## THOUGHT LEADERSHIP

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## **Industry**

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## **Professional**

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## Shop Drawings and Submittals 101 from the Contractor's Perspective

The American Institute of Architects (AIA) family of contracts defines shop drawings as drawings, diagrams, schedules and other data specially prepared by a distributor, supplier, manufacturer, subcontractor or contractor to show some part of the work. Submittals, which include shop drawings and other administrative documents, are how the contractor communicates what it intends to construct or what it or its subcontractors have designed. The shop drawing review and approval process formalizes the method for a contractor to demonstrate how it will accomplish these design obligations. The submittal process also allows the design professional to review the design and make sure they comply with the design intent.