

Deep Column Research for Steel Moment Frames

Lehigh University performed a study to investigate the effects of a floor slab on the seismic behavior of an interior moment connection between a pair of wide flange steel beams and a deep column. Emphasis was placed on a Reduced Beam Section (RBS) type of connection, because of its current popularity and the fact that recent research suggests the need for further investigations into the seismic behavior of RBS connections to a deep column.

The study involved three main tasks. These tasks included: (1) performing analytical parametric studies using nonlinear finite element models to evaluate the effect of various para-

meters on connection behavior; (2) conducting an experimental program with six full-scale test specimens to access the effects of selected parameters on connection performance and to examine whether RBS connections to a deep column can be qualified for seismic use in accordance with the standards in Appendix S of the 2002 AISC *Seismic Provisions*; and (3) using the results from the analytical and experimental studies to assess current design criteria and develop new design procedures for moment connections to a deep column, if required.

This research is available free of charge at www.aisc.org/research. ★

AISC Seismic Provisions Available for Public Review

The 2005 AISC *Seismic Provisions for Structural Steel Buildings* (AISC 341) are currently available for public review. This is the second public review of the 2005 *Seismic Provisions* that will revise and replace the 2002 version. The document is available for free downloading on the AISC web site at www.aisc.org. Copies are also available (for a \$12 nominal charge) by calling 312.670.5411. Please submit comments to Cynthia J. Duncan, director of specifications, at duncan@aisc.org using the public review form provided on the AISC web site. Comments must be received by Monday, October 25, 2004 in order to receive consideration. ★

Green Joins Steel Joist Institute as Technical Director

The Steel Joist Institute announces the addition of Perry S. Green, Ph.D., as technical director. He will assume the role of technical director October 1, 2004.

As technical director, Green will be responsible for coordinating the Institute's engineering, research and educational committees. He will also provide engineering assistance to design professionals and give presentations at technical seminars. Green is an AISC grant recipient and has conducted research on

extended shear tab connections. He is an active member of the Society for Industrial Archeology and currently serves an elected three-year term on their Board of Directors.

Green is also a member of the Structural Stability Research Council, the American Iron and Steel Institute and the American Society of Civil Engineers. He holds a doctorate in civil engineering from Lehigh University. ★

Correction

In the article "Music in the Park" in the August 2004 issue of *Modern Steel Construction*, the detailer and detailing software for the trellis portion of the Millennium Park project were incorrectly identified. AISC-member Industrial Detailing, Inc. detailed the trellis, which was fabricated by AISC-member Acme Structural, Inc. The detailing software used was SDS/2 from AISC-associate-member Design Data. We regret any confusion caused by the error. ★

AISC/DBIA Joint Summit to be held in Chicago on November 2

The impact of a volatile construction material market on the domestic construction industry has never been greater. Builders are operating in an environment where the growing global economy is creating an unprecedented demand for construction materials just as a weakened dollar is making all products more expensive. The inflationary and availability pressures on many primary building materials-combined with the difficulty of forecasting cost and availability trends-places significant financial risk on owners and project decision makers.

Increasingly, there is a need for more innovative and cost-effective use of construction materials and erection methods. Contract documents must also be more complete and accurate in reflecting designs that not only meet

customer expectations but are also manufacturing and erection friendly.

A new AISC one-day summit offered in cooperation with the Design Build Institute of America offers specialty steel contractors valuable information on:

- Lowering risk for themselves and their clients during these volatile pricing times;
- Increasing their competitive edge with design and construction industry partnerships;
- Utilizing early involvement tools to ensure more complete contract documents;
- Taking advantage of a volatile market to position their companies for improved profitability.

The Summit will be held Tuesday, November 2, 2004 at the Chicago

Hilton Hotel. Registration is just \$150 for AISC members (\$250 for non-members) and attendees can also receive reduced registration fees for the DBIA Show, which immediately follows the fabricator event. Speakers include Robert Murray, vice president of economic affairs with McGraw-Hill Companies Construction Information Group and Lee Evey, president of the Design-Build Institute of America.

During the summit, steel fabricators will gain valuable insights on the changing construction market environment and how now is the time to gain marketplace benefits through early involvement, integration, and EDI.

For more information, visit www.aisc.org/FabricatorEmpowerment or call 312.670.5421. ★

RAM International Offers Free User Seminars

RAM International is offering a series of free seminars to current users of RAM International products and to those who would like to learn about them. These seminars demonstrate the integrated analysis, design and drafting solutions that RAM International offers. Current clients will learn how to better use their software, and attendees who do not already use RAM products can learn about RAM International's software products.

The seminars will feature an overview of RAM International software products, including:

- **RAM Connection**—designs shear and moment connections for wide-flange or hollow sections per AISC ASD and LRFD. Coming soon will be the design of braced connections.
- **RAM CADstudio**—construction document management system. RAM CADstudio works inside

AutoCAD and links the engineering design model and the construction documents.

- **RAM Structural System**—an integrated package for modeling, analysis, design and drafting for building structures.

Attendees will receive their choice of one of the following: RAM SBeam, RAM SColumn or RAM BasePlate.

Seminars begin at 8:30 a.m. and adjourn at 11:45 a.m. Refreshments will be served during the breaks. Space is limited so pre-registration is required.

For more information and seminar locations, visit www.ramint.com or e-mail Kerry St. Germain at kerry@ramint.com. Upcoming seminars include: Philadelphia (Oct. 20); Chicago (Nov. 3); Cincinnati (Nov. 23); St. Louis (Dec. 1); and Wichita, KS (Jan. 13). More seminars will be scheduled soon. ★

Register for an AISC Seminar Today!

AISC's fall 2004 seminar series is underway! AISC offers cutting-edge continuing education courses at reasonable prices. With the "Bring a Buddy" program, each paid registrant can bring along one colleague or friend for only \$100 extra! This fall, AISC offers five continuing education seminars in cities across the nation through December 2004. Don't miss the chance for you and your friends to hear from the experts!

For more detailed information and to register, please visit www.aisc.org/seminars, or contact Carol Pivonka, director of continuing education at 406.652.9787 or pivonka@aisc.org. ★

New Version of Specification Tool Available

The Construction Specifications Institute (CSI) and Building Systems Design, Inc. (BSD) announced the release of a new version of BSD SpecLink, an innovative software product used in developing specifications for nonresidential building design and construction projects. It now enables users to create performance-based, short form, and prescriptive construction specifications for any project delivery method. With just one mouse click, the new version can at any time rearrange a project's specifications per the 2004 or 1995 editions of the Master-Format organizational standard.

For further information on BSD SpecLink, visit www.bssoftlink.com or call 888.BSD.SOFT (888.273.7638). For more information about CSI's Master-Format, visit www.csinet.org/master-format. ★

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Just can't wait to spill the beans? Tell us your news! We are always interested in finding out the latest buzz in steel and sharing the knowledge. Please send your news to:

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