

MOBILE/MANUFACTURED HOME CONSTRUCTION STANDARDS

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) began to regulate the construction of mobile/manufactured homes in 1976 pursuant to the provisions of the National Manufactured Housing Construction and Safety Standards Act of 1974. In accordance with this law, HUD promulgated the [Manufactured Housing Construction and Safety Standards](#) in 1976; Title 24 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), Part 3280. Section 320.823, Florida Statutes (F.S.), provides that any mobile/ manufactured home sold in Florida must conform to these standards. Copies of these standards may be ordered from:

Institute for Building Technology and Safety (IBTS)
505 Huntmar Park Drive, Suite 210
Herndon, Virginia 22070
Telephone: (703) 481-2000

Copies of the standards may also be obtained from the HUD's Manufactured Housing Program website on the Internet at the following address:

<http://www.hud.gov/offices/hsg/ramh/mhs/mhshome.cfm/>

In 1994, HUD amended the Manufactured Housing Construction and Safety Standards to provide for greater protection for mobile/manufactured homes from wind damage. During the severe hurricane seasons of 2004 and 2005, no mobile/manufactured home that was built after these new standards went into effect sustained any significant structural damage from the storms.

Regulation of Mobile/Manufactured Home Construction

HUD established a framework for regulating mobile/manufactured home construction in administrative rules they promulgated for this purpose. These regulations are contained in [24 CFR, Part 3282](#). These regulations established the responsibilities of mobile/manufactured home manufacturers, states and other organizations in ensuring that mobile/manufactured homes are built to be as safe as possible.

Requirement for a Design Approval Primary Inspection Agency (DAPIA)

In order to ensure that mobile/manufactured home manufacturers construct homes that are in compliance with HUD's Manufactured Housing Construction and Safety Standards, they must employ a Design Approval Primary Inspection Agency (DAPIA) pursuant to 24 CFR, Section 3282.203. These are essentially engineering firms that must certify that the designs of mobile/manufactured homes are consistent with the standards. There are five such firms and one state agency that perform this function.

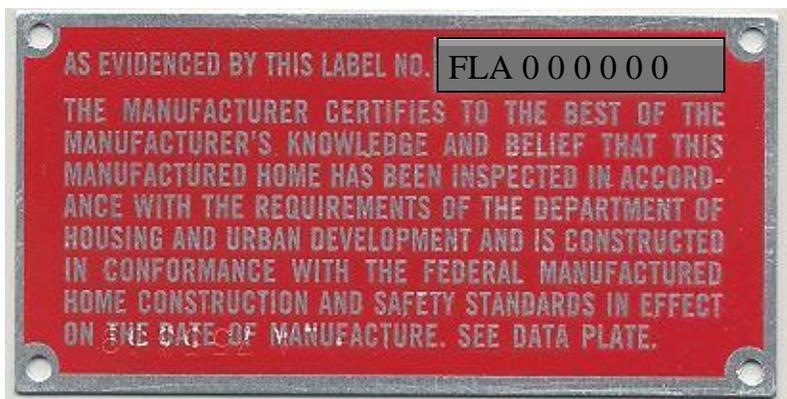
Requirement for a Production Inspection and Primary Inspection Agency (IPIA)

In addition, manufacturers are held accountable for building homes that are compliant with HUD's standards by agents of HUD which are referred to as Production Inspection and Primary Inspection Agencies (IPIA) pursuant to 24 CFR, Section 3282.351. The Bureau of Mobile Home and Recreational Vehicle Construction (BMHRVC) is such an agent. The IPIA is responsible for certifying manufacturing plants before they can begin operations and for routinely inspecting manufacturing in the plants to ensure that they are in compliance with the Manufactured Housing Construction and Safety Standards. There are 10 states in which a state agency acts as the IPIA. In the other states where mobile/manufactured home manufacturing occurs, the IPIA is a private company. There are five such companies.

Mobile/Manufactured Home Labels

HUD Label Display: Every mobile/manufactured home must receive a HUD label certifying that it was built in accordance with the Federal Manufactured Housing Construction and Safety Standards. Pursuant to 24 CFR, Section 3280.11, the label shall be approximately 2 inches by 4 inches in size and shall be permanently attached to the home by means of 4 blind rivets, drive screws, or other means that render it difficult to remove without defacing it. It shall be etched on 0.32 inches thick aluminum plate. The label number shall be etched or stamped with a 3 letter designation which identifies the Production Inspection and Primary Inspection Agency (IPIA) for the state in which the home is manufactured. Each label shall also be marked with a 6 digit number which the label supplier will furnish. The label shall be located at the tail-light end of each transportable section of the home approximately one foot up from the floor and one foot in from the road side.

HUD LABEL



Color: Red Metal