Newly Certified Facilities: April 1–30, 2011

Newly Certified Erector Facilities
- Mik-Ron Steel Co. Inc., Bloomington, Calif.
- Rika Corporation dba Diversified Metalworks, Orange, Calif.

Newly Certified Fabricator Facilities
- Eastern Metal Works, Milford, Conn.
- Mik-Ron Steel Co. Inc., Bloomington, Calif.
- Phoenix Stair Inc., Phoenix, Ariz.
- Thornton Steel Company, LLC, Fort Worth, Texas

People and Firms
- Richard G. Weingardt, P.E., founder, chairman and CEO of Denver-based Richard Weingardt Consultants, Inc., has received an honorary Doctor of Science from the University of Colorado, Boulder, Colo.
- New York-based Leslie E. Robertson Associates recently promoted Jeffrey Y. Chan, P.E., Sangho Han, P.E., LEED AP, Patrick L. Hoppie, P.E., Antonio I. Rodriguez, P.E., Hiroshi Shirako, P.E., and Jae Ik Song, P.E., to the level of associate.
- AISC Professional Member Douglas Graham, P.E., has joined the Glastonbury, Conn., office of the S/L/A/M Collaborative, Inc., as head of the firm’s structural engineering department. The 155-person A/E firm is headquartered in Glastonbury with additional offices in Syracuse, N.Y., Boston, and Atlanta.
- AISC member firm Peterson Beckner Industries, Inc., Houston, received the First Place 2011 Construction Safety Excellence Award (CSEA) in its specific category and division at the Willis and Associated General Contractors of America awards ceremony at the AGC’s 92nd Annual Convention in Las Vegas, Nevada. The company competed for this prestigious national safety award in its Work Hour Division in the Specialty Contractor Category, which includes the entire spectrum of specialty contractors across the nation. Peterson Beckner is the first specialty contractor in the U.S. to win three First Place CSEA awards, having also won in 2004 and 2007.
- AISC member firm American Bridge International, Conshohocken, Pa., is part of a joint venture that has been awarded a contract to design and construct the Fort Replacement Crossing (RFC), a bridge over Firth of Forth in Scotland and the road connections immediately north and south of the 2.7 km bridge. The contract is valued at $1.3 billion and includes the world’s second longest cable-stayed structure.

letters

More Insight on Eads’ Achievements
The article on the Eads Bridge by Jim Talbot in the March 2011 issue of MSC is well done and without error as well as I can recall from a study of the bridge some time ago. I appreciate the article very much and look forward to further items from him. I would, however, like to add an item for your readership.

Eads was indeed a pioneer self-taught American engineer. The bridge is constructed of pre-cut or cast steel components, as reported. Each element was load tested under Eads’ supervision in machines he designed. Perhaps the most unique thing about the bridge is in consideration of the use of steel for an arch! Although steel is superb in tension it of course has a high compressive strength, too.

This is an unusual use of steel for a bridge. Having elements mostly only in compression is not a frequent use of the material. I do not recall the overall shape of the arch (e.g., circular, oval, parabolic, or sinusoidal) nor who decided upon it. However, Eads did enlist the assistance of a mathematics professor at Washington University in St. Louis for the necessary calculations to determine the shape of each element and so the loads on each element could be calculated.

I am pleased to hear that the bridge is now a National Historic Landmark and continues to be maintained and used.

—William E. Saul, Ph.D., P.E.
Professor of Civil Engineering Emeritus
Michigan State University
Steel industry innovator Stanley Macomber (1887-1967) was inducted into the National Inventors Hall of Fame, Washington, in May. He was honored for revolutionizing the construction industry by his patent for the open web joist system. Macomber founded Macomber Inc., Canton, Ohio, and is remembered as a genius engineer and respected businessman who acquired more than 30 patents for his inventions and achieved several significant accomplishments in the construction industry. He pushed for the standardization of steel products and, in 1919 was one of those who called together major bridge builders and steel fabricators in Pittsburgh. From that meeting grew the National Steel Fabricators Association, and in 1921 Macomber was elected to a three-year term on its board of directors. It was during his tenure that the organization became the American Institute of Steel Construction. Read more about Stanley Macomber’s lifelong impact on the construction industry in the Canton Rep.com at http://bit.ly/lINRCi.
The American Institute of Steel Construction (AISC) honored eight engineering professionals at the 2011 NASCC: The Steel Conference in Pittsburgh for their contributions to the advancement of the structural steel design and construction industry.

The Special Achievement Award went to four individuals. Roberto Leon, P.E., Ph.D., a professor at Georgia Tech who has made significant contributions to the AISC Specification for Structural Steel Buildings and the AISC Seismic Provisions for Structural Steel Buildings. Leon was honored for his research in the design of composite steel/concrete structural systems. William Segui, P.E., Ph.D., a professor at the University of Memphis, was recognized for his textbook Steel Design, which clearly and thoroughly explains the design of steel structures.

University of Nebraska professor Atorod Azizinamini was honored for his development of a new short-span bridge concept using a folded plate and inverted tub configuration. David Platten, Walter P Moore, served as structural principal in charge of the Dallas Cowboys Stadium and was honored for its innovative and record-setting long-span structure.

Four individuals who have provided outstanding service over a sustained period of years to AISC and the structural steel design/construction/academic community received the Lifetime Achievement Award.

➤ Reidar Bjorhovde, P.E., Ph.D., president of The Bjorhovde Group, was honored as a long-time contributor to AISC publications. His many contributions include serving as editor of the Journal of Constructional Research, authoring 250 industry papers, serving on the AISC Specification Committee for more than 20 years and in the education field as a professor at the University of Alberta, University of Arizona, and University of Pittsburgh.

➤ Karl Frank, Ph.D., emeritus professor, University of Texas, Austin, was honored as a long-time contributor to AISC programs. He developed the AASHTO Specifications related to steel bridges and is the newest member of the Partners in Education committee. He also serves as a member of the Research Council on Structural Connections.

➤ Jon Magnusson, P.E., chairman and CEO of Magnusson Klemencic Associates, was honored for his significant achievements in steel design and construction. He served as a key voice of reason in the discussion of structural robustness and integrity following the September 11, 2001 attacks.

➤ David I. Ruby, S.E., P.E., Ruby + Associates, was recognized for his contribution of expertise through publications, seminars, and articles covering good practices in design and construction, and constructability. A strong industry advocate, he is involved with numerous organizations including AISC, CASE, and SEAMI.