

Steel News & Events

National Steel Erectors & Metal Building Dealers Association Hosts Metal Building/Construction Trade Show

The National Steel Erectors & Metal Building Dealers Association, Inc. (NSEMBDA) hosted its mid-west, Metal Building/Construction Trade Show at the Adam's Mark Hotel in Kansas City, MO on March 15, 16 & 17, 2001. NSEMBDA routinely hosts four regional trade shows per year. National companies such as Dominion, Design Components, Vic West, Metal Sales, Guardian Insulation, Star Building Systems, Bay Insulation, MBCI, BC Metal Building Company, and many others have exhibited at NSEMBDA trade shows.

With regional and national companies participating in these trade shows, it provides contractors of the steel industry an opportunity to meet additional manufacturers and distributors and view their products and services first-hand. Contractors are the major part of the construction industry and they deserve an opportunity to attend the one trade show structured to serve their needs. Furthermore, NSEMBDA believes that, in years past, the metal building industry has been wrongfully labeled with the opinion that its buildings are cheap, they leak, turn to rust, and have a short life span. NSEMBDA wants to help change that opinion by hosting an event where all the newest products and innovations are displayed for contractors and all design professionals!

The purpose of NSEMBDA is to link its members with building manufacturers, metal building dealers, insulation manufacturers, steel erectors and other companies affiliated with the metal building industry.

NSEMBDA will host its next Metal Building/Construction Expo on June 14, 15 & 16, 2001 at the Donald E. Stephens Convention Center (formerly "The Rosemont"), in Rosemont, IL. The telephone number to call for additional information pertaining to the trade show or for association membership is 712/239-6679 (Fax: 712/239-6717).

Get Down to E-Business at AEC Internet Strategies 2001

Natick, MA— Is the promise of an e-Business revolution in the fragmented and inefficient design and construction industry over? Don't count on it. While last year's hype has been replaced by realism, the real change is quietly taking hold.

Want to see the proof? Join a host of business leaders from the Architecture, Engineering, and Construction community when they convene on June 18-20 in Chicago for ZweigWhite's AEC Internet Strategies 2001.

AEC Internet Strategies 2001 is the annual information technology and e-business summit for top managers in architecture, engineering, and construction. The program is presented by ZweigWhite in conjunction with the A/E/C Systems 2001 tradeshow in Chicago. Sponsors include Bentley Systems and AECWorkForce. Last year this conference attracted a sell-out audience of over 200 delegates.

This year's agenda will address all aspects of how the Internet impacts the AEC business practices—including marketing, recruiting, project management, procurement, knowledge management, design productivity, and more.

Keynote presenters include:

John F. Igoe, Vice President of Facilities & Real Estate, Palm, Inc. on Lessons from the Wireless

World: Design, Construction and m-Business.

John Macomber, CEO of BuildingVision, on Back to Business: Leadership Strategies for the AEC Supply Chain.

Ken Sanders, Partner, Zimmer Gunsul Frasca Partnership on The Internet Timeline 2001.

An "Extranet Survivor" panel featuring the top executives from e-Builder, Bentley Systems/Viecon, and Bricsnet on how their companies are thriving in the construction market.

For complete program details, log on to

www.AECInternet2001.com

To register for AEC Internet Strategies 2001, call 800/466-6275 or e-mail us at info@zweigwhite.com.

Design Firms Provide More Flexible Work Environments in Tight Labor Market

Natick, MA—According to the new 2001 Policies, Procedures & Benefits Survey of A/E/P & Environmental Consulting Firms published by ZweigWhite, hiring is more challenging now than ever before. In fact, 61% of firms surveyed for the 2001 edition of the survey said hiring is "very difficult"—a steady increase from the 54% and 57% that said so in the 1999 and 2000 editions, respectively.

The most common reason cited by survey respondents for hiring difficulties was a tight labor market, but other recurring reasons included high salary expectations and competition from the technology industry. And a third of firm managers surveyed said that turnover is higher among recent college graduates than it is among all employees.

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Perhaps in response to the tight labor market, design and environmental consulting firms have improved their policies and non-monetary benefits in recent years. Most firms (79%) now offer flexible work hours ("flex time")—the highest percentage since this survey was first conducted in 1995. And the percentage of firms that say both salaried and hourly staff are eligible to work flexible hours is also at its highest ever—86% this year, compared with a low of 63% in 1997.

In addition, nearly three-quarters (74%) of firms now have "casual" or dress-down Fridays, compared to 59% in 1999. While it may not seem like an important benefit, dress-down Fridays contribute to the casual work environment that will entice professionals who may be willing to work hard, but not to wear a suit and tie every day.

The 2001 Policies, Procedures & Benefits Survey of A/E/P & Environmental Consulting Firms is available from the publisher for \$275, plus \$4 shipping and handling. Contact ZweigWhite, P.O. Box 8325, One Apple Hill Drive, Natick, MA 01760, tel: 508/651-1559, fax: 508/653-6522, e-mail info@zweigwhite.com or visit our web site at

www.zweigwhite.com/store/svpol.

and handling. Call 216/241-7333 for order information.

MBMA Releases ASTM Standards Guide

The Metal Building Manufacturers Association (MBMA) recently commissioned the printing of a compilation of ASTM standards used by the metal building systems industry. The compilation contains 156 of the most current standards and totals 1,200 pages.

Selected ASTM Standards for Metal Building Systems, 2001 is available from MBMA (while supplies last) for \$325 plus shipping