

AISC Offers New Web Service

As do many steel fabricators and structural engineers, Martin Phillips realizes the marketing potential of the Internet. However, Phillips, Executive Vice President of Kline Iron & Steel Co., Inc., also knows that his staff has neither the time nor expertise to develop a high-quality web site. Looking for a solution, he turned to a new web development service offered by AISC for designers, fabricators and others involved in the structural steel industry.

"AISC's web site is so dynamic and robust that we were attracted to using the same developers for our site," Phillips explained. "Also, we discovered that it is difficult to find web developers who really understand the steel fabrication business." The new web development services include both modifications to existing sites as well as the creation of new, state-of-the-art sites utilizing cutting-edge technology to professionally represent your company on the World Wide Web. Two current examples of AISC's web development capabilities can be found on AISC's own home page (www.aisc.org) and Modern Steel Construction's web site (www.modernsteel.com).

"AISC has a strong track-record regarding its understanding and involvement with the structural steel industry," explained Steven E. Hamburg, P.E., AISC's Director of Computer Technology and Electronic Communications. "The main purpose of providing these web development services is to enable those businesses involved in the structural steel industry to find a web development service that truly understands their business. One strength of AISC, other than its web development

skills/capabilities, is that we can give you strong, sound advice regarding what objectives your web site should try to accomplish." For more information on AISC's web development services, contact Hamburg at 312/670-5413 or email hamburg@aiscmail.com.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

One of the critical features of a successful web site is that it not remain static. In addition to routinely updating information, many web sites continuously expand their offerings. Beginning in Mid-November, AISC will offer employment services listings on its web site.

"We hope to aid professionals seeking new employment, whether they're new graduates or have extensive experience, and whether they're draftsmen or engineers," explained Hamburg. "In addition, the service will aid companies seeking to fill employment opportunities." These employment services are designed to allow individuals and companies to complete necessary transactions online. Each resume and employment opportunity will be posted on the web site for 30 days, and will then be automatically removed. All listings will pertain to the structural steel industry. The pricing is as follows:

- Posting a Resume: \$15.00
- Posting an Employment Opportunity: \$150.00

"One nice feature included in the employment services is employment classification," Hamburg added. "All positions either being sought by individuals or posted by companies will be categorized both by type of business and specific position. The intent of such classification is to enable all users of this service the ability to quickly pinpoint specific resumes and employment opportunities of interest." Three types of busi-

nesses will initially be listed: fabrication; software engineering; structural engineering/architecture. In addition, mills, erection, detailing, product manufacturing, and contracting categories will be added in the near future.

The specific positions from which a user may choose vary among business types. AISC realizes that there may be a position of interest that may not be among the available choices. If this problem arises, you may either specify your desired position to be included in the "other" category, or you may send a request of having this position added to the appropriate business type by emailing .

MORE CHANGES ARE COMING

Even more changes to the AISC web site are expected next year, including a reorganization of the site. "The web site will be redesigned to somewhat resemble the Microsoft web site—after all, even though Bill Gates' company is in court, he's still a genius," Hamburg explained. The web site will be modified to incorporate dynamic HTML technology so that collapsible pop-down menus will afford AISC an opportunity to clearly classify each component of the web site in as many categories/topics as are necessary. Use of this technology and proposed layout will also dramatically increase the speed of the site due to alleviating the necessity of excessive graphics.

Additionally, the Quality Certification area of the web site (which includes a listing of all Quality Certified Fabricators) will be modified to make it more user-friendly and functional. Both the reorganization of the site and the modifications to the Quality Certification area are expected to be completed by the end of January.

Finally, by the end of this year the AISC web site should include links to non-profit organizations and academic institutions involved with the structural steel industry.

To view AISC's web site, point your favorite browser to www.aisc.org.

Steel Industry Leadership Award

Robert P. Stupp, President of Stupp Bros., Inc., is the recipient of AISC's first Award for Leadership Excellence, which subsequently was named in his honor.

The 21/2'-high sculpture was presented to Stupp at this year's AISC Annual Convention. "Bob has been a prime mover in advancing both the structural steel industry and AISC," explained H. Louis Gurthet, President of AISC. "He has had a tremendous positive impact over a long period of time, including in moving AISC to Chicago from New York and the establishment of AISC Marketing, Inc., the Quality Certification program and the National Steel Bridge Alliance.

Attendance was up 7% over last year—and 30% over five years ago, in large part due to the tremendous program and its focus on "Leadership Makes A Difference." From the keynote address by Stupp through workshops featuring Jack Stack (author of "The Great Game of Business") and Ronald Magnus (Director, FMI Center for Leadership Development), the convention featured dynamic presentations designed to help fabricators improve the way their business operates. Indeed, most attendees who returned survey forms ranked the sessions as extremely valuable for their business.

Next year's convention is scheduled for the beautiful Cerromar Beach Hotel at Dorado, Puerto Rico. Room rates start under \$200 and the facility boasts four world-class golf courses.

Bracing Seminar

A new series of Bracing Short Courses, featuring Joseph A. Yura from the University of Texas at Austin and Todd Helwig from the University of Houston is about to get underway. The two-day, eight-hour course, including an 80-page handout, costs \$200 (\$175 for AISC/RCSM members). Covered are present principles, case studies and recommendations. The lectures include: column & frame bracing; lean-on systems; torsional bracing; beam buckling; lateral bracing of beams; and torsional bracing of beams.

Jointly sponsored by AISC and the Structural Stability Research Council, the seminar is a repeat of the standing-room only short course at the 1995 NSCC Conference. For more information, fax 312/670-5403 or consult the AISC web site at www.aisc.org.

NASCC '99 Plenary To Focus On The Future

A highlight of the 1999 North American Steel Construction Conference, scheduled for May 19-22 in Toronto, will be a half-day plenary session featuring Stanley D. Lindsey, D.J. Laurie Kennedy, Robert D. Freeland and Carol Ross Barney.

The NASCC is the premier technical conference and trade show for the structural steel design and construction indus-

try. Sponsored by AISC, as well as the Canadian and Mexican Institutes of Steel Construction, the conference features more than 30 technical sessions, the 1999 T.R. Higgins Lecture, and three short courses (vibration design, welding and bolting). In addition, the conference offers an expanded trade show featuring many of the leading product manufacturers in the steel design and construction industry, including representatives from the bolting, welding, decking, joist, software and coatings industries. As with all AISC educational events, CEU credit is offered for the technical sessions.

Lindsey, President of Stanley D. Lindsey and Associates, Ltd., plans on focusing his talk on new ways for analyzing structures, while Kennedy, professor emeritus at the University of Alberta, will cover future developments in codes, standards and design methods.

Ross Barney, President of Ross Barney + Jankowski will discuss the effect of technology and economy on building design, from material systems to detailing. Ross Barney is the architect of the new replacement federal buildings in Oklahoma City and will also discuss how special requirements, such as designing to prevent bomb damage, give form to buildings.

Freeland, Chairman of Havens Steel Company, will cover the growing importance of the overseas market as well as the steel industry's upcoming initiatives to improve steel design and construction. The plenary session will conclude with a presentation on the Guggenheim Museum in Bilbao, Spain, a structure that represents the state-of-the-art in steel design and construction (for more on this project, see the July issue of MSC).

The conference, which previously was known as the

National Steel Construction Conference, is designed as a once-a-year event for designers, fabricators, detailers and erectors to come together and learn the latest techniques that directly impact their business. In addition, the conference provides an ideal venue for peer networking, with more than 1,500 engineers, fabricators, detailers and erectors gathered in one place. For spouses and other guests, the conference offers an extensive guest program featuring tours of some of Toronto's most interesting attractions. Registration for the conference, excluding the short courses, is \$425 (\$320 for members of the American, Canadian or Mexican Institute's of Steel Construction). For more information, see AISC's web site at www.aisc.org, or, to receive a complete program, fax a request to 312/670-5403 or call 312/670-5448.

Steel Interchange Online

You have an engineering question, and you vaguely remember reading a similar question in the Steel Interchange section of Modern Steel Construction. In the past, it meant thumbing through five year's worth of magazines. Now, there's an easier way. MSC's new web site (www.modernsteel.com) contains all of the past steel interchange questions—in a searchable format—as well as an electronic forum where visitors can post questions and answers. In addition, the site features the latest issue of the magazine plus a growing number of back issues. If you have any questions or comments about the site, please email melnick@aiscmail.com.

Economical Steel Design Seminar Series

AISC is scheduled to begin its 1999 Lecture Series, "Essentials of Steel Design Economy," in January. This 45-city seminar series is designed to give engineers the tools they need to do their job within the time and budget constraints created by a project's owner. The seminar will feature five lectures:

- Planning for Steel Design Economy
- Decision Making in System Selection and Layout
- Decision Making in Member Selection
- Economy in Connection Detail
- Project Review

These lectures will focus on giving a designer a better understanding of the economics of the steel fabrication/erection process and will focus on specific items the design engineer can use to reduce fabrication and erection costs, such as optimal bay sizes and layout and the use of repetitive member sizes.

As part of the lectures, an example moment column will be presented and then analyzed for economy in design, fabrication and erection. Also included in the lecture will be an assessment of the different roles and perspectives of members of the construction team.

"The seminar should help to improve communication and understanding between the design-detail-fabrication-erection team," explained Robert F. Lorenz, P.E., AISC's Director of Education. "We'll provide tips that will allow design professionals to anticipate detailed solutions to special conditions."