

Specification Resources:

Construction Specifications Institute(CSI)

Section 05700 covers ornamental metalwork. Railings are typically specified as 05720. All other metalwork, including nonferrous, is wedged between 05720 and 05999. To purchase the MasterSpec and other formatting publications, visit CSI's Publications (www.csinet.org/s_csi/index.asp) Area.

Book:

Wrought Iron In Architecture

Old but timeless, this 72-year-old publication features a six-page section on wrought iron specifications in the back. In addition, there is plenty of additional information in this book, which makes it a "must have" for any ornamental metal specifier. It can be ordered directly from the NOMMA Education Foundation Publications (www.nomma.org/forms/publications2003.cfm) Area.



National Association of Architectural Metal Manufacturers (NAAMM)

-This organization publishes two helpful books:

- The Metal Stairs Manual contains a final chapter titled "Recommended Voluntary Standards and Guide Specifications." The 15-page section provides a sample specification sheet shown in the proper CSI format.
- The Pipe Railing Systems Manual contains a 14-page specification section for pipe and tube railing systems.



Both publications can be ordered online at the NAAMM Website (www.naamm.org).

NOMMA Member Websites

A few NOMMA suppliers have specification guides on their websites. A click to the links below will take you directly to these areas:

- Julius Blum & Co. (www.juliusblum.com/pdf/guide/BlumGuideSpecs.pdf) -The company offers a free 6-page Specification Guide, which is available in .pdf format.
- J.G.Braun Co. (www.jgbraun.com/guidespecs.html) -These specs may be cut and pasted, or there is a downloadable version in Microsoft Word format.

Tips:

Joints- Specifying the degree of finish on joints is a big problem area, mainly because terms like "polished welds" have different meanings to every person. NOMMA has helped the situation by publishing the Joint Finish Guideline (www.archirondesign.com/arch_new/library/pdfs/jointfinish.pdf), which shows four different quality levels for a welded joint. Keep in mind that the amount of finishing desired on a weld joint can greatly influence price.

Anchorage- Preset anchors are much more difficult to work with and may result in increased costs and delays.

Finishes- Specifications should not only include type of paint, but also degree of grinding or polishing. Polished finishes should be specified by standard industry grades or grit size. Anodized finishes should be quoted by a specific number. In many cases, a fabricator will provide a sample before coating the entire project. As with any job, clear specifications and good communication will cut off most problems "at the pass." Other more detailed items to consider are the gauge of the metal, whether bar or hollow tubing should be used, and the type of priming (if any).



New At This?

Metal: Design & Fabrication is a 1998 book available from Amazon.com (www.amazon.com/exec/obidos/subst/home/home.html/102-1893379-8910569). It provides architects and designers with basic information on designing, detailing, and specifying metalwork for various applications. It also describes the various fabrication processes. By better understanding metalwork, you can think about how the work might be better built while still in the design stage. To find the book at Amazon, search by ISBN number: 0823030342