

## RECOMMENDED TOOLS AND ACCESSORIES

### 2.1 Tools & Accessories List

- ◆ Hand saw or short shark tooth saw
- ◆ Skill saw
- ◆ Keyhole saw
- ◆ Table saw (optional, for convenience)
- ◆ Hammer drill, cordless drill
- ◆ Rebar tie tool
- ◆ Hot knife or Hot Knife Kit combo\*
- ◆ Hammer
- ◆ Framing square
- ◆ Concrete trowel
- ◆ Level
- ◆ Tape measure
- ◆ Transit or laser level
- ◆ Mason's line and chalk line
- ◆ Rebar bender and cutter
- ◆ Wall alignment (bracing) system\*
- ◆ Scaffold planks
- ◆ Concrete pencil vibrator, 1" maximum
- ◆ External vibrator (Arkie Wall Banger)\*
- ◆ Foam guns, foam, and foam cleaner\*
- ◆ Work gloves
- ◆ Sun Screen
- ◆ Broom and floor scraper

\*These tools and accessories are available from BuildBlock. See [www.buildblock.com/products.asp](http://www.buildblock.com/products.asp) for details and purchasing information.

### Bracing / Wall Alignment Systems

Bracing ICF walls is vital. See Section 9 of this manual for details. There are many bracing systems available through BuildBlock. For details, visit our website at [www.buildblock.com](http://www.buildblock.com) and select the Products tab.



### Bucking

There are just a few options regarding the materials to use to "buck" the openings in ICF walls. **Treated lumber** and the **Vbuck® Vinyl Block-out System** are the most widely used options. BuildBlock recommends **Vbuck** because it keeps organic compounds out of the project. It wraps the block for a tight seal and creates dead air space baffles between the concrete and the opening. You can order **Vbuck** from BuildBlock and it will be delivered along with your ICFs. See Section 8 of this manual for details.



**RECOMMENDED TOOLS AND ACCESSORIES, CONT.**

## Hot Knives and Accessories

Hot knife kits come with the knife, the sled to stabilize the cut, and an array of blades to get the job done. Electrical boxes, grooves for wiring and the new radius blade makes short work of electrical, plumbing, and radius concerns in ICFs. Available from Wind-lock and BuildBlock. (See details at [www.buildblock.com](http://www.buildblock.com).)



## Foam Adhesive

**Low-expanding foam adhesive** is a staple product on an ICF job site. It can be used to secure the first course, to hold blocks together if needed, to fill uneven areas, and much more. The foam, foam gun, and gun cleaner are available through BuildBlock. (See details at [www.buildblock.com](http://www.buildblock.com).)



## ICF Hand Saw

Finally, a hand saw designed for ICFs that you can put in your back pocket on the job site. This precision saw makes short work of field cuts and has a great balance and feel. This saw comes in two different sizes and is available from Wind-lock.



## Super Groover Kit

The **Super Groover Kit** is on the professional level of Wind-lock products and offers the installer a belt-pack transformer for precise control of temperature and ease of use. The industrial hot knife lasts twice as long as conventional products currently available. (Regular hot knives and kits are available through BuildBlock.)



## ICF Grappler

The **Grappler** is a great product to place on the face of the ICF foam (before sheetrocking) in areas you suspect will have repeat connectivity, such as curtain rods and picture areas, just to name a few. The Grappler grabs the foam and stays in place. It is then covered with sheetrock and acts as a stronghold for screws.



For more ICF related tools, accessories, and products, see our Recommended Products page at:  
<http://www.buildblock.com/productsRecommended.asp>