READY TO INSPECT — STANDARD FIELD GUIDE

PCI

Precast/Prestressed Concrete Institute

PCI guidance covers precast and prestressed concrete: how panels, beams and double-tees are handled, set and tied into the structure. The pieces arrive finished, so the field questions are about how they land and connect: is the bearing right, are the connections welded or bolted as detailed, is the grout placed and cured. A misplaced bearing or an ungrouted keyway is far harder to fix once the next piece is on top.

What it covers

- Erection sequence, setting and temporary bracing until connections are made
- Bearing length, bearing pads and seating at supports
- Connections: weld plates, bolted seats and embed alignment
- Grouting of keyways, joints and bearing pockets
- Erection tolerances, handling damage and the finished surface

What a field inspection looks at

- Bearing photographed at each seat with the length and pad visible, since a short bearing is a structural defect hidden by the piece above.
- Connections photographed made up: weld plates welded, bolts torqued, embeds lined up with the detail.
- Grouting photographed placed and consolidated in keyways and pockets, not left as a gap behind a clean face.
- Temporary bracing photographed in place until the permanent connection carries the piece.
- Handling chips, spalls and cracks photographed and referred to the engineer rather than patched over quietly.

Adoption varies by jurisdiction. Confirm the edition your authority having jurisdiction enforces before you run a walk against it.