

### California Building Standards Commission Ignores Own Experts' Recommendation to Adopt the International Building Code

Whittier, CA—On October 25, 2000, the California Building Standards Commission (CBSC) voted to remain on the now outdated 1997 Uniform Building Code (UBC) for another three years and not to adopt the new 2000 International Building Code. This vote went against the recommendation of a committee of experts created by the CBSC (2000 Code Partnership) to study this issue over an eighteen month period. It also means taking an unnecessary step backward in California's building safety regulations, including its earthquake provisions for the construction of homes and other buildings.

The International Conference of Building Officials (ICBO), publishers of the UBC from 1927 to 1997, joined with other national building safety organizations in 1994 to develop the 2000 International Building Code (IBC). The IBC includes the very latest safety provisions, including provisions developed by the structural engineering profession to take advantage of lessons learned in the 1994 Northridge Earthquake and in subsequent seismic safety research and development.

The motion to take this action was advanced by California Building Standards Commission Vice Chairman, Sid Cavanaugh, an employee of the United Association of Apprentices and Journeyman in the Plumbing and Pipefit-

ting Industry (the plumber's union). Mr. Cavanaugh's proposal was that the state of California remain on the 1997 UBC, but move to the 2000 Uniform Fire Code (published by Western Fire Chief's Association), the 2000 Uniform Plumbing Code (published by the International Association of Plumbing and Mechanical Officials, IAPMO), the 2000 Uniform Mechanical Code (also published by IAPMO), and the 1999 National Electrical Code (published by the National Fire Protection Association, NFPA) for the coming triennial code cycle.

Mr. Cavanaugh based his motion on the codes published by IAPMO and the WFCA not being coordinated with the IBC. A representative of IAPMO and of NFPA, as well as Rick Thornberry, a representative of W.R. Grace and Company, voiced the opinion that the IBC represents a reduction in fire safety requirements from the UBC. These points were strongly disputed by ICBO representatives, as well as building and fire officials saying the issues of safety and coordination had been addressed by the commission's own 2000 Code Partnership Committee. The Building Standards

Commission's 2000 Codes Partnership consisted of over 120 representatives of industry and governmental agencies, who collectively invested thousands of hours in studying all the issues and developing the recommendations, which the commission action now sets aside.

It was also noted in testimony by ICBO that the IBC is endorsed by the Federal Emergency Management Agency and by the Insurance Services Organization (ISO).

If implemented, this unprecedented action will leave California building safety regulations out of date for the coming three years, and will mean that the seismic provisions of the 1997 UBC will be six years out of date before the commission again acts to update its codes. San Diego Building Official Pete Lopez expressed frustration and disappointment at the commission's action. "Over 120 volunteers from industry and government in California had then worked equally hard in reviewing these for consistency with the needs of California. For the commission to dismiss their recommendation in this way is a real disappointment."

### SSPC Revises Systems and Specifications

Pittsburgh, PA—SSPC: The Society for Protective Coatings has published a completely revised and expanded edition of its widely used *Systems and Specifications, SSPC Painting Manual, Volume 2* in hardcover and on CD-ROM. The new 8<sup>th</sup> edition of *Systems and Specifications* is an unabridged, up-to-date collection of every current SSPC standard consensus document for the preparation and coating of steel and concrete structures found in industrial, marine, and other corrosive ser-

vice environments. The documents are used throughout the world by facility owner representatives, industrial and commercial painting contractors, steel fabricators, engineers, project managers, and other who specify, purchase, or provide protective coating products and services.

To order or to obtain further information, please contact the SSPC Publication sales office toll-free at 877/281-7772, 412/281-9992, or by email at [books@sspc.org](mailto:books@sspc.org).

## Sightseer's Guide to Engineering

Alexandria, VA—To celebrate National Engineers Week's 50th anniversary, the National Society of Professional Engineers (NSPE) and its society partners are creating A Sightseer's Guide to Engineering, a Web-based travel guide that will encourage both adults and kids to add great engineering achievements and activities, both famous and not-so-famous, to their vacation itineraries.

This state-by-state guide will include engineering achievements and activities from all disciplines in an entertaining, illustrated display. The featured locations will show the public that not only is engineering fun, it is everywhere, and its achievements contribute to the safety and well-being of society. The site will launch on the first day of National Engineers Week 2001, which is held February 18<sup>th</sup>-24<sup>th</sup>. To offer suggestions, please visit [www.eweek.org/nspe/engineeringsights](http://www.eweek.org/nspe/engineeringsights)

Sights might include a college lab or research hub, an interesting manufacturing facility, a roller coaster, a ski lift, the home town or museum of a

famous engineer or inventor, a lighthouse, a telescope, and such obvious engineering marvels as the Golden Gate Bridge and the Hoover Dam.

Since its founding in 1951 by the National Society of Professional Engineers, National Engineers Week, a consortium of more than 100 engineering, scientific, education societies, and major corporations, has helped increase public awareness and appreciation of technology and the engineering profession. The co-chairs of National Engineers Week 2001 are the National Society of Professional Engineers and IBM International Foundation.

NSPE is the national society of engineering professionals from all disciplines that promotes the ethical and competent practice of engineering, advocates licensure, and enhances the image and well-being of its members. Founded in 1934, NSPE serves more than 59, 000 members and the public through 53 state and territorial societies and more than 500 chapters. For more information, please visit [www.nspe.org](http://www.nspe.org).

## Seminars Announced on Steel Buildings in Seismic Regions

The American Institute of Steel Construction and the Steel Structures Technology Center have announced plans to conduct a joint two-day seminar on Steel Buildings: Seismic Design, Construction and Inspection. The seminar will initially be conducted in six west-coast cities, and will be of particular interest to structural and civil engineers, steel fabricators and erectors, testing agencies, inspectors, building officials, and others involved in steel building construction.

The first day of the seminar will focus on the design of welded and bolted connections classified as prequalified under FEMA 350, *Recommended Seismic Design Criteria for New Steel Moment-Frame Buildings*. The second day will focus on the specifications, welding, bolting, and quality control/quality assurance provisions of FEMA 353, *Recommended Specifications and Quality Assurance Guidelines for Steel Moment-Frame Construction for Seismic Applications*. The documents are

the culmination of several years of research effort for FEMA by the SAC Joint Venture.

The following seminars have been scheduled:

Portland, OR	January 16 & 17
Seattle, WA	January 18 & 19
San Francisco, CA	January 23 & 24
Sacramento, CA	January 25 & 26
Los Angeles (Buena Park), CA	January 30 & 31
San Diego, CA	February 1 & 2

Each session will contain 6-1/2 hours of lecture. The first day will be conducted in the afternoon and evening. The second day will be conducted in the morning and afternoon. Participants may register to attend either one or both days of the seminar.

For additional information, call the SSTC at 248/344-2910, fax 248/344-2911, or visit [www.steelstructures.com](http://www.steelstructures.com).

# Steel News and Events

## AISI Joins with PDHonline.org to Promote Steel through Online Education

American Iron and Steel Institute (AISI) has formed a new partnership with [www.PDHonline.org](http://www.PDHonline.org) to promote the use of steel through online education.

According to this new partnership, PDHonline.org will develop, host and promote the online courses for AISI in the areas of transportation and infrastructures. Some of the traditional marketing and training materials will be converted into online course format, which will become available to engineers 24 hours a day, 7 days a week from anywhere in the world.

“This move enables AISI stay at the forefront of educating design engineers about the application of steel,” said Dr. John Huang, President of PDHonline.org based in Herndon, VA. “Web-based marketing and training through online education is more efficient and cost-effective compared to the traditional methods.”

PDHonline.org is a web site dedicated to the online professional development for engineers and architects. The web site is designed as a fully automated virtual classroom, where the server is programmed to conduct quizzes, issue Certificates of Completion, and maintain the records of PDH activities. Since it has been launched in May 2000, thousands of engineers have visited PDHonline.org.

For more information, please visit the web site at [www.PDHonline.org](http://www.PDHonline.org) or contact Dr. John Huang at [jchc@msn.com](mailto:jchc@msn.com) or 703/478-6833.

## Short Course on Construction Crane Safety

The University of Wisconsin-Madison, Department of Engineering Professional Development will offer their acclaimed course, Construction Crane Safety, February 15-16, 2001 in Madison WI.

In this Construction Engineering and Management (CEM) Conference (R), contractors, construction superintendents and engineers, safety directors, project managers, and other professionals will learn how to: improve site safety, protect the public during crane operations, reduce costs and improve schedules, protect against death and injuries, and identify crane and rigging problems and face claims and disputes when problems arise.

Construction Crane Safety course topics include how to avoid crane and rigging accidents, crane inspect and testing, rigging fundamentals, operating wire rope, wire rope slings, electronic operator aids, planning heavy complex lifts, forensics and failure analyses, legal responsibilities and requirements, crane safety manuals, supervisory issues, and case studies of successful and unsuccessful crane operations.

For more information, telephone 800/462-0876 or visit <http://epdweb.engr.wisc.edu/brochures/a193.html>.

### 2001 Event Calendar

Dates	Event	Location	Web
1/21—1/24	NCSEA Structural Engineering Winter Institute	Phoenix, AZ	<a href="http://www.ncsea.com">www.ncsea.com</a>
2/12—2/15	ProMat 2001	Chicago, IL	<a href="http://www.promat2001.org">www.promat2001.org</a>
2/15—2/16	Construction Crane Safety Seminar	Madison, WI	<a href="http://www.epdweb.engr.wisc.edu">www.epdweb.engr.wisc.edu</a>
2/18—2/24	National Engineers Week	—	<a href="http://www.nspe.org">www.nspe.org</a>
2/26—3/2	Sixth World Congress Council on Tall Buildings and Urban Habitat	Melbourne, Australia	<a href="http://www.icms.com.au/tbuh">www.icms.com.au/tbuh</a>
5/9—5/12	North American Steel Construction Conference	Ft. Lauderdale, FL	<a href="http://www.aisc.org/nascc.html">www.aisc.org/nascc.html</a>
6/4—6/6	International Bridge Conference	Pittsburgh, PA	<a href="http://www.eswp.com/bridge.html">www.eswp.com/bridge.html</a>
7/29—8/3	International Conference on High Performance Materials in Bridges and Buildings	Kona, HI	<a href="http://www.engfnd.org">www.engfnd.org</a>
10/2—10/5	World Steel Bridge Symposium	Chicago, IL	<a href="http://www.nsbaweb.org">www.nsbaweb.org</a>

# Steel News and Events

## Continuing Education Department Seeks Engineer

The Engineering and Research Department of AISC is expanding the continuing education staff and seeks a regional representative in the Eastern United States. The successful candidate will serve as the local technical voice of AISC delivering updated technical information to an engineering audience through continuing education. The responsibilities include: developmental oversight and implementation of structural steel related technical seminars, short courses, and other continuing education programs for engineers on a regional basis. Requirements include: graduate civil or structural degree with professional licensure (P.E. and/or S.E.), excellent presentation and communication skills. This position also requires significant travel and reports to the Director of Engineering and Continuing Education, located at our Chicago, IL headquarters. Email resume to Charles J. Carter, S.E., P.E. at [carter@aiscmail.com](mailto:carter@aiscmail.com)

managerial responsibilities of QAC including personnel and P&L as well as the growth of the company. The ideal candidate has an engineering degree, CWI certification, managerial experience in 1) structural steel fabrication and erection industries or 2) an inspection agency performing work in those industries or 3) quality control/quality assurance in those industries. Being computer literate and having good communication skills, both written and verbal are essential. The position will be located in Chicago. Send resumes with experience and salary requirements to: H. L. Gurthet, AISC, Inc., 1 E. Wacker Dr., Suite 3100, Chicago, IL 60601-2001, fax 312/ 670-5403, e-mail: [gurthet@aiscmail.com](mailto:gurthet@aiscmail.com)

### Clarification

Mark Scheyer should have been given credit for the photo on the cover on the October 2000 issue. We regret an inconvenience this may have caused.

## Quality Auditing Company Seeks President

Quality Auditing Company (QAC), the company responsible for administering AISC's Quality Certification Program, is looking for a president. The successful candidate will become the individual responsible for the company that audits over 500 firms throughout the United States and many foreign countries. The position will involve the complete