**Research Needs Statement: <TITLE>**

You do not need to use this template, as long as you present essentially the same information in a legible fashion. Please submit by email to schlafly@aisc.org

Briefly describe the proposed research project (one to three paragraphs). This should be akin to an executive summary, and must represent a reasonable encapsulation of the project; if someone were to read nothing else, they should have a coarse outline of what you intend. The goal of submitting a Research Needs Statement is for the AISC Committee on Research to give you feedback and possibly pursue a formal Research Proposal, without requiring excessive demands on your (or their) time.

Please also indicate if you (the submitter) want to also be the project investigator – if yes, then AISC will not seek proposals from research organizations. Similarly, if you want this Statement to be confidential you must clearly state so – if you do, then AISC will limit the distribution of this Statement to the AISC Committee on Research. Lastly, if there are any specific time constraints please clearly state them here; for example, if there is a special opportunity that should be pursued outside the normal review process then please state that and explain why you believe it to be important.

**Justification and Impact**

Explain why this project is necessary or important (one to two paragraphs). There are infinite questions that could be resolved through research; why should this particular project be pursued, and why should it be pursued now? Describe, in general terms, the expected impact on the structural steel industry should this project be successful.

**Objectives**

Identify the primary objectives (one paragraph or a bulleted list).

**Research Tasks**

Indicate the type of research you believe is necessary: component testing, member tests, frame tests, component FEA, system FEA, or parametric study. Outline the major research tasks necessary to achieve the objectives given above, in the order you expect them to be performed, with a brief description and expected/probable outcomes where appropriate. These should represent the major phases of the project; by way of example a two-year project might have 4 to 6 tasks.

**Anticipated Cost and Duration**

Provide a rough estimate of cost (order of magnitude) and approximate duration. These estimates will not be used to judge the eventual success or failure of the project but they should be realistic. Note that the reviewing committee may use these estimates to help determine if you have a sufficient understanding of what you are proposing.

**References**

References should be very brief, and limited to items that are directly referenced somewhere in this document (for example, if you are arguing that existing studies were inadequate for some reason, you should reference those studies here). The references section may be in smaller type than the other body text of this document, but must still be legible when printed.

…the Research Needs Statement itself should not be longer than two to four pages unless there is a special need to go on in greater detail. This is not a “hard” limit, but rather an attempt to retain simplicity; if you feel the need to continue in greater detail, consider whether it may be better to submit a more formal Research Proposal.