Rave Reviews For AISC Serviceability Seminar

Both engineers and architects are giving AISC’s new 49-city Seminar Series, “Designing Steel for Serviceability,” rave reviews. Some have even gone so far as to call it “AISC’s best seminar yet.”

The powerful sessions cover five important topics: frame layout options & strength design; roof ponding; floor elevation & levelness; control of lateral drift; and control of floor vibrations.

The seminar series has a CEU value of 0.55 (5.5 PDH). Registration is $120 ($90 for AISC members). The registration fee includes a wide range of handouts.

Please note that all MSC subscribers will automatically receive a registration form six weeks prior to the seminar scheduled in their area.

For more information, call 630/369-3772, fax 630/369-3773 or point your favorite web browser to: http://www.aisc.org

HSS Seminar

In response to the growing popularity and use of hollow structural sections, AISC will offer an HSS seminar in 13 cities next year. The seminar, offered in association with the Steel Tube Institute and the American Iron & Steel Institute, will review and cover all aspects of HSS design and connections, including both simple and moment connections.

The seminar, to be offered in 13 cities, will run all afternoon and into the evening. Sessions include:

- Materials and Specifications;
- Welding & Bolting;
- Shear Connections;
- Moment Connections;
- Tension & Compression Connections, Column Splices, Base and Cap Plates;
- Truss Connections and Examples;
- Constructability.

Cost of the seminar, including dinner, is $175 for non-AISC members ($135 for each additional attendee from the same firm) and $140 for AISC members ($100 for additional attendees from the same firm).

The seminar will include extensive hand-out material, but will not include the new HSS Connections Manual, which can be purchased beginning in January for $72. The seminar starts at 1:00 p.m. in each city and runs through 9:00 p.m. It has a continuing education value of 6.0 Professional Development Hours or .6 CEUs.

All Modern Steel Construction subscribers will automatically receive a detailed program mailing.

Answers To Commonly Asked Engineering Questions

AISC has revised its popular “A Guide to Engineering and Quality Criteria for Steel Structures.” The 95-page book includes answers to commonly asked questions on such topics as:

- Mill Production and Tolerances
- Fabrication & Erection Tolerances
- Member Design
- Connections
- Anchor Rods
- Painting & Surface Preparation
- Fire Protection
- Bolting & Welding

The Guide’s answers represent AISC recommendations for the clarification of common problems and conflicts in interpretation involving steel
Correspondence

Dear Editor:

I am writing in response to your August “Off The Beam” on “value engineering”. The problem with “value engineering” is that, while everyone has heard the term loosely thrown around (as in your editorial), there is no agreement on just what value engineering is.

To many people in construction, value engineering means a contractor-inspired alternate that cuts costs. The contractor assumes, based on his experience and judgement, the owner can function with whatever he recommends. The owner usually trusts that the contractor has the owner’s best interest at heart. If the owner is results-driven and the contractor is cost-driven, misunderstandings can creep into the picture.

As a registered engineer with a fair amount of diverse experience, I would like to think I put my share of value engineering into all that I do. We all take this view. The part of my job I enjoy most is talking with an owner and working out a design that suits his needs. If there were no value to my engineering, I would be out of a job. The danger is that value engineering can be too much about personality and not enough about functionality.

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The key is to be aware that value engineering means different things to different people. The focus needs to stay on the owner’s needs, so the owner paying for our design/construction services fully understands what they are getting and their expectations set accordingly.

Stephen E. Long, P.E.
via email

Metric Conversions

For HSS

The Steel Tube Institute has published a new eight-page brochure, “Recommendations for Soft Conversion of HSS Sizes from U.S. Customary Units to Metric (SI) Units.”

Copies are available by contacting STI at 8500 Station St., Suite 270, Mentor, OH 44060 (ph: 216/974-6990).

In Memoriam

John H. (Jack) Long, former chairman and chief executive officer of AISC-member Pitt-Des Moines, Inc., died on July 18. He retired in 1990, having served as chairman and CEO since 1988 and as president and treasurer from 1987. Previously, he was with the American Bridge Division of US Steel and he served on the AISC Board of Directors from 1969-78.

Eli Isaacson, president of AISC-member Isaacson Steel in Berlin, NH, passed away on July 21.