TETRA PAK, INC.
Vernon Hills, IL

JUROR’S COMMENTS
The project is a wonderfully scaled and detailed ensemble that blends well with its site.
This newly constructed U.S. headquarters for the world leader in liquid food packaging demanded thorough understanding of corporate culture’s need for a team-oriented, flexible and open floor plan integrating multiple office disciplines and accommodation of the corporate commitment to sustainable design, integrating economic viability and environmental integrity.

Long-span “king-post” trusses create column-free, flexible office space. The steel structure and mechanical systems are woven together and left exposed to create a technically integrated armature for office functions. Enclosed offices and “huddle rooms” are pulled back form the exterior wall, allowing exposure of open office workstations to the forest to the east and south. Expansive glazing, in tandem with soaring, 14’ to 18’ ceilings, further enhance the sense of intimacy with the natural setting.

Environmental sensitivity was demonstrated via novel construction techniques: placing the construction crane within the footprint of the facility and building out to preserve trees, utilization of recycled steel, acoustical ceiling tile and other building components, and recycling 75% of all construction debris.
PROJECT TEAM

ARCHITECT: Solomon Cordwell Buenz & Associates, Chicago, IL

OWNER: Van Vissingen & Company, Lincolnshire, IL

ENGINEER: Robert Miller & Associates, Park Ridge, IL

STEEL FABRICATOR: Zalk Joseph Fabricators, LLC, Stoughton, WI (AISC member)

STEEL ERECTOR: Area Erectors, Rockford, IL (NEA member)

STEEL DETAILER: Zalk Joseph Fabricators, LLC, Stoughton, WI (AISC member)

GENERAL CONTRACTOR: Power Construction, Schaumburg, IL

SOFTWARE: RAM Steel

PHOTOGRAPHER: Hedrich Blessing, Chicago, IL