SAFETY

ANSI Approves Two New Safety Standards


The new Z359.14 standard establishes requirements for the performance, design, qualification testing, markings and instructions, inspections, maintenance, storage and removal from service of self-retracting devices. The revised Z359.4 standard establishes requirements for the performance, design, marking, qualification, instruction, training, use, maintenance and removal from service of rescue systems and their subsystems and components.

Newly Certified Facilities: March 1–31, 2012

To find a certified fabricator or erector in a particular area, visit www.aisc.org/certsearch.

Newly Certified Fabricator Facilities

Allied Steel Co., Inc., Riverside, Calif.
Camelot Metals, Inc., Roseville, Minn.
GT Grandstands, Inc., Plant City, Fla.
Sanco Steel DBA Southern Steel Fab, Donna, Texas
Stateline Fabricators L.L.C., Phillipsburg, N.J.
Structural Steel Services, El Paso, Texas
The Gateway Company of Missouri LLC, St. Louis, Mo.

Newly Certified Erector Facilities

Ahlborn Structural Steel, Santa Rosa, Calif.
Blue Ridge Industrial, Inc., Johnson City, Tenn.
Campbell Certified, Inc., Oceanside, Calif.
Iron Industries Inc., Hanford, Calif.

Newly Certified Bridge Component Facilities

The Gateway Company of Missouri LLC, St. Louis, Mo.

People and Firms

- Structural and civil firm JQ has promoted Jason Hart, P.E., to a principal of the firm. Based in JQ’s Dallas office, Hart is currently overseeing the firm’s project work with Luminant, the largest power supplier in the North Texas region.

- American Punch Company has released an application for mobile devices that allows the user to calculate the recommended tonnage needed when punching steel. The app makes calculations based on user input of punch shape and dimension and thickness of material being punched. The results of recommended tonnage are then presented for a variety of materials. It is available for free download via iTunes or an Android app store.

- The California Preservation Foundation—which provides statewide leadership, advocacy and education to ensure the protection of California’s diverse cultural heritage and historic places—recently appointed Carolyn Searls, P.E., a senior principal and vice president with Simpson Gumpertz and Heger Inc., San Francisco, to its Board of Trustees for a one-year term. As a board member, Searls will also serve on the Foundation’s Education Committee.

Bridge Certification: Coming Soon!

Did you know that AISC Certification is introducing a new Bridge Certification Program this year? Visit www.aisc.org/bridgecertification for updates on this upcoming program, as well as to view related resources, such as articles, press releases and AISC’s new Bridge Standard. If you have additional questions or comments, please feel free to contact us at certification@aisc.org.
IN MEMORIAM

Clarkson Pinkham, Seismic Design Expert

Clarkson W. “Pinky” Pinkham of Los Angeles passed away on January 30, 2012, at the age of 92. Through a career that spanned more than six decades in structural engineering, he spent a lifetime sharing his expertise with others in the field. He was a longtime contributor to AISC, serving as a member on the AISC Committee on Specifications (COS) from the mid-1970s until 2000, after which he served as an emeritus member. He was also a member of Task Committee 9—Seismic Design from the mid-1990s until 2010, serving as Technical Secretary for the 1997 AISC Seismic Provisions for Structural Steel Buildings. He received an AISC Lifetime Achievement Award in 1999.

The AISC Committee on Manuals will be dedicating the Second Edition Seismic Design Manual to Pinkham for his leadership and dedicated involvement in the development of the Seismic Provisions, as we know it today. The Manual will be available in early 2013.

Pinkham was born November 25, 1919, in Los Angeles, to Walter and Dorothy Pinkham. A Bachelor of Science degree in Civil Engineering in 1947, from the University of California at Berkeley, laid the foundation for Pinkham’s broad experience in structural engineering.

From 1941 to 1946, he served in the U.S. Naval Reserve on a hydrographic survey ship, the U.S.S. Pathfinder, surveying the Pacific Islands for the U.S. Navy. He retired as a Lieutenant Commander, USNR (Ret.) in 1954. In 1942, he married Emma Lu Hull, whom he’d known since high school.

Throughout his career, he was generous in sharing his abundance of structural engineering experience and knowledge with those who requested it on subjects such as structural steel, concrete and masonry design, cold-formed steel structures and timber. By providing solutions and recommendations to those requesting his expertise, the integrity of numerous structures have been significantly improved, in particular their capacity to resist seismic-generated forces.

Pinkham was elected President of the Structural Engineers Association of Southern California (SEAOSC) in 1971, and later served as President of the Structural Engineers Association of California (SEAOC) in 1975. He was twice given the S. B. Barnes Award for Research, and in 1994 was inducted into the SEAOSC College of Fellows, the highest honor awarded by SEAOC.

The Structural Engineering Institute of the American Society of Civil Engineers awarded Pinky the Walter P. Moore, Jr. Award in 2009 in recognition of his dedication to and technical expertise in the development of structural codes and standards.

He also served on many other important technical committees involved in the design of structures, such as the AISC Committee on Specifications (emeritus), the American Iron and Steel Institute (AISI) Committee on Specifications for the Design of Cold-Formed Steel Structural Members, the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) Committee 7 on Minimum Design Loads for Buildings and Other Structures and the Building Seismic Safety Council (BSSC) Steel Committee.

Pinkham was passionate about learning. He believed “the really important thing in schools is to get a person into the mood of wanting to learn,” that, “if you can get students into the urge of wanting to learn and know things, that’s more important than any specific subject, per se, because you can always pick it up if you have that urge to read and do things.”

Pinkham is survived by his daughter, Nancy Ballance, and his son Anthony, four grandchildren and five great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his wife, Emma Lu, and his son Timothy.

NSBA NEWS

Made in America? “Should Be!” Says New Campaign

The “Should Be Made in America” campaign, created by the Alliance for American Manufacturing (AAM), was launched earlier this spring at the new San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge, a massive construction project that was outsourced to China at the cost of thousands of American manufacturing jobs. The campaign urges the use of American-made components for infrastructure projects financed with U.S. tax dollars.

The National Steel Bridge Alliance (NSBA) has issued a public statement commending AAM for the new campaign:

“The campaign brings into focus how decision makers on the San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge financed the project with American tax revenues while circumventing Buy America provisions. This federal rule is designed to ensure that taxpayer-supported projects help the American economy. On this project, the bridge authority carefully segmented the job to ‘segregate’ the federally funded portion and allow the steel fabrication of the bridge to go overseas. Despite media claims, this project was not a success for American taxpayers. It’s far over budget, way behind schedule, and has resulted in the transfer of thousands of jobs and hundreds of millions of dollars from America to China.”

To learn more about the Should Be Made in America campaign, visit www.shouldbemadeinamerica.com.
AISC NEWS

Student Bridge Competitions in Full Swing

The 2012 ASCE/AISC Student Steel Bridge regional competitions have kicked off, with 17 competitions taking place from March through May.

About 200 university teams participate in a total of 18 regional competitions (the first regional competition took place in January), and the top teams will qualify to compete in the finals at Clemson University, May 25-26. Now in its 21st year, the competition convenes engineering students from across North America to build their designed and fabricated steel bridges under the pressure of the clock.

There are plenty of opportunities to attend one of these exciting events! View the full schedule of upcoming regional competitions (including host school contact info) on ASCE’s website at http://bit.ly/z6uGHm. You can find out more about the national competition on Clemson University’s website at www.clemson.edu/ces/steel-bridge.

For more information about the 2012 Student Steel Bridge Competition, visit www.aisc.org/steelbridge or www.nssbc.info.

A Tennessee Tech University’s bridge from the Southeast regional competition.

INDUSTRY NEWS

Steel Industry Leads U.S. Manufacturing Recovery

America’s steel industry is leading manufacturing out of the recession, according to a new report by Timothy J. Considine, professor of energy economics, University of Wyoming.

Considine’s analysis, “Economic Impacts of the American Steel Industry,” finds the industry supported more than one million jobs in the U.S. economy in 2011 and is playing a significant role in leading manufacturing’s post-recession resurgence, primarily because it is highly interrelated with many other sectors of the economy.

The report reveals that each job in the U.S. steel industry supports seven jobs in the country’s economy, reflecting the industry’s ripple effect on employment. In 2011, the American steel industry directly employed 150,700 people and, given the multiplier effect, supported more than 1,022,000 jobs, as well as contributed $101 billion in gross domestic product and $246 billion in gross economic output.

Considine points out that the significant economic impact of the industry is based on the fact that steel is the most prevalent material in the economy, and the steel industry purchases a wide variety of inputs from other industries that create a favorable ripple effect. “This is one reason why so many countries around the world welcome investments that establish steel mills, because they stimulate industrial supply chains,” he said.

Considine’s analysis was commissioned by the American Iron and Steel Institute (AISI) to provide an updated look at the American steel industry’s overall impact on the U.S. economy.

Visit http://bit.ly/H8PL1I to read the full report.

CORRECTION

The caption under the authors’ photo on p. 33 of the April issue of MSC should have read, “From left: Bennett, Richardson, Rolfe and Matamoros.”
INDUSTRY AWARDS

2011 High Performance Building Awards Winners Announced

The National Institute of Building Sciences’ Sustainable Buildings Industry Council (SBIC) recently announced the recipients of its 2011 Beyond Green High Performance Building Awards. The awards recognize initiatives that shape, inform and catalyze the high-performance building market, as well as the real-world application of high-performance construction practices. The program consists of three award categories: High Performance Buildings, High Performance Initiatives and High Performance Products.

Two steel projects achieved Honor Awards in the High Performance Buildings category:

The Redding School of Arts in northern California took First Place for a New Academic Complex. With an emphasis on the performing arts, the 77,000-sq.-ft public charter school, which features exposed steel framing, has been designed with a balance of traditional design elements and innovative technology concepts. The school’s mission is to use LEED Platinum certification as a starting point, and it has a building “dashboard” that will show how well it is actually performing.

The second steel-framed winner, the U.S. Port of Entry in Calais, Maine, was awarded First Place for New Construction. Energy-efficient design and the reuse of materials were important components of the project, making it one of the nation’s first LEED Gold ports. Located on the eastern-most land port of entry into the U.S. from Canada, the facility consists of one 80,000-sq.-ft building separated into two different operational building sections, and is part of a larger infrastructure project that enhances the flow of transportation between the two countries while improving security for customs and border protection.

To view the full list of award winners, visit http://bit.ly/zLnZfM.

INDUSTRY NEWS

New Jumbo HSS Available Domestically

Atlas Tube, a division of JMC Steel Group (and an AISC Member), has partnered with Nippon Steel and Sumikin Metal Products Co., Ltd. (NSMP) and Mitsui and Co., Ltd. to supply “jumbo” hollow structural sections (HSS) to the North American market. The jumbo sizes, which were not originally available in North America, range from 18-in. square to 22-in. square and up to 0.875 in. in wall thickness. Atlas tube will market and distribute these jumbo HSS products throughout North America.

Typically used in vertical column and diagonal bracing applications and as members of large, long-span trusses, the jumbo HSS sections offer an alternative to open sections and built-up, welded box sections used in structures with a high load demand.

“As an engineer, you want all the tools at your disposal to effectively solve design challenges in a cost-effective and timely manner,” says Bradlee Fletcher, a structural engineer with Atlas Tube. “Readily available jumbo HSS will be another option for engineers to do just that, especially for structures with large load demands such as ones in high seismic areas.”

The jumbo sizes are now available from Atlas’ Chicago facility. For more information on the new sizes, visit atlas-tube.com/jumbo-hss.

In other JMC news, the company has entered into a definitive agreement to purchase and acquire the real estate, building, equipment and improvements of Atkore’s Allied Tube and Conduit manufacturing facility in Morrisville, Pa., which produces HSS and ASTM A53 Grade B standard pipe. JMC will not operate the facility, but will continue to service its customers from its existing manufacturing facilities. The acquisition is expected to be finalized by early May.