

### Shape Availability Highlights NSCC Conference

Daniel R. DiMicco, President and General Manager of Nucor-Yamato Steel Company, will open this year's National Steel Construction Conference with a presentation on the key issues affecting shape availability for the structural steel industry.

Nucor-Yamato is the largest domestic producer of structural shapes. DiMicco is expected to address such critical issues as lead times, the availability of Gr. 50 steel and the future of the steel industry.

This year's National Steel Construction Conference is scheduled for New Orleans from April 1-3. The conference is the premier event for the steel industry and brings together structural engineers, structural steel fabricators, detailers, erectors and educators.

The NSCC also offers 29 technical sessions and the 1998 T.R. Higgins Lecture by Professor Abulhassan Astaneh-Asl of the University of California-Berkeley. In addition, the winners of the 1998 Engineering Awards of Excellence will be announced and short presentations will be made on each winner.

The NSCC also includes an extensive Guest Program, including a wide variety of daily tours. The conference dinner will be held at the Aquarium of the Americas in New Orleans.

Finally, the NSCC includes a large exhibit hall with nearly 70 vendors of such products as software, fabrication equipment and bolts.

Conference registration costs \$395 (\$320 for AISC members) with additional fees for the short courses. An advance program has been mailed to all *Modern Steel Construction* subscribers. If you have not yet received your copy, you may request one by faxing 312/670-5403. Also, conference and registration information can be found at AISC's web site: [www.aisc.org](http://www.aisc.org).

### Short Courses Offered Before & After 1998 NSCC

A half-day short course on Floor Vibrations is scheduled for April 1 and a full-day course on Low and Moderate Seismicity Requirements for Low-Rise Steel Buildings will be offered on April 4 in New Orleans.

Scheduled speakers at the Floor Vibrations Short Course, which precedes the start of the National Steel Construction Conference, are Thomas M. Murray, P.E., Ph.D., of Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, David E. Allen, Ph.D., of the National Research Council of Canada, and Eric E. Unger, Sc.D., P.E., of Acentech, Inc. The course will cover the full range of vibrations that commonly occur in buildings. Highlights include: acceptance criteria for human comfort; design for walking excitation; evaluation and solutions of vibration problems; and design for sensitive equipment.

In addition to the pre-conference short course, a post-conference course on seismic design is scheduled.

"Lessons learned from the 1994 Northridge Earthquake have progressed through analytical and physical research and have been incorporated into recent seismic standard updates and model building codes," explained Robert F. Lorenz, AISC's Director of Education. "The purpose of this short course is to acquaint engi-

neers in low and moderate seismic regions with background information and practical design guidelines based on the new provisions of the 1997 NEHRP Standard and the 1997 AISC Seismic Provisions."

Speakers for the short course are Larry G. Griffis, P.E., Senior Vice President & Director of Structural Engineering for Walter P. Moore and Associates, Inc., and Viral B. Patel, P.E., Vice President of for Walter P. Moore and Associates, Inc., in Houston.

The Short Course Program includes:

- A New Look at Seismic Safety
- Seismic Provisions/Seismic Hazard
- NEHRP/AISC Seismic
- Structural Steel—New Requirements
- Seismic Systems/Requirements and Options
- Design Example—Concentric Braced Frame
- Design Example—Moment Frame
- Questions & Answers

The NSCC also offers 29 technical sessions and the 1998 T.R. Higgins Lecture by Professor Abulhassan Astaneh-Asl of the University of California-Berkeley. In addition, the winners of the 1998 Engineering Awards of Excellence will be announced.

An advance program has been mailed to all *Modern Steel Construction* subscribers. If you have not yet received your copy, you may request one by faxing 312/670-5403 or at AISC's web site: [www.aisc.org](http://www.aisc.org).

## 1998 NSCC Schedule and Speakers

- Reinforcement Design for Metal Building Systems (Donald Johnson, P.E., and James M. Fisher, Ph.D., P.E.)
- Design of Connections Framing into the Weak Axis of Columns (Duane S. Ellifrit, Ph.D., P.E., and Marshall T. Ferrell)
- Designing for Torsion (Charles Carter, P.E., and Paul Seaberg)
- Results of New Research (John Dawe, P. Eng., and Venkatesh K.R. Kodur, P.Eng.)
- Steel Joist Topics (Walter Schultz, P.E., Thomas M. Murray, Ph.D., P.E., and Cary M. Andrews, P.E.)
- Steel Deck Topics (Dick Heagler, Larry Luttrell and Sam Easterling)
- Engineering and Quality Criteria for Steel Structures (David T. Ricker and Cindi Zahn)

- 1997 AISC Seismic Provisions for Structural Steel Buildings (C. Mark Saunders, Subhash Goel and Gregory Deierlein)
- Seismic Design (Enrique Martinez-Romero)
- Specifications: Is Your Steel Specification Up-To-Date? (William Minchin and Richard DiSalvo)
- Design/Build: When It Works and When It Doesn't (Richard Sharpe, FAIA, and Kenneth Gible)
- Special Inspection (Frank Zamecnik and Terry Gilbertson)
- Electronic Data Interchange (Roger Stroud and Keith Grubb)
- World Wide Web (Jacques Cattan)
- Don't Be Caught Off Guard! Theft (Eugene F. Ferraro)
- Increasing Fabricators Profits (Phillip D. Sherrill, James E. Drylie and Dennis Randall)
- Are You Hiring the Right People? Personnel—Do You Need Them? Absolutely! (Charles Baco)

- The Customer is King, Right? Only If He Pays His Bills (Dan Biedenbender and Gerry Martin)
- EPA-Environmental Protection Agency (Ron Peppe)
- Welding Solutions (Jerry Stoball and Jeff Post)
- Details for Ductility (Omer Blodgett)
- Prequalification of Welding for Engineers (Duane Miller)
- Weld Inspection (Robert Shaw)
- Erector Certification (Fred Haas and Jim Mirgliata)
- The Practice of Field Welding Moment Connections (Roger Ferch)
- Temporary Bracing—Let's Have No More Failures (Mike West, John Bailey and Bob Dunn)
- Safety on the Jobsite (Barry L. Barger)
- Case Study: Phoenix Baseball Stadium (Stan Welton)

## HSS Seminars Scheduled To Kick Off In February

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 course is based on AISC's new *HSS Connection Manual*, which provides a consistent basis from which HSS connections can be designed, including simple shear and moment connections," explained Charles Carter, P.E., AISC's Director of Manuals. "It present the information that has been synthesized into a single practical sourcebook on HSS connection design.

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 is now available and can be purchased 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. If you don't receive one, please fax 312/670-5403.

## 1998 HSS Seminar Schedule

March 18 .....	Philadelphia
March 19 .....	Houston
April 28 .....	Cincinnati
April 29 .....	Chicago
May 19.....	Boston
May 20 .....	New York
June 2 .....	Denver
June 3 .....	Kansas City
June 16 .....	Los Angeles
June 17.....	San Francisco
June 18 .....	Seattle

## News Briefs....

### ATC Seismic Retrofit Seminar Proceedings Now Available

The Applied Technology Council (ATC) has issued a 518-page report documenting the presentations made at the ATC-29-1 Seminar on Non-structural Components. The "Proceedings of Seminar on Seismic Design, Retrofit, and Performance of Non-structural Components" focuses on architectural, electrical and mechanical components and their supports in buildings, hospitals and other essential facilities, and hazardous material and industrial facilities.

Copies of the ATC-29-1 report can be obtained from: ATC, 555 Twin Dolphin Dr., Suite 550, Redwood City, CA 94065 (ph: 650/595-1542; fax: 650/593-2320; email: atc@atcouncil.org; web: www.atcouncil.org). The price is \$50 plus s/h.

### ASCE Releases New Guide For Wind Load Provisions

The American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) has released "Guide to the use of Wind Load Provisions of ASCE7-95." The 128-page book is based on the provisions set forth in the "Minimum Design Loads for Buildings and Other Structures, ASCE 7-95" and features six detailed examples—completely worked out with specifications and illustrations.

Designed as a hands-on workbook, the guide is meant as an accompaniment for ASCE 7-95. Included are reviews of the provisions' history and background, detailed wind load calculations for six building configurations, significant changes from previous documents, and limitations of the analytical procedure.

Authored by Kishor C. Mehta and Richard D. Marshall, the Guide also can be used as a handy source of wind engineering information and also includes 64 bibliographical references.

Copies of the \$30 document can be obtained from: ASCE, 1801 Alexander Bell Dr., Reston, VA 20191-4400 (ph: 800/548-2723; fax: 703/295-6211; email: marketing@asce.org).

### Sustainable Steel Conference Scheduled For March

Sustainability is the environmental buzzword of the 1990s. And nowhere is sustainability more viable than in the growing industry of green building construction.

On March 18-21, international leaders in the field of environmentally responsible design and construction will meet in Kissimmee, FL, for the first International Conference on Steel in Green Building Construction, Sustainable Steel.

Topics to be covered include:

- Material specification and design decisions using life cycle assessment;
- The rapidly evolving market for green buildings;
- Emerging trends and international perspectives;
- The environmental characteristics of steel; and
- Economic trends and regulatory challenges.

In addition to four plenary sessions, the conference will feature 16 breakout sessions and a variety of pre- and post-conference forums.

For more information, contact: Sustainable Steel, 1511 K St., N.W., Suite 600, Washington, DC 20005 (ph: 202/347-8200; fax: 202/393-5043; email: ssteelconf@aol.com).

### Colorado State University To Host National Student Steel Bridge Competition

Colorado State University—Ft. Collins has been selected to host the 1998 National Student Steel Bridge Competition scheduled for May 22-23.

The Student Steel Bridge Competition is an annual event whereby teams of students design, fabricate and construct 20' steel bridges capable of carrying a minimum load of 2,500 lbs. Teams are given site conditions, member sizes, weight limitations and design loads. Prizes are awarded in seven categories: construction speed; lightness; stiffness; efficiency; economy; aesthetics; and overall performance.

According to Fromy Rosenberg, AISC Assistant Director of Education:

"The competition gives civil engineering students experience in solving the kind of real life design and construction problems frequently encountered in actual practice."

The schools competing in the National Competition finished either first or second in one of the 20 regional Student Steel Bridge Competitions held during the past year.

Major sponsors of the National Student Steel Bridge Competition are AISC, ASCE, the National Steel Bridge Alliance, AISI, and the James F. Lincoln Arc Welding Foundation. Other sponsors are Chaparral Steel and the Rocky Mountain Steel Construction Association.

### New Tall Building's Book

Developed to serve as a comprehensive reference, the updated edition of "Steel, Concrete and Composite Design of Tall Buildings" offers authoritative information on all aspects of steel, concrete and composite design of tall buildings, with extensive information on seismic and wind loads.

The author, Bungale S. Taranath, S.E., Ph.D., is a senior project manager at John A. Martin & Associates in Los Angeles and has written numerous technical papers and given many seminars on tall building construction.

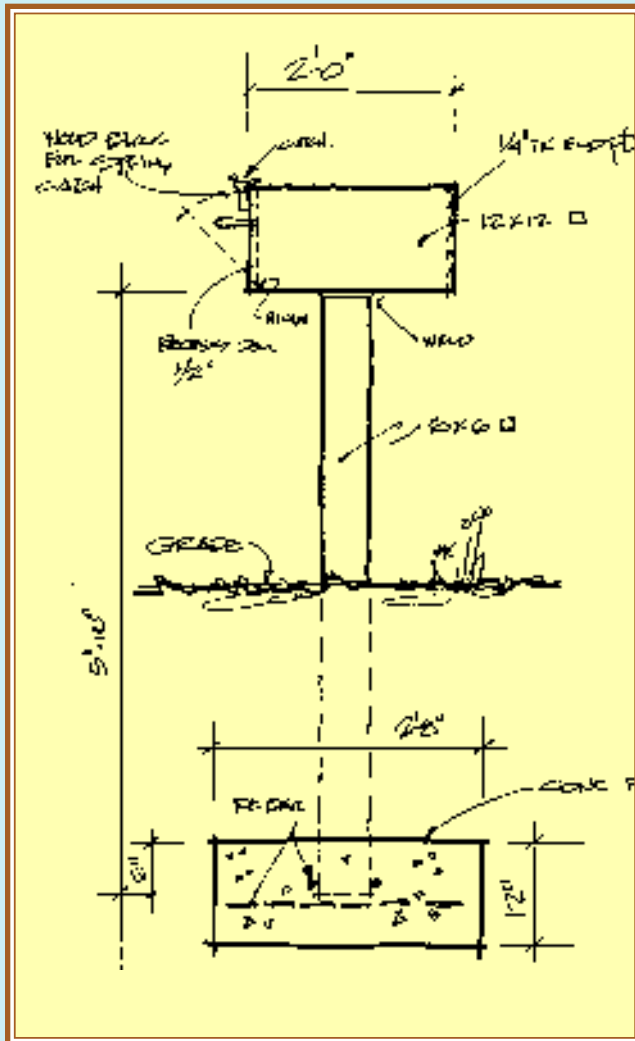
Copies are available for \$79.95 + s/h from: McGraw-Hill, 11 W. 19th St., 4th Floor, New York, NY 10011-4285.

## Correspondence

### Dear Editor:

Over the last four or five years, I have been plagued by the mid-night skulkers who, after finishing off a six-pack or two, bash the heck out of our mailbox with baseball bats in the wee hours of the morning. For years, I was constantly renovating and repairing my mailbox.

Finally, out of sheer frustration, I built a new mailbox out of steel, using a hollow structural section for the support and anchoring it in a large concrete footing. Since last fall, no one has given it even a tap, while my neighbors are still fixing and replacing, and muttering incantations of blue words.



*Editors Note: Great idea, but a few words of caution. Postal regulations*

*require, for safety reasons, mailboxes to be breakaway.*