AISC AWARDS

AISC Fellowship

AISC is now accepting proposals for the 2012 AISC Milek Fellowship. The annual award is named after William A. Milek, former AISC Vice President of Engineering and Research, to recognize his invaluable contributions to AISC and the structural steel industry as a whole. The Milek Fellowship is a four-year, $30,000-per-year award for university-level faculty members who are on a tenure track but have not received tenure anywhere yet; applicants must also have a graduate-level program. The program is designed to contribute to the research careers of beginning faculty who teach and conduct research investigations related to structural steel, while also producing research results beneficial to designers, fabricators and erectors of structural steel.

For more information, visit aisc.org/content.aspx?id=524. Questions and applications should be sent to Tom Schlafly at schlafly@aisc.org. Applications are due by September 15.

Newly Certified Facilities: June 1–30, 2012

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

FINDING CERTIFIED COMPANIES

Are you looking for a Certified fabricator or erector in your local area, or perhaps even on the other side of the country? Visit www.aisc.org/certsearch for a current listing of Certified fabrication facilities and erection companies. The list is updated weekly, and you can search by either city/state or zip code/radius. If you have any questions or comments, please feel free to contact us at certification@aisc.org.

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People and Firms

• Robert Alonso, S.E., P.E., has been promoted to senior bridge engineer at Finley Engineering Group, Inc. and will relocate to the firm’s Orlando, Fla. office. He will be responsible for project management and staff supervision on complex bridge design projects and will take a more active leadership role in central and south Florida.

• Autodesk, a leader in 3D design and engineering software, has acquired Vela Systems, a cloud and mobile field management software provider for the construction industry. The acquisition is intended to help extend the value of building information modeling (BIM) and project data to construction professionals in the field.

• The University of Kentucky’s College of Engineering annually recognizes select alumni with induction into its Hall of Distinction, the highest level of alumni recognition granted by the college. Larry Whaley, a 1968 civil engineering graduate, was the 100th member to be inducted into the Hall. Whaley is a founder and president/CEO of Haynes Whaley Associates, an 86-person structural engineering firm headquartered in Houston, with offices in Austin and Reston, Va.
DESIGN COMPETITION

Worldwide BIM Contest for Students

The Olympics aren’t the only global competition this summer. The Virtual Design World Cup, organized by 3D software specialist FORUM 8, is an international design contest for college-level students to compete in designing their own architectural 3D models using BIM and virtual reality technologies.

The contest challenges students to design their models based on a specific theme. This year, the task is to design a sustainable and self-sufficient “Marine City” on the sea, using innovative technical and design aspects to overcome various issues that cities face in the 21st century.

Graitec’s Advance Steel structural steel detailing software is among the software packages that participants can rely upon to design and model their structures. In support of the competition, Graitec will provide 50 free short-term licenses of Advance Steel for students entered in the contest.

The top winner will receive a grand prize worth approximately $3,600, including a scholarship. Five others will win a laptop computer and all participants will receive a prize. Applicants have until September 30 to register for the competition online.

To learn more about the competition and how to enter, go to vdwc.forum8.co.jp/studentBIM1-e.htm.

AISC WEBSITE
Past AISC Webinars Now Available Online

AISC’s Continuing Education department will periodically release recordings of past live webinars. The 1.5-hour live webinar recordings can be found at www.aisc.org/elearning.

Included in the group of recordings made available on August 1 are Welding – Special Applications by Duane K. Miller; Design for Stability by Louis F. Geschwindner and many more. Look for new additions in the months ahead. Similar to other eLearning presentations, the recorded live webinars are free to view and attendees are able to receive CEUs/PDHs by purchasing and passing a quiz for each presentation.

SUSTAINABILITY

LEED 2012 Postponed Until 2013, Renamed LEED v4

In response to growing concerns from the construction market, the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC) has announced that it will postpone ballot on LEED Rating System Development (LEED 2012) until as late as June 1, 2013. Because of the date change, the new version of LEED has been renamed LEED v4.

The delay comes from a lack of readiness voiced by building industry professionals, many of whom are LEED users. USGBC will use this time to provide the marketplace with a full understanding of the new program prior to ballot, and will keep LEED 2009 available for three more years while the industry gradually moves to LEED v4.

“USGBC has taken a wise step back, here,” commented John Cross, AISC’s vice president of marketing. “LEED 2012 contained many concepts that certainly raise the bar for green buildings, but those concepts were not necessarily well integrated with each other and current industry practices. The additional year provides a real opportunity for USGBC to not only publish the ‘greenest’ version of LEED, but also the one that will be the most accepted and used.”

In addition to the ballot date change, USGBC is committing to a fifth public comment period that will run from October 2 to December 10, corresponding with this year’s Greenbuild Conference in San Francisco (which takes place November 14–16). Public forums and educational sessions will be held to help stakeholders better understand the next draft, and the event will also serve as a platform to debut new resources designed to enhance the LEED user experience.


CONFERENCES

Beyond-Design Events Focus of Reactor Conference

The 22nd International Conference on Structural Mechanics in Reactor Technology (SMiRT-22), which will be held on August 18–23, 2013 in San Francisco, has announced its call for papers. Abstracts must be submitted by September 17, 2012.

The events at Fukushima Daiichi have triggered a mandate for an assessment of safety and reliability for all nuclear power plants. Plant safety and reliability assessment for “beyond design” events, both in the U.S. and Europe, will be required in the coming years. This will include all operating plants as well as those already under licensing, design and construction. The key input for such evaluations is the seismic hazard and associated risk assessment. Consequently, SMiRT-22 has adopted the theme of Safety and Reliability as the focal point for the technical program.

Papers are being solicited for the following conference topics:
➤ Mechanics of materials
➤ Fracture mechanics and structural integrity
➤ Applied computation, simulation and animation
➤ Characterization of loads
➤ Modeling, testing and response analysis of structures, systems and components
➤ Design and construction issues
➤ Safety, reliability, risk and margins
➤ Issues related to operations, inspection and maintenance
➤ Fuel-cycle facilities, waste management and decommissioning
➤ Challenges of new reactors

SMiRT-22 is being organized and hosted by the International Association for Structural Mechanics in Reactor Technology (IASMiRT), the American Association for Structural Mechanics in Reactor Technology (AASMiRT) and Bechtel Power Corporation. For more information about the conference, visit www.smirt22.org.