I recently read the most valuable article of all time in the May 2004 issue of Modern Steel Construction magazine: “30 Good Tips for Connection Design” by Carol Drucker, S.E.

This is a masterpiece of engineering common sense and should be posted on every bulletin board in every engineering and drafting firm in the world, especially the ones overseas. I have now incorporated this article as part of a first source “rules of thumb and final check list” when any of our jobs are ready for checking. All these tips are extremely valuable, and if everyone in the industry acknowledged this, steel projects would certainly benefit from this wisdom.

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Editors’ Note: Another excellent reference is “57 Tips for Reducing Connection Costs” by Victor Shneur, P.E., from the July 2003 issue of Modern Steel Construction.