What makes a well-designed building? Topping the list—my list, at least—is that it must be functional, followed closely by economical. And we shouldn't forget aesthetics—it has to look good, both inside and out.

It's easy to find examples of well-designed buildings. In fact, most successful designers can point to large portfolios of well-designed buildings.

The trick is to identify the exceptional projects. And that's the goal of a new biennial competition sponsored by AISC: the 1997 Engineering Awards of Excellence (EAE). The awards are designed to recognize truly outstanding structural engineering excellence and innovations in steel-framed building design. The awards will be presented to an engineer for his/her work on a specific project.

To be eligible, a significant portion of the building must be steel-framed—either using wide flange members or hollow structural sections. Building construction must have been completed between January 1, 1995 and December 31, 1996. All building types and sizes are eligible, from the smallest retail stores to the largest factories. Both new construction and significant retrofit/expansions

are eligible.

Projects will be judged on: creativity in response to the owner's and architect's building program; application of new design technology in the area of connections, gravity systems and lateral load resisting systems; structural efficiency; and significance of engineering achievement.

Because awards of this type are all too often dominated by huge projects, the EAE program has two categories: projects up to \$10 million and projects over \$10 million. Three regional awards will be presented in each category and two national awards also will be presented. The engineer-of-record on each national award winning project will receive a cash award of \$3,000. And all six projects will be featured in the April 1997 issue of Modern Steel Construction. The awards will be presented in May in Chicago at the National Steel Construction Conference.

An entry form appears on pages 28 and 29 of this issue. Good luck, and I hope to see you in Chicago in May.



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