

2004 listing of Structural Steel Detailers

The following is a listing of structural steel detailing firms. The information was obtained by contacting AISC- and NISD-member detailers, participants in last year's list and members of the Steel-Link list serve. Participants completed an on-line form on AISC's web site. AISC-member detailers are highlighted in red; AISC-member fabricators are highlighted in blue, and an asterisk (*) denotes NISD-member detailers.

Geographic Distribution

This year's survey drew responses from more than 450 firms. The states with the largest number of respondents were Texas and Florida, with more than 30 responses each, together more than 13 percent of the total respondents. Pennsylvania, Florida, Ohio, New York, North Carolina, Missouri, and Ontario, Canada, followed, with responses in the high teens, each near 3 percent of the firms listed. Canada was the most highly represented non-U.S. country, with 45 detailers participating, almost 10 percent of the total. Detailers from India, Chile, Australia, New Zealand, China, Taiwan, Israel, United Kingdom and the Philippines also participated in the survey, totaling slightly less than 4 percent of the detailers listed.

More than 12 percent of those surveyed had staff located outside of North America. Most of these firms had more than half of their staff working abroad.

More than half of all respondents had detailed projects located outside of the U.S.A, Canada, and Mexico, about 10% more than last year's total. Nearly 80% said they had detailed metric projects in the past.

Firm Sizes and Skills

As last year, most detailing firms that participated in the survey were small companies, with a median of four detailers and two checkers. Most respondents were established businesses, with 13 as the median number of years in operation.

Software and Technology

Most detailers now have CAD capabilities. 75% of respondents indicated that all of their staff uses CAD regularly. Only 2% didn't use it at all. More than 40% of those surveyed listed company web sites.

Once again, AutoCAD was by far the most popular software package used by detailers, indicated by more than 78 percent of respondents. Design Data's SDS/2 software was next, indicated by about 22 percent of respondents. Tekla's Xsteel followed with 17 percent; SSDCP with 11 percent; and SteelCad Consulting Corporation with 8 percent. More than 9 percent of respondents indicated that they used a custom or proprietary software package.

For the second time, the survey included a question regarding experience with Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) via the CIS-2 protocol. More than 22 percent of respondents indicated that they

have used this technology, up slightly from last year's survey. ★

Detailing Software Most Commonly Cited

1. AutoCAD
2. Design Data – SDS/2
3. Tekla Inc. – Xsteel
4. SSDCP
5. SteelCad
6. DetailCAD
7. Omnitech – Descon
8. IntelliCAD
9. FastCAD
10. CDS – Asteel

Many detailers also listed proprietary or custom software as their primary detailing tools.

One of our favorite responses was from a detailer who said he uses "a Pentel HB .9 mm" mechanical pencil. We guess not everyone is ready to join the digital revolution!

Attention Detailers

Please e-mail or fax any errors, corrections, or omissions to Beth Pollak (pollak@modernsteel.com, fax 312.670.5403). Information received by March 1, 2004 will be included in an updated version of this listing, to be posted in mid-March, at www.modernsteel.com. Also, if any of your contact information changes during the year, please notify Beth so that we are able to contact you for the 2005 listing. Remember, you have to complete the survey every year to be listed. Thanks!

Company Name	E-mail	Web	Phone	State/Prov./Country	Years Operating	No. Detailers	No. Support Staff	% Staff Using CAD	% Staff Not in North America	Metric Detailing	International Work	CIS/2 Experience
Wayin Engineering Company	tkysteel@ms11.hinet.net	www.wayin.com.tw	886.2.2622.5852	Taiwan	8	34	8	100%	100%	Y	Y	N
Weaver & Associates	djweaver@weaverholdings.com	www.weaverholdings.com	740.345.4260	OH	12	7	5	75-99%	none	Y	Y	N
Webber-Rookes Deatiling Inc.*	mario@wrdet.com	www.wrdet.com	972.578.0001	TX	19	12	6	75-99%	1-24%	Y	Y	N
WEH Drafting Service*	wholt@wehdraftingservice.com	www.wehdraftingservice.com	863.648.9636	FL	2	1	1	100%	none	Y	N	N
Wesko Detailers, Inc.	weskodetailers@cs.com	www.weskodetailers.com	801.261.5255	UT	21	5	2	100%	none	Y	N	N
West Coast Steel Detailing*	steeldtl@aol.com		818.704.7432	CA	16	2	1	100%	none	Y	Y	Y
Western Drafting Board Detailing Services	nelsongarcia259@msn.com	www.wdb-rjc@netasia.net	619.245.3537	Philippines	6	14	4	100%	75-99%	Y	Y	N
Wheaton Detailing Service Inc.	andywheaton@wheatondetailing.com	www.wheatondetailing.com	281.655.4441	TX	15	7	4	100%	none	Y	Y	Y
Willard J. Lester Inc.	lesteregal@aol.com		631.585.7995	NY	45	6	4	75-99%	none	N	N	N
Wm. Duncan & Assoc., Inc.	dunc9642@bellsouth.net		678.407.1479	GA	1	2	1	100%	none	Y	Y	Y
Worthington Detailing	rew@go-concepts.com		513.933.8245	OH	13	2	2	50-74%	none	Y	Y	N