

NSBA Names New Executive Director

Conn Abnee, former Executive Director of the Geothermal Heat Pump Consortium (GHPC), has been named the new Executive Director of the National Steel Bridge Alliance (NSBA). Beginning December 1, he will be located at NSBA's Chicago headquarters.

An expert in political affairs, marketing and association management, Abnee is also an experienced construction manager for numerous industrial, commercial and electric generating facilities. Prior to joining the GHPC, he was the Marketing and Advertising Manager for the East Kentucky Power Cooperative.

"During the past five years, the NSBA has accomplished many of its technical goals, including the establishment of the AASHTO/NSBA Steel Bridge Collaboration and the growth of the World Steel Bridge Symposium," said John Grzybowski, CEO of PDM

Bridge and Chairman of the NSBA. "Now we need to redouble our marketing efforts to help inform designers, specifiers and owners about the many advantages of steel bridges. Conn Abnee has extensive marketing and association experience and we believe his talents will help us meet these goals."

During Abnee's tenure with the GHPC, geothermal heat pump technology utilization grew 30% annually. In addition, membership dues exceeded \$6 million and lobbying efforts saw

more than 20 members of congress swing support to geothermal heat pumps.

"I am looking forward to an outstanding opportunity to help the steel bridge industry increase their market share and make steel the predominant choice for bridge construction across the country and internationally," Abnee said. "After having the opportunity of meeting the executive council and staff, I look forward to a smooth transition and a dynamic future for the industry."

The National Steel Bridge Alliance, a division of the American Institute of Steel Construction, is a unified industry organization of businesses and agencies interested in the development, promotion and construction of cost-effective steel bridges. For more information on the NSBA, please visit their web site at www.nsbaweb.org.



2003 Modern Steel Construction Detailer Listing

Modern Steel Construction will be publishing a listing of structural steel detailers in its February 2003 issue. To be included in the listing, please go to www.aisc.org/detailerinfo and follow the instructions for the electronic form. Even if you have been included in the listing in previous years, you must fill

out the form every year to ensure we have the most current and accurate information for our readers. The deadline for this information is December 24, 2002. Please e-mail Beth Pollak at pollak@modernsteel.com if you have any questions or concerns.

modern
Steel
construction

Call for Papers: 10th Nordic Steel Conference

Copenhagen, Denmark
June 7-9, 2004

Authors are invited to submit 75-100 word abstracts (in English) of proposed papers for this international conference focusing on the latest innovations in steel construction. Papers are invited on the following topics: modern steel office buildings, future buildings-development, building façades, long span bridges, new bridge materials, energy and the environment, and modern steel production technologies. Complete conference and submittal information is available at www.steelinfo.dk.

FMA Names New President & CEO

The board of directors of the Fabricators & Manufacturers Association, International (FMA), has named Gerald M. Shankel as president and CEO. Shankel began his duties September 30 at FMA's Rockford, IL headquarters, succeeding John Nandzik, who has retired.

Shankel has spent much of his professional career in associations for the manufacturing industry. Most recently he served as executive director of The National Association of Corrosion Engineers (NACE) International. He has also served as associate executive director of finance and administration

for the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) in New York City. Shankel holds an undergraduate degree in business from Alma College, Alma, MI, and a master's degree in business from the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor.

As president and CEO, Shankel will oversee the educational and membership divisions of FMA, as well as its publishing affiliate, The Croydon Group, Ltd., publisher of The FABRICATOR® and other leading magazines for the metal-forming and fabricating industry.

STEEL NEWS & EVENTS

Get ready for NASCC 2003 in Baltimore!

The 2003 North American Steel Construction Conference (NASCC) is set for April 2-5 in Baltimore, MD—and will feature the newest innovations in structural steel engineering, fabrication, detailing and erection. This once-a-year event is an opportunity for design and construction professionals to learn how to apply the latest technology and techniques to everyday work; to discover new product offerings from leading industry vendors; and to network with peers, customers and future employees.

The conference features presentations by industry experts such as Tom Ferrell (on designing with single-plate connections), Linda Hanagan (on building floor vibrations), Jeffrey Packer (on HSS connections), Michael West (on erection stability issues), Emily Bailey (on managing EEO exposure), Michael Lederle (on cambering), and Janine Reid. See the advance program in this issue of *MSC!*



The NASCC is also the ideal place to view the tools you use everyday. This year's exhibit hall expects to feature more than 200 booths. Displays will include software (engineering, detailing and fabrication), fabrication equipment, bolts, safety equipment, coatings, and much more.

This year's NASCC features more than 40 technical sessions aimed at practicing structural engineers, fabricators, detailers, and erectors. In addition, the conference features six special events:

- SSRC Stability Tutorial, included with full registration

- Practical Steel Design Tutorial: a 4.5-hour program that provides instruction on basic design from wind and low-seismic conditions; included with full registration.
- Marketing Short Course: a four-hour program that focuses on successful techniques to help increase business, including internal auditing and presentation skills.
- Financial Management Short Course
- Short Course on Correcting/Preventing Common Design & Construction Problems: a four-hour program that focuses on solutions to common problems, and suggestions to prevent the problems from occurring.
- Short Course on Bolting and Welding: a seven-hour program that focuses on both welded connection design and the fundamentals of high-strength bolting.

Join 3,000 of your peers for the steel industry's biggest event! Register online at www.aisc.org.

Miller Introduces Free Online Courses

Miller Electric Mfg. Co. now offers free Basic MIG (wire welding) and Basic Electricity online training courses. Miller's Basic Electricity Online Training Course covers the basics of electricity, electricity generation and safety, and how these considerations relate to welding processes. Users can work at their own pace and return at any time to review information and concepts. Starting with a brief history of MIG welding, the course reviews the process' advantages, specific applications, and unit components and controls. Two series of exercises round out the program, quizzing users on what they've learned.

Interactive exercises and animated diagrams drive home important concepts and make the learning process entertaining. For information on the free Basic MIG and Basic Electricity online training courses, or Miller's other training programs and products, including their line of interactive training CD-ROMs, visit www.miller-welds.com.

Management Series Updated

Now available is a four-volume follow-up to the best-selling *Management Ideas That Work!* series. The set includes all-new insights from industry expert Mark Zweig, in a collection of his best articles from weekly management advisor *The Zweig Letter*. The books provide useful ideas and solutions to challenging problems in A/E firms.

The collection is an excellent resource for firm principals who want to see their firms grow and prosper. The set is available for \$125 at www.zweigwhite.com.

Correction

In the July 2002 issue of *Modern Steel Construction*, the architectural team for the Diamond Ranch High School (2002 I.D.E.A.S. merit award winner) should have been identified as Morphosis (Santa Monica, CA) in joint venture with Thomas Blurock Architects (Costa Mesa, CA). We regret the error. A corrected version of the article is available at www.modernsteel.com.

In Memoriam

William J. Tilley, Jr.

William J. (Bill) Tilley, Jr., former president and CEO of Bristol Steel and Iron Works, Inc. (Bristol, VA) died Thursday, October 3, 2002, at St. Vincent's Private Hospital, Dublin, Ireland. Tilley served on the AISC board of directors from 1963 to 1983. He was chairman of the board from 1980 to 1982.

Thomas M. Fitch

Thomas M. Fitch, a former president of the Central Fabricators Association (CFA) and a former member of AISC's board of directors, died on Sunday, October 20, 2002, in a Chicago area hospital. Fitch served as president of the Kansas City Structural Steel Company (Kansas City, MO), the Rio Grande Steel Company (Albuquerque, NM), and the Darbyshire Steel Company (El Paso, TX). He was CFA president from 1987-1979 and served on AISC's board of directors from 1980-1982.