

CONFERENCES

NASCC Registration Still Open

You can still register for the 2007 North American Steel Construction Conference! More than 3,000 engineers, fabricators, erectors, and detailers are expected at The Steel Conference, which will take place April 18-21 in New Orleans, La. Visit www.aisc.org/nascc for a complete schedule of conference events and instructions for pre-registration.

With nearly 90 technical sessions, The Steel Conference is the industry's premier education event. It provides structural engineers, steel fabricators, erectors, and detailers with practical information and the latest design and construction



techniques. The conference is a key networking opportunity. Its extensive trade show features products and services ranging from fabrication machinery to galvanizing and connection products to detailing and engineering software. The conference also incorporates the Structural Stability Research Council's Annual Stability Conference. New this year is a series of presentations from seven of the nation's best-known engineering professors.

Online registration is available through April 12, 2007. After April 12, registrations will be taken on-site, but at higher rates.

UNIVERSITY RELATIONS

Seismic Teaching Aid Available at NASCC 2007

A new steel teaching aid will be introduced to educators at the North American Steel Construction Conference in April. The aid, "Teaching the Principles of Seismic-Resistant Design of Steel Buildings," will be presented to educators in two sessions on April 17 and 18, 2007 in New Orleans, La.

The aid will be presented to educators in two sessions and will cover six modules, including moment-resisting frames, eccentrically braced frames, buckling restrained braced frames, and steel plate shear walls. A travel stipend will be available to qualified educators.

Please register for the educator sessions by contacting either Shanna Quinn at 312.670.5418, quinn@aisc.org; or Fromy Rosenberg at 312.670.5408, rosenberg@aisc.org. More information about NASCC: The Steel Conference can be found online at www.aisc.org/nascc.

SEMINAR

AGA Announces Online Seminar

The American Galvanizers Association (AGA) recently announced that a version of its popular "Galvanize It!" seminar is now available online through continuing education provider AEC Daily.

The course, "Hot-Dip Galvanized Steel for Corrosion Protection," provides architects, engineers, and other members of the specifying community the convenience of learning more about galvanized steel from any location, at any time. The seminar is registered with the American Institute of Architects (AIA), is worth one continuing education credit, and qualifies in the HSW (health, safety, and welfare) category. Credits are also recognized by state licensing agencies. Topics include:

- The Corrosion Problem
- Design and Fabrication
- Specifications and Inspections
- Life-Cycle Costs
- Duplex Systems: Painting and Powder Coating over HDG Steel
- Hot-Dip Galvanized Steel Project Applications

The course is free of charge and can be accessed at www.aecdaily.com/sponsor/americangalvanizers.

Common Questions about The Steel Conference

Do I get CEUs/PDHs for attending sessions?

Yes. All of the technical seminars are worth 1.5 PDHs (or 0.15 CEUs), the Plenary Sessions are worth 1.0 PDHs (or 0.1 CEUs), and the short courses vary from 4 PDHs to 7.5 PDHs (0.4 to .75 CEUs). AISC is an "Approved Sponsor of Continuing Education for Engineers and Land Surveyors" in New York, and an approved provider for the Florida Board of Professional Engineers, among others.

How safe is New Orleans?

It appears that the tourist areas (French Quarter, the area around the convention center, and the Garden District) are about as safe as they were before Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. However, in some of the surrounding areas, it looks like Katrina only happened yesterday, and few residents have returned. As a result, crime in these areas is high, and it is highly advisable to avoid them during evening hours. However, there have been a large number of conferences in New Orleans since June, and we haven't heard of any reported safety issues. Our recommendation is to follow the same general safety procedures you would when visiting any big city.

How much does it cost to attend?

AISC members pay just \$360 (non-members pay \$460) for all of the seminars, the plenary sessions, entrance to the exhibit hall, the welcome reception on Wednesday night, and lunch on Thursday and Friday. (There's an extra fee of \$50 for the Conference Dinner on Thursday and extra fees for the short courses on Wednesday morning and Saturday.) If you know of a better value (or even a comparable conference), please let us know!

What sessions should I attend?

One of the big problems we hear every year is that there are so many great sessions, attendees can't decide which program to attend. We're pretty excited about this year's plenary sessions. We'll be curious to hear what the big mills have to say—and perhaps even more interested in some of the questions from the audience! As an attendee, though, it might be tough to choose between simply listening to seven of the top professors give their best lectures, or finding out about the latest technology in fabrication and erection, or hearing about successful BIM integration, or...well, you get the point.

If you have other questions about the conference, please e-mail Scott Melnick at melnick@aisc.org.

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

80+ Years of AISC Specs Available Electronically

Free access to all versions of the AISC *Specification for Structural Steel Buildings* introduced from 1923 to 2005 is now available to AISC members through AISC's ePubs portal at www.aisc.org/epubs.

"Some of the old publications in the AISC library are showing their age, and it was time to archive these important pieces of steel design and fabrication history," says Cynthia Duncan, Director of Specifications. "This will be a priceless resource for structural engineers and fabricators involved in repair and retrofit of old buildings, and will also complement AISC *Design Guide 15* on rehabilitation and retrofit."

The complete compendium is also available on a CD-ROM that can be purchased for \$40 (members) or \$80 (non-members). The CD-ROM includes an index of the specifications in chronological order, listing those based on allowable stress design provisions separate from

those based on load and resistance factor design provisions. The expanded index lists the date of approval, complete title of the specification, which version of the AISC manual the specification was printed in—if any—as well as other notes of interest.

"The real value in the CD-ROM for the engineer is that it permits all versions of the specifications to be electronically searched at the same time," says Louis Geschwindner, vice president of engineering and research. "With the renewed emphasis on restoration and rehabilitation of existing structures, engineers will now have direct electronic access to whatever AISC standard a building was designed to meet."

To purchase a copy of the CD-ROM, please visit www.aisc.org/bookstore. To join AISC and get free access to the contents of the CD-ROM through ePubs, visit www.aisc.org/membership.

CONTINUING EDUCATION OPPORTUNITY

Steel Construction and Welding Inspection Seminars Scheduled for Spring 2007

The Steel Structures Technology Center has announced three new one-day, seven-hour seminars on the inspection of steel construction and structural welding, and a two-hour evening seminar on structural steel plan reading. All four seminars are conducted in cooperation with the International Code Council (ICC).

The seminars will be instructed by Robert Shaw, a consulting engineer with 34 years experience in steel construction and a specialist in steel construction inspection and quality standards. As President of the SSTC, he has conducted seminars on structural steel inspection since 1990.

Structural Steel and Bolting Inspection includes International Building Code (IBC) special inspection requirements, steel materials, fabrication and erection, steel framing details, and high-strength bolting.

Structural Welding Inspection includes IBC special inspection requirements and welding inspection under American Welding Society (AWS) Structural Welding Codes D1.1 - Steel, D1.3 - Sheet Steel, and

D1.4 - Reinforcing Steel.

Inspection of Seismic Steel Frames AISC, IBC, and AWS requirements for connection details, welding, bolting, inspection, and nondestructive testing for steel buildings designed to the AISC Seismic Provisions.

Plan Reading for Steel Construction includes structural design, field erection, and shop drawings.

Seminars are scheduled in the following cities:

3/6-8	Phoenix
3/27-29	Los Angeles/Buena Park
4/3-5	San Diego/Del Mar
4/10-12	San Francisco/Fremont
4/16-17	New Orleans
4/24-26	Sacramento
4/30-5/1	Houston
5/9-10	Chicago/Elk Grove Village
5/15-17	Las Vegas

For more information and for specific locations, visit the Steel Structures Technology Center website at www.steel-structures.com.

CORRECTION

Updated Detailer Listing Available Online

Due to a database problem, some AISC Associate Member detailers were omitted from the listing of detailers in the February 2007 issue of *Modern Steel Construction*.

An updated version of the listing is available online at www.modern-steel.com. (Click on "Back Issues" and browse to the February 2007 issue.)

We apologize for any inconvenience the omissions may have caused. If your firm is an AISC Associate Member detailing firm and was omitted from the listing, please send a brief e-mail to Geoff Weisenberger at weisenberger@aisc.org.

INDUSTRY NEWS

Steel Parking Garage Market Makes Strides

The Parking Market Research Company (PMRC), which tracks market share by framing type for parking structures, has just released its 2006 market share numbers. The market share for structural steel framed parking structures in the past year has increased by 3 points from 8 percent to 11 percent on a square footage basis.

PMRC identifies every parking structure in planning and construction in the U.S., tracks it to completion, and maintains a database of all the parking structures in the U.S. As part of that effort it keeps careful records of the type of framing system for each garage.

This increase is particularly significant when compared to the 3-percent market share of steel framed parking in 2000, when the AISC Marketing focus on this market segment began. The broad-based efforts of the structural steel industry in this market have resulted in nearly a fourfold increase in steel framed parking structures throughout the U.S., generating an additional demand for structural steel exceeding 40,000 tons annually, representing nearly \$100 million of increased sales.

Thick or Thin?

I was fascinated to read about the use of steel plate shear walls in the Providence Portland Medical Center (“Shear Strength,” January 2007). While the solution to the design problem looks very simple, I am curious about the welds that I see specified in the figure on page 23. It is my understanding that Weld “B” should be sized to account for the thickness of the thicker part joined. Per Table J2.4, the ¼-in. plate would still require a ¼-in. fillet weld when welded to a wide flange section with flange thickness greater than ½ in., a ⅝-in. fillet for flanges thicker than ¾ in. The W14 shape has only a few sections with flanges ½ in. or less, as you describe using sections at the high end of the scale. Have I missed something?

David Ray, P.E.
Blue Ridge Design, Inc.
 Winchester, Va.

Response:

With welding techniques improving over the years, the minimum fillet weld size has been revised to now be based on the thinner part of the joint. This change is

reflected in the 2005 AISC *Specification for Structural Steel Buildings* (AISC 360-05) Table J2.4. The ¼-in. plates used at the top floor of the building with ⅝-in. double-sided fillet welds to beams and columns were performed in the shop.

Anne B. Monnier, P.E., S.E.
KPFF Consulting Engineers
 Portland, Ore.

Different Points of View

I just read your article “Between Dimensions” (February 2007). I was very pleased with your interpretation of my comments. It was also nice to hear comments from the perspective of other detailers.

Peter Officer
Tamburri Associates, Inc.
 Cinnaminson, N.J.

A Disappointing Switch

I found your article on detailing (“Between Dimensions,” February 2007) very interesting. I worked for several years for an engineering company that did most of its own detailing in-house. We were very successful using 2D drafting for shop

fabrication. About five years ago, it was decided that we needed to move to 3D modeling with the idea that all the other disciplines would save time, and because that’s what clients wanted. To this day, the design and detailing cost has continued to rise with no improvement in the end product and much longer design, fabrication, and construction times. Maybe one day 3D will become cost-effective, but if anyone tells you there is a savings right now, he is blowing smoke.

Michael D. Hubbard, P.E.
DAE Associates
 Tyler, Texas

Details

Just wanted to compliment you and your staff on the excellent detailer survey, listing, and detailing software article in the February issue. Great job!

Rob Kent
Kent & Associates
 Tuscaloosa, Ala.

Do you have an opinion? Send your comments to Scott Melnick, Editor, at melnick@modernsteel.com.

news & events

CONTINUING EDUCATION

AISC Spring Seminars

AISC’s Continuing Education Department will once again offer “Design Steel *Your* Way with the 2005 AISC Specification.” This seminar will accelerate your ability to design steel buildings according to the 2005 AISC specification, whether you design in ASD or LRFD.

Presentation topics will include proper material selection, design philosophies and analysis requirements, member and structure stability provisions, member design, and connection design.

Each attendee will receive a copy of the course notes and design examples, the AISC *Design Examples* CD, and a copy of the 13th Edition AISC *Steel Construction Manual*, which includes the 2005 AISC specification, the 2004 *RCSC Specification*, and the 2005 *Code of Standard Practice for Steel Buildings and Bridges*.

AISC also continues to offer the “Bring a Buddy” program. Eligible paid registrants may add one person to their registration at a reduced rate. And, as always, AISC members attend at discounted rates. To become a member and receive the AISC

member discount, please visit www.aisc.org/membership. Call 800.809.2364 or visit www.aisc.org/2007seminars for more information or to register. Remaining Spring 2007 dates are listed below:

3/6 Pittsburgh	5/1 Boston
3/8 Philadelphia	5/3 Tucson
3/13 Las Vegas	5/3 Richmond
3/14 Louisville, Ky.	5/9 Baton Rouge
3/15 San Jose, Calif.	5/10 San Diego
3/15 Chicago	5/10 Houston
3/20 Syracuse	5/15 Los Angeles
3/27 Denver	5/15 Miami
3/27 Atlanta	5/17 Columbia, S.C.
3/28 Columbus	5/23 Tulsa
3/29 Santa Fe	5/24 Reno
3/29 St. Louis	5/24 Kansas City, Mo.
3/29 Charleston, W.Va.	