

# World Steel Bridge Symposium Convening in TEXAS

Bridge experts from around the globe gather to learn and to share.

**THE NATIONAL STEEL BRIDGE ASSOCIATION'S** 2009 World Steel Bridge Symposium & Workshops (WSBS) will be held at the Henry B. Gonzalez Convention Center in San Antonio, Texas, on November 17–20. Held every two years, the conference features a series of workshops, technical sessions, and networking activities.

The WSBS gathers steel bridge owners, designers and contractors from around the world to discuss all aspects of steel bridge design and construction. The exhibit hall, which this year includes more than 75 exhibitors, includes products and services to advance the state of the art of the steel bridge industry. Attendance this year is expected to top 600 bridge policy makers, engineers, and industry guests.

Several pre-conference workshops are also being offered as an official part of the 2009 symposium.

## **SSPC Workshop: Bridge Coatings: Today's Systems, Tomorrow's Performance** Tuesday, November 17, 1:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Get an overview of today's corrosion protection systems (paint, galvanizing, metalizing, weathering steel), including case studies detailing the proper application of the systems and also describing their successful performance after many years in service.

## **PreFabricated Bridge Elements and Systems Workshop** Tuesday, November 17, 1:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Prefabricated bridge elements and systems (PFBES) are becoming an increasingly important tool to facilitate accelerated bridge construction. This workshop will present various PFBES and feature examples of successful application of PFBES in steel bridge projects.

## **Accelerated Construction Technologies Workshop** Wednesday, November 18, 8:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Presentations will address various contracting strategies, staging techniques, construction methods and the use of prefabricated bridge elements to achieve accelerated bridge construction.

Kicking off the symposium on Wednesday afternoon will be Per Tveit, whose keynote address is titled "Genesis and Development of the Network Bridge Concept." Tveit is professor emeritus of Agder University in Norway and the world's leading expert on network arches. The network tied arch, with sloping hangers,

improves on the traditional tied arch (with vertical hangers) by reducing demand in the arch by up to 75% resulting in a significant savings in structural steel and providing an improved redundancy.

Multiple sessions are offered each day of the symposium. Wednesday afternoon, following the opening session and keynote address, one session will focus on erection while a second session deals with analysis. The Thursday morning sessions include the headings of Texas, Security, Signature Bridges, and Practical Design.

Thursday afternoon sessions include Skew, Fabricator Interest, Curved Girders, and Cost Effective. Three of the symposium's final four sessions, on Friday morning, cover a variety of topics and so have been labeled "Potpourri." The fourth is, simply, Fatigue/Fracture.

For more detailed information including listing of specific papers and authors for each session, visit [www.steelbridges.org/wsbs](http://www.steelbridges.org/wsbs).

The symposium also will highlight the NSBA's Prize Bridge Awards, which bi-annually honor the most innovative steel bridges. More information on the competition, including a list of winning entries going back to the 1920s, can be found at [www.steelbridges.org/prizebridge](http://www.steelbridges.org/prizebridge).

The WSBS exhibit hall will open Wednesday afternoon at 3 p.m. with a reception from 5:00 p.m.–7:00 p.m. Thursday the exhibits will be open all day, beginning at 7:30 a.m. The Thursday evening reception begins at 6:00 p.m.

Online registration for the 2009 WSBS is now open. For more information on the symposium, call 312.670.5402 or visit [www.steelbridges.org/wsbs](http://www.steelbridges.org/wsbs). **MSC**

## **Who is the NSBA?**

The National Steel Bridge Alliance (NSBA) is organized as a unified voice for the steel bridge industry. The NSBA seeks to facilitate/coordinate the industry efforts to enhance the deployment of steel bridge design and construction in the U.S. through technology confidence building, infrastructure strengthening and market awareness. The NSBA maintains a committed focus on assisting its membership with their bridge design needs and technical information associated with steel bridge construction. For more information visit [www.steelbridges.org](http://www.steelbridges.org).