. If you have questions or comments, please contact our Technical Services Department at 888-437-3244.

NOTE: If you cannot supply us with this information, the only way we can certify that the steel meets the prerequisites is to supply you with steel framing that complies with the most demanding requirements of any regulatory act above.

Best Regards,

Adam Shoemaker, CSI, CDT, LEED® AP BD+C

Corporate Sustainability Manager

Project Information Table

Status (check current stage):	Quoted,	Ordered,	Delivered
Project Name:			
Project Address:			
Description of Project:			
Project Funding Source (if known):			
Distributor: Name:			
Address:			
Phone:			
E-mail:			
Contractor: Name:			
Address:			
Phone:			
E-mail:			
General Notes or Comments			