



## **Bridgeport Fittings Summary Interpretation Comments: American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 Buy American Act**

### *General Commentary*

The interpretation comments provided herein are solely based on Bridgeport's research pertaining to the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009 and the Buy American Act. Every attempt has been made to accurately portray the information herein but please be advised the following is our interpretation of the various acts. The actual ARRA and Buy American Act should be consulted for accuracy and fact; ultimately this documents and those individuals responsible for implementing requirements have the final say as to what is permitted and what is not permitted.

This document covers the *GENERAL* commentary; there are three commentary sections available:

- **General:** This section highlights the ARRA and Buy American Act
- **Buy American:** Pertains to the requirement to Buy American and Construction Materials
- **Zinc as an Acceptable Material:** Dialogues Federal Specification Acceptance of Zinc

### **GENERAL**

The reader should be advised that the ARRA of 2009 and the Buy American Act are two separate, but related Acts initiated by the Federal Government.

The **ARRA of 2009** was signed into law on February 17, 2009 by President Obama. Since the Act's signing, the Executive Office of the President has issued several memorandums on implementation guidance for the ARRA. The original Act contains a very specific reference to "Buy American"; this is contained within Section 1605 of the Act. The guideline memorandums provide further detail and will be discussed under 'Buy American' section of this document.

- The following link provides the full text for the 'American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009' dated January 6, 2009:

[http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/getdoc.cgi?dbname=111\\_cong\\_bills&docid=f:h1enr.pdf](http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/getdoc.cgi?dbname=111_cong_bills&docid=f:h1enr.pdf)

Note: Reference to "Buy American" - See Section 1605 page H.R.1-189

The **Buy American Act** was originally passed in 1933 and signed by President Hoover. This Act required the use of U.S. made products in the government's purchases. Since its signing, several



reciprocal agreements have been signed to allow products from other than the U.S. to be used in the government's purchases; these reciprocal agreements are Free Trade Agreements with several countries (example: **U.S.-Canada Free Trade Agreement**). Additionally, the World Trade Organization (WTO) agreement on Governmental Procurement 1996, allows for purchases of certain goods by the U.S. government from member countries.

- Web link reference: Subpart 25.2 – Buy American Act – Construction Materials

[http://www.arnet.gov/far/current/html/Subpart%2025\\_2.html](http://www.arnet.gov/far/current/html/Subpart%2025_2.html)