

AWARDS

Museum Building Garner International Recognition

The Taubman Museum of Art building in Roanoke, Va., has been awarded a 2009 International Architect Award. The 81,000-sq.-ft structure is a dramatic composition of flowing, layered forms in steel, patinated zinc and high-performance glass and pays sculptural tribute to the Blue Ridge Mountains that provide Roanoke's backdrop and shape the region's spirit. The building was designed by Los Angeles architect Randall Stout and featured in the September 2008 issue of *Modern Steel Construction*. Structural engineering

was provided by DeSimone Consulting Engineers, San Francisco.

The International Architecture Awards program recognizes the best built and unbuilt architecture from around the world and has become an important barometer for the future direction of new architectural design and thinking today. The award was co-presented by The Chicago Athenaeum: Museum of Architecture and Design and Metropolitan Arts Press Ltd. and The European Centre for Architecture Art Design and Urban Studies.



Randall Stout Architects, Inc.

The Taubman Museum of Art in Roanoke, Va., celebrated its one-year anniversary in the award-winning new facility in November 2009.

TECHNOLOGY

Technology Makes Coal Use Sustainable

Hamon Research-Cottrell, Somerville, N.J., has entered into a formal license agreement with J-Power EnTech, Tokyo, to market the firm's ReACT technology in North America. ReACT (Regenerative Activated Coke Technology) is an advanced multi-pollutant control technology for highly efficient control of SO_x (SO₂ and SO₃), NO_x, mercury and particulates. It has been commercialized in Japan where there are numerous industrial and utility installations in industries such as steel, petrochemical, and waste incineration.

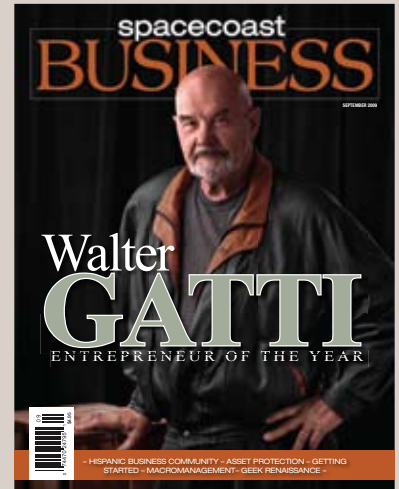
In addition to producing saleable byproducts, ReACT is a dry process that does not require water. The technology should be of special interest to utilities burning lower sulfur western fuels, especially at locations where there are significant water use issues.



The emissions from the coal-fired Isogo Power station (shown here) are at comparable levels to those from natural gas-fired facilities.

People and Firms

- **David Harrington**, a structural designer with Walter P. Moore, Houston, has co-authored *Mastering Revit Structure 2010*. The 896-page paperback covers both the program's basic and advanced features. It also includes hands-on tutorials and has an accompanying website with additional tutorial files. The book is published by Wiley.
- NSBA-member **Walter Gatti** has been named entrepreneur of the year by Spacecoast Business magazine. The president of Tensor Engineering, Indian Harbor Beach, Fla., Gatti founded the structural steel detailing firm in New York in 1958. The company relocated to Florida in 1971.



- **Jim Dager**, founder of Design Data, has been named a recipient of the American Institute of Steel Construction's Special Achievement Award. The award was presented at the AISC Annual Meeting, held September 24-25 in Braselton, Georgia. In recognizing Jim's achievement, David Harwell, Chairman of the Board of Directors of AISC and President of Central Texas Iron Works (CTIW), said, "Jim is definitely the visionary behind the development of 3D modeling. He revolutionized the engineering interface and detailing practice in our marketplace. He's a pioneer, and certainly deserving of the Special Achievement Award presented on behalf of AISC."

In 1981, Dager founded **Design Data** based on his vision of computer-aided design and steel structures. Twenty-eight years later, most steel structures are detailed either with software sold by Design Data or by software based on Dager's ideas.



RECOGNITION

Safe Work Record Celebrated

The Occupational Safety and Health Administration has re-certified **High Steel Structures Inc.**'s Lancaster fabrica-



tion facilities as a Star site in the OSHA Voluntary Protection Program, the agency's highest safety award. A celebration of the recertification, with an official ceremony and employee lunch, was held October 29. The VPP program was established by OSHA in 1982 to recognize employers that demonstrate excellence in their occupational safety and health programs through management leadership and employee involvement in the prevention of injuries, illnesses and fatalities. An early participant in the program, High Steel's Lancaster facilities first became a Star site in 1983.

EDUCATION

Learn to Tweet With the Best of Them

This fall AISC in partnership with Relationship Economics has been offering a series of webinars on social networking best practices and Internet marketing. Presented by author, professional speaker and consultant David Nour, the

third installment is "Why You Need to Get Proactive on Twitter" and is scheduled for Thursday, January 7, 2010, at 3 p.m. Eastern time. Registration for the 90-minute program is \$97 and includes a link for a digital download of the session.

CORRECTION

In the October 2009 *Modern Steel Construction* article "Efficient Design and Spectacular Effects" the fabricator of the ETFE membrane was incorrectly identified. The ETFE membrane used on the canopy for the Kansas City Power and Light District was fabricated by Novum Membranes GmbH (formerly KfM GmbH). The firm is a subsidiary of Novum Structures, www.novumstructures.com.

To register, go to <http://www.relationshipeconomics.net/AISC.html#linkedin>.

relationship economics
the art & science of relationships

letters

Folded Plate System Enhancement Suggestions

Dr. Azizinamini has presented a very nice concept for short-span bridges (September 2009 *MSC*, p. 53). In Illinois, where precast deck beams are almost failing everywhere due to corrosion of HTS wires, this concept will be extremely useful so as to take advantage of precast prefabricated construction. However, the following issues should be attended to as the author makes future presentations.

1. Steel type and grade
2. Cold forming using full length plate
3. Section geometry and properties
4. Cold forming costs
5. LRFD design for HL 93 loading
6. Load distribution per beam
7. Cross continuity
8. F type parapet and overhang
9. Load tests for deflection
10. Bearings details and integral abutments
11. Pigeon protection

Manhar Thakkar Ph.D., P.E., S.E.

Bundle Up To Go Inside?

I couldn't agree with more with your Editor's Note on over-air conditioning (September 2009 *MSC*, p. 6). We are in our 70s and I am retired now but my wife always reminds me to take a jacket or sweater when we go to the opera, a movie or an office building. Once at a restaurant I had to get a towel from the car to be comfortable. I now keep a sweater and a jacket in the car. Although the sweater or jacket in the car may not always be appropriate, at least I can be warm.

It is such a waste of resources! Thanks for calling attention to this problem.

Richard Huff

Questions About Building in the Woods

These questions are in reference to the article in the October 2009 *MSC* about the Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center. Many building codes worry about the "Urban Wildland Interface" and often require the brush and trees to be cleared in a relatively large area around any buildings. This was apparently not done in this case, which is most of what makes it look neat. How did the architect not have to

follow this code requirement?

The second question is of much less importance, but is more of a personal wonderment. In the photo on page 20, the tree appears to be very close to the building—the roof is even notched for it. How do you keep the tree trunk from hitting the building when it sways on windy days?

Tim W. Elder

Author Marjorie Lund, P.E., S.E., replies:

The Bellevue fire department required removal of all plantings below the buildings and within 5 ft of the building perimeter. Quarry spalls were used under the buildings to eliminate vegetation and keep people from using the space.

The Douglas Fir tree is 2 ft, 6 in. clear of the building, although the photo certainly makes it look closer. The arborist who analyzed the trees for health and pruned dead limbs from the canopy advised that a fir of that size will sway up to two feet. The architect and landscape architect carefully planned the building locations with the intent of saving as many of the existing trees as possible. The close proximity of the trees is important to the treehouse feel of the classrooms.