

CERTIFICATION

New Bridge Rules Posted

AISC has posted the new rules and regulations for its updated Bridge Quality Management System (QMS) Certification Program at www.aisc.org/bridgecertification. In addition to the new *Standard for Steel Bridges—2011* (AISC 205-11), this criteria will increase and more clearly define the requirements a participant must meet to become certified or maintain their current certification.

Starting November 1, 2012, all new applicants must adhere to the *Standard for Steel Bridges—2011* (AISC 205-11) and the new rules and regulations, and all existing participants must adhere to these starting July 1, 2013. The transition between the current “Simple and Major Bridge Checklists” and new

bridge standard will be complete on July 1, 2014. After this time, “Simple Bridge” and “Major Bridge” will no longer be valid AISC Certification categories, and participants will have three AISC QMS Certified Fabricator options under the Bridge QMS Certification category—Simple Bridges, Intermediate Bridges and Advanced Bridges—in which to become certified.

For the latest program updates and other key dates, please visit www.aisc.org/bridgecertification, which includes additional information and resources. If you have additional questions or comments, please contact AISC’s Certification Department at certification@aisc.org.

STEELDAY

Bucknell Student Wins SteelDay Photo Contest

Xiaolong Li took the winning photo in AISC’s 2012 SteelDay Student Photo Contest. Li, a civil engineering and economics student at Bucknell University, captured an inside view of the National Stadium (also known as “The Bird’s Nest”) in Beijing, China, which was the focal point of the 2008 Summer Olympic and Paralympic Games.

Li took the photo last year when he was in China for a construction internship. He’s been interested in photography for years, working as a

photographer for a college magazine while studying in Norway and currently as a student photographer for Bucknell.

“The first sight of the massive steel columns, which come across each other like a web while supporting the whole structure, inspired me to look for a special view point that would show a unique perspective of the random column arrangements and the visual impact of this massive network of steel,” said Li of his photo. “The whole spatial experience of

being among these steel columns was like standing in a crystal cave.”

One of Li’s other photos, of the stadium’s exterior, won an Honorable Mention. You can view this photo as well as other Honorable Mentions at www.aisc.org/StudentPhotoContest. We’ll be featuring them as Steel Shots on the *MSC* website throughout the fall.



▲ The stadium is commonly known as “The Bird’s Nest” and is constructed with massive steel columns bended and arranged in an absolutely random pattern. In this picture, massive steel columns seem to fall out of the sky straight into the ground, raying in a random order. Standing in between them is like being in a natural crystal cave, an amazing spatial experience. The three people in the background provide a perspective of the size of these steel columns. —Xiaolong Li

People and Firms

• **Hirschfeld Industries** (AISC Member/NSBA Member/AISC Certified Fabricator) has announced the retirement of **W.H. Reeves**, president of the bridge fabrication division, who has been with the company for 43 years in various management roles. Over the past 15 years, as president, Reeves oversaw all bridge activities for Hirschfeld facilities in North Carolina, Virginia, Alabama and Texas.



Following Reeves’ retirement, **John O’Quinn** became the new president of the bridge fabrication division for Hirschfeld.

• **Reidar Bjorhovde** was presented with the Charles Massonnet Award 2012 at the ECCS Awards Ceremony, which took place during the **ECCS Steel Construction Day and Annual Meeting 2012** (organized by the Portuguese Steelwork Association) in Lisbon, Portugal, in September. The **European Convention for Construction Steelwork** created the award in 1998 to recognize a prominent scientist who has contributed to the advancement of scientific and technical support of constructional steelwork, and who had worked or is working on an ECCS Technical Committee as a full member or as a chairman or a secretary of one of these committees. Bjorhovde has two Ph.D.s in the area of civil engineering and has taught for several years at various North American universities. He has also been the director of **Bjorhovde Group** since 1998.

• **Banker Steel**, an AISC member/AISC Certified Fabricator headquartered in Lynchburg, Va., has announced the acquisition of Orlando-based **Foote Steel Company**, also an AISC member/AISC Certified Fabricator. The acquisition represents a strategic decision to further expand and develop market presence throughout the Southeast. **Rob Glass**, Banker Steel’s vice president of industrial sales, will be coordinating the integration and management of Foote Steel.

SCHOLARSHIPS

AISC David B. Ratterman Fast Start Scholarship Winners Announced

Whether you're a duck-calling enthusiast or just someone fascinated with Duck Tape, there's a wide range of specialized college scholarships available. One of the newest is the AISC David B. Ratterman Fast Start Scholarship for family members of employees at AISC-member steel fabricators, which beginning this fall annually awards two \$5,000 scholarships to students entering their freshman or sophomore year of college.

In its inaugural year, the scholarship program received nearly 100 entries from a group of truly amazing students—making the selection choice difficult though enjoyable for the judges. The program is designed to help students of hardworking employees of steel fabricators who want to go to college but might not be able to readily afford it.

Choosing the winners was not easy, explained David Ratterman, AISC's long-time legal counsel and the person for whom the scholarships are named.

As one applicant, an honors student in need of financial assistance, wrote: "Both of my parents work for an AISC member. The construction field has suffered tremendously over the last few years. [The company] being an AISC member, I believe, has allowed my parents to keep working in this difficult time. [AISC Certification] gives [the company] the opportunity to quote, bid, detail and fabricate more complex projects. Not all fabrication shops have this opportunity. Last summer I had the opportunity to work for my parents' company as a drafting clerk. The fact that [the company] is an AISC member, means that they work hard, follow procedures, maintain records and put out a high-quality product that they and their customers can be proud of."

Another applicant, also an honors student, explained that "Six of my relatives have worked for a steel fabricator: my grandpa, my dad, my two uncles and my two brothers. Growing up I have heard about a lot of places they have worked or built. My grandpa worked on the original World Trade Center. He told me the raindrops on the 84th floor are as big as your thumb. My dad's company was honored to help rebuild the Trade Centers. My dad and brothers, along with my grandpa, signed the first

beam dad's company fabricated for the new World Trade Center. The beam was then sent to New York and is now in the World Trade Center. It means a lot to me to be related to someone who works for an AISC member company."



Lymer



Horton

Many of the applicants also held summer jobs (and performed exemplarily) at the fabricator employing their parent. One fabricator described an applicant thusly: "He only had to be told something once and demonstrated the ability to work safe in a rough fabrication environment. Among other things he was asked to run a grinder in the direct heat of the Arizona sun and clean heavy-wall HSS column caps. No one in a shop of 50 men could have stuck to it and got them all complete in the time frame that he did."

And some of the stories were uplifting. "My dad is an engineer, but for 10 years he owned his own home-building business," one applicant explained. "Unfortunately, during my first years of high school, my dad lost his business due to the housing market crash. Some of the additional fallout from my dad losing his business is that our family also lost our home. We then had to move two additional times during the span of one year. My dad found a job back in the engineering industry, but it was with a company in a different state. As a result, my dad had to work out of the state and we saw him only on weekends. This went on for over a year and was leading toward an impending move to a city 12 hours away. Those few years were a very difficult and unstable time in the life of our family.

"However, two years ago, my dad received a call from the owner of [a steel fabrication facility]. This is a thriving company with a heavy workload, so it

has provided my dad with job security. After having endured so many rough years in the home-building industry, our family has been grateful for the stability and normalcy this job has provided. My dad's job in the steel industry provided a work solution for our family, so we agree with the AISC slogan 'There's always a solution in steel.'"

Still another applicant talked about the steel industry as an extended family. "For almost 30 years my dad has been the maintenance supervisor at [a steel fabrication company], the student explained. "By now the employees are pretty much a part of my family. When I visit the shop they give me cutouts of when I made the paper or ask how my teams are doing. When push came to shove, they were there for us. When my mom passed away four years ago, they were some of the first people to offer support. They helped provide meals so my dad could deal with other stuff, and they served as a shoulder for me to cry on. Four years later they are still offering stability, and I can't thank them enough for that. Thank goodness my dad has a job at [the company]. He's home at night, and we get to have dinner together. It may not be a big deal to most people, but hanging out with my dad is important to me. I'm so lucky to have him there to support me."

After careful consideration, the winners of the 2012–2013 scholarships are:

- Gayle Lymer, Missouri State University. Lymer's father, George Lymer, has been employed at Midland Steel for over 30 years.
- Tyler Horton, Auburn University. Horton's father, Robert Horton, is the Chief Engineer at North Alabama Fabricating Company (NAFCO).

Jury members this year were:

- David Harwell, AISC Education Foundation Chair
- Rex Lewis, AISC Board of Directors Member
- Terry Peshia, AISC Education Foundation Vice Chair
- David Ratterman, AISC General Counsel

For more information on all of AISC's scholarship programs, please visit www.aisc.org/scholarships.

SCHOLARSHIPS

Annual AISC Scholarship Winners Announced



Beck



Eberle



Foust



Grant



Mincemoyer



Montgomery



Myers



Riddle



Vranizan



Schuel



Esoda



A. Sikorski



H. Sikorski



Doan

AISC, in conjunction with several other structural steel industry associations, awarded \$113,250 in scholarships to 33 students for the 2012–2013 academic year. We would like to offer our sincere thanks to these organizations for their generous continued support of our student programs.

Congratulations to the following students for their well-deserved scholarships for the current school year:

AISC Education Foundation

\$5,000 Awards

- Brian Beck, Northeastern University
- Thomas Dehlin, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
- Jonathan Eberle, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University
- Nickolas Foust, Utah State University
- Caroline Grant, University of Texas at Austin
- Angela Mincemoyer, Pennsylvania State University
- William Montgomery, Clemson University
- Evan Myers, Kansas State University
- Joseph Riddle, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
- Rachel Vranizan, Stanford University



Lakocy



Mesa-Martinez



Veldman



Fielder



Machone

\$3,500 Award

- Brittany Schuel, Lawrence Technological University

\$2,500 Award

- Jackson Esoda, Georgia Institute of Technology

\$2,000 Awards

- Anthony Sikorski, University of Notre Dame
- Henry Sikorski, University of Notre Dame

AISC/Southern Association of Steel Fabricators – \$2,500 each

- Julius Doan, Georgia Institute of Technology
- Jackson Esoda, Georgia Institute of Technology

AISC/Associated Steel Erectors of Chicago – \$3,000 each

- Alexander Lakocy, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
- Catalina Mesa-Martinez, University of Illinois at Chicago
- Anthony Sikorski, University of Notre Dame
- Henry Sikorski, University of Notre Dame
- Tim Veldman, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

AISC/Great Lakes Fabricators & Erectors Association – \$5,000

- Kevin Fielder, University of Michigan

AISC/Rocky Mountain Steel Construction Association – \$3,000

- Jacob Machone, Colorado School of Mines



Case



Lingo



Lira



Stockton



Chou



Herber



Hopf



Liobis



Sushinsky



Zeba

Indiana Fabricators Association – \$750 each

- Jacob Allen, Indiana University-Purdue University Fort Wayne
- Raymond Chou, Purdue University
- Andrew Herber, Trine University
- Amanda Hopf, University of Evansville
- Eric Liobis, Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology
- Matthew Sushinsky, University of Notre Dame
- Stipo Zeba, Valparaiso University

The AISC Scholarship jury consisted of the following five individuals:

- Benjamin Baer, Baer Associates Engineers Ltd.
- David Bibbs, Cannon Design
- Christopher Brown, Skidmore Owings & Merrill
- Carol Post, Thornton Tomasetti
- Brian Raff, NSBA

The W&W Steel Oklahoma State University and Indiana Fabricators Association scholarships were determined by faculty at OSU and the Indiana universities.

AISC/W&W Steel Oklahoma State University – \$2,500 each

- Angela Case, Oklahoma State University
- Jacob Lingo, Oklahoma State University
- Andrew Lira, Oklahoma State University
- Jonathan Stockton, Oklahoma State University

BRIDGES

Largest Truss Bridge Move Ever

The Chicago Department of Transportation recently moved a 400-ft-long, 4.3-million-lb steel truss bridge. The Torrence Avenue truss bridge, which crosses both the Norfolk and Southern Railroads near 130th Street and Torrence Avenue in Chicago, is believed to be the largest truss bridge ever to be moved into place after being assembled off-site.

The project's general contractor, Walsh Construction, used four self-propelled mobile transporters (SPMTs) to relocate the fully assembled truss bridge from its assembly site to its final position on the new bridge piers a few hundred feet away.

The project is part of the CREATE program—a partnership between the U.S. Department of Transportation, the State of Illinois, City of Chicago, Metra, Amtrak and the nation's freight railroads—to invest billions in critically needed improvements to increase the efficiency of the region's passenger and freight rail infrastructure.

“The moving of this new truss bridge is an incredible feat of construction and engineering,” said Chicago Department of Transportation (CDOT) Commissioner Gabe Klein. “It also demonstrates the strength of the CREATE partnership between government, the railroads and other stakeholders to bring complicated projects like these to fruition to improve

the quality of life for Chicago-area communities.”

The goal of the 130th and Torrence grade separation project is to eliminate the two at-grade crossings of the Norfolk Southern tracks with the two roadways to improve the traffic flow of all modes of transport at this complicated intersection.

You can see the truss move in action via YouTube, at youtu.be/yx0-MXI-U5Q.

