In 18 months, people will accept that buildings operationalized—that sustainability can’t be pre-

We’ve introduced a digital edition so people who don’t want a paper copy can read the entire issue (ads included) online at www.modernsteel.com.

Likewise, the digital edition means less fossil fuel consumption from shipping the magazine.

Our parent company, AISC, has taken green even further. Our offices use energy-efficient lighting and we have occupancy sensors on the light switches. Offices all have recycling boxes. As a benefit, AISC offers its employees the opportunity purchase public transit cards with pretax dollars—and more than 96% of AISC’s headquarters staff commutes by public transportation. We’ve moved to using eFax (where our faxes come to our Outlook inboxes) instead of paper faxes. We’ve introduced ePubs, where members can access Engineering Journal, design guides, and about 15,000 pages of technical information online rather than purchasing paper copies that need to be printed and sent through the mail. We don’t print out and store membership applications and subscription renewal forms; instead we accept electronic files that we store on our servers—no paper needed (an economic benefit not just from less paper use, but also from less printer maintenance and supplies). And, of course, we’re trying to make NASCC: The Steel Conference as green as possible (more on this in the coming months).

Of course, we’re not alone. Steel mills have reduced energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions by more than a third. A number of fabricators have re-lamped for energy efficiency and are looking to incorporate daylighting into their shops. Recycling is de rigueur. In fact, there’s even a session at the upcoming Steel Conference (April 3–5 in Nashville) called “Greening the Shop”—visit www.aisc.org/nasc for more information. (And talking about recycling, steel of course is the most recycled material in the world and all of the wide-flange rolled in the U.S. uses more than 95% recycled material. Steel is recycled, recyclable, and reusable.)

What are you doing to be green at your company? Drop me an email at melnick@aisc.org or log on to www.modernsteel.com, click on “reader feedback” and post a comment to start a conversation.

Scott Melnick
EDITOR