



**TECHNICAL MEMORANDUM 001**  
(consists of 4 pages)  
**SITE INSPECTION EXPECTATIONS**  
**BASIC STEEL WORKS SUPPORTS OVER OPENINGS**

When we receive requests to inspect building work in progress, where they specifically relate to the provision of new steel beams, lintols, or any other structural members placed over an opening, we have the following basic expectations :

1. The beams fitted including all parts and bearing whether using concrete padstones or steel bearer plates must be fitted in accordance with your structural engineers designs. Where any change is observed or has been carried out without notification or permission from your designers, we will expect to receive updated structural calculations and plans.
2. The beam end bearings must be exposed, clearly visible, and the designed end bearings carried out as per your engineers designs.
3. If you have placed new steel beams or lintols which have been covered over by cement renders, encasements or otherwise covered , you will be required to open up those works for inspection purposes.

**RESPONSIBILITY FOR COMPLIANCE (Regulation 7: Building Regulations)** – It remains at all times that responsibility for carrying out building work that is compliant, and carried out in accordance with compliant professionally prepared plans is an obligation placed upon the building contractor, project managers, any owner appointed professional agent (Architects, Surveyors etc), and ultimately the building owner.

The following images are example of good practice for our purposes.

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**Building Control Surveyors Ltd (Corporate Approved Inspectors)**

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**001 A GOOD EXAMPLE OF A STEEL BEAM BEARING POCKET MADE READY FOR INSPECTION :** Steel beam (painted red) with end bearing 100mm into a party wall, on a mild steel plate (unpainted). The brickwork has been cut using a diamond tipped rotary disc to produce a clean cut with minimal disruption to the brickwork.



**002 A GOOD EXAMPLE OF STEEL BEAM CONNECTION :** Steel beam bolts clearly visible



**003 A GOOD EXAMPLE OF STEEL BEAM CONNECTION :** Steel beam connection splice bolts clearly visible



**004 A GOOD EXAMPLE OF STEEL BEAM RESTING ON A CONCRETE PADSTONE :** Steel beam resting on a cast in situ concrete padstone which rests onto dense concrete blockwork walls.



**005 A GOOD EXAMPLE OF CONCRETE LINTOL FITTED OVER A WINDOW OPENING:** The lintol bearings in this image are clearly visible .

**This document only provides a very general overview of your responsibility to carry out compliant work, you should seek advice from your professional designers.**