

CONSTRUCTION MARKET

Steel Industry Testifies to Include Fabricated Structural Steel in Section 301 Tariffs

In the months since the Trump administration announced a 25% tariff on raw steel imports as a matter of national security, AISC has been actively working to have fabricated steel from China and other non-exempt countries included in the products covered by the tariff to protect U.S. fabricators and businesses in the design and construction industries. Recently, Jeffrey Sterner, president and COO of High Industries, Lancaster, Pa. (an AISC member and certified fabricator and erector), and a member of the AISC board of directors, testified on behalf of AISC in front of the United States Trade Representative Section 301 committee, requesting that the administration add the principal Harmonized Tariff Schedule (HTS) codes for fabricated structural steel, 730810 and 730890, to the Section 301 tariff list.

In his testimony, Sterner said, “Steel assemblies that fall under these two codes represented \$831 million of imports in 2017, or nearly 2% of the Section 301 target value. Adding these codes is criti-

cally important because the U.S. structural steel supply chain currently suffers from the effects of unfair Chinese industrial policies related to steel production and fabrication.”

The current Section 301 schedule already includes 132 HTS codes related to steel, many of which represent products used in the construction industry. However, it does not close the circumvention loophole left open by the Section 232 order which does not currently include the codes for fabricated steel assemblies.

“Adding fabricated steel assemblies under HTS codes 730810 and 730890 would be a logical extension of other tariffs already in the proposed Section 301 schedule in addition to those in the Section 232 Order,” says Brian Raff, AISC’s director of government affairs. “It will add real teeth to the effort to curb China’s policies and practices that adversely impact domestic steel fabrication and production.”

View Sterner’s full testimony in the News section at www.aisc.org.



letter to the editor

I read May’s Business Issues article, “The ‘Will’ vs. the ‘Why’” (available at www.modernsteel.com). What a great and timely article! The firm where I work as a structural engineer recently acquired another company, which now makes us one of the largest consultants in the world. A consequence of the acquisition has been

the numerous changes. The “whys,” a majority that initially included me, have been grumbling and are generally unhappy. The “wills” are moving forward and beginning to enjoy the changes.

I will share your article with my fellow “wills”—and perhaps some “whys” as well.

—V. Peter Lalas, PE

People and Companies

John Cross, PE, AISC vice president of special projects, has received the Industry Leadership Award for steel industry partners and customers from the **Steel Market Development Institute**. Cross was recognized for his contributions and expertise in building information modeling (BIM), construction economics and sustainability.

Upon receiving the award, Cross credited his accomplishments as a team effort.

“It is an award that recognizes the impact and effectiveness that all of AISC has had in the promotion of structural steel in the U.S.” he said. “I just happen to be the person who had the privilege of being on the point of the marketing effort over the past years.”

When Cross joined AISC, he was responsible for the Design Build initiative. His goal was to encourage early fabricator involvement and sell their expertise, not just their steel.

“The structural steel industry pioneered what is BIM today and the greatest value can be gained on a BIM project when the project is framed in structural steel,” he expressed.

Cross was one of four outstanding individuals to be awarded. Other winners include:

- **Paul Schurter, ArcelorMittal Dofasco**
Lifetime Achievement Award
- **Gregory S. Warden, General Motors Company**
Leadership Achievement Award
- **Blake Zuidema, ArcelorMittal Global R&D-East Chicago**
Achievement Award



AWARDS

2019 Milek Fellowship Call for Proposals Now Open

University faculty are invited to apply for the 2019 AISC Milek Fellowship, a four-year fellowship given to a promising university faculty member to conduct structural steel research. The awarded faculty member will receive \$50,000 per year (for a total of \$200,000) as well as free registration to NASCC: The Steel Conference for the four years following their selection as an AISC Milek Fellow.

The Milek Fellowship program is designed to contribute to the research careers of young faculty who teach and conduct research investigations related to structural steel, while producing research results beneficial to designers, fabricators and erectors of structural steel.

The program is also intended to support students with high potential to be valuable contributors to the U.S. structural steel industry, and the selected faculty member is required to fund a doctoral candidate with at least half of the fellowship money.

Recent recipients include Gary Prinz from the University of Arkansas and his work on steel seismic systems with architectural flexibility, Patricia Clayton from the University of Texas-Austin for her work on seismic performance of moment-resisting frames with fuse-type systems, and Spencer Quiel from Lehigh University for his work on performance-based design of passive fire protection systems in steel-framed buildings.

Proposals will be accepted until August 31, 2018. For application information, visit www.aisc.org/milek.



AWARDS

AISC Accepting Nominations for 2019 T.R. Higgins Award

There's still time to submit nominations for AISC's T.R. Higgins Lectureship Award, which includes a \$15,000 cash prize. Presented annually, the award recognizes a lecturer-author whose technical paper (or papers) is considered an outstanding contribution to engineering literature on fabricated structural steel. The winner will be recognized at the 2019 NASCC: The Steel Conference, April 3–5 in St. Louis, and will present their lecture, upon request, at various professional association events throughout the year.

The award will be given to a nominated individual based on their reputation as a lecturer and the jury's evaluation of the paper(s) named in the nomination. Papers will be judged for originality, clarity of presentation, contribution to engineering knowledge, future significance and value to the fabricated structural steel industry.

Nominations will be accepted until August 1, 2018. For information on submitting a nomination, please visit www.aisc.org/higgins. For questions about submitting a nomination, please contact AISC's Rachel Jordan at jordan@aisc.org.

PUBLICATIONS

New Edition of *Rehabilitation and Retrofit Design Guide* Now Available

The second edition of AISC's Design Guide 15: *Rehabilitation and Retrofit* (DG15), is now available. (You can read more about the updates in the second edition in this month's SteelWise, "A Renovated Retrofit Guide" on page 16.)

This new edition of DG15 is an extensive resource for any rehabilitation or retrofit project. It includes historical reviews of AISC specifications and manuals, as well as the RCSC Specification and ASTM standards. The guide has also been reorganized and updated to include a new chapter of comprehensive design examples on flexural members, columns and connections. It also includes properties of discontinued steel and wrought iron sections.

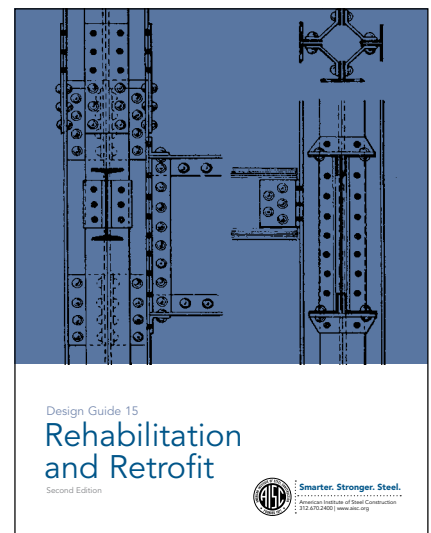
"This compendium of information in DG15 constitutes the industry's most complete reference on the rehabilitation and retrofit of steel structures," said Roger L. Brockenbrough, PE, co-author of DG15.

"The most substantial addition is a new chapter of step-by-step examples prepared by co-author Joe Schuster, SE, PE, to illustrate important design principles. Also, all of the original material has been updated and reorganized to reflect changes and new knowledge developed over the past 15 years. Reference properties of discontinued steel and wrought iron sections now include those produced between 1873 and 2018. Historical overviews of steel-related specifications and standards from the 1920s have been extended to the present era as well."

A downloadable PDF of the guide is available for free to AISC members (and \$60 for nonmembers) here. A printed version is also available for purchase here; the cost is \$40 for members and \$80 for nonmembers.

AISC has produced more than 30 design guides to provide detailed information on various topics related to structural steel design and construction. All of the

guides are available in printed format and as downloadable PDF documents. Downloads are free for AISC members. Browse the collection at www.aisc.org/dg.



ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES**Chinese Steel Three Times More Harmful to Environment than U.S. Steel, Says Industry Report**

A recent AISC white paper reports that the greenhouse gas emissions, measured as global warming potential, of hot-rolled structural steel sections produced in China are three times that of equivalent sections produced in the U.S. According to AISC, the clear corollary to this data is that the best decision an owner, architect, engineer or general contractor can make from a sustainability perspective is to specify a framing system using domestically produced structural steel for their next project.

The results of the study are intended to support future life-cycle assessments (LCAs). As the results are not intended to

support comparative assertions, no critical review was conducted. However, it is the intention of AISC to combine these results with industry average fabrication impacts for the development of an LCA and an environmental product declaration (EPD) for “fabricated hot-rolled structural steel,” which will be reviewed for conformity to the structural steel product category rules and applicable ISO standards.

You can read the white paper, *Global Warming Potential of Chinese and Domestic Hot-Rolled Structural Steel*, to learn more. To see a full list of AISC’s white papers, visit www.aisc.org/discover.

