2013 HOT PRODUCTS

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THIS YEAR’S HOT PRODUCTS, selected from the 2013 NASCC: The Steel Conference’s exhibit hall in St. Louis, represent the wide range of machinery, technology, tools and other product offerings that service the structural steel industry. For the first time ever, the winners were chosen by NASCC attendees! Ten products, including a collaborative effort between two software companies and a new tension-control bolting system that attempts to define “snug-tight,” were picked as standouts, and all of the entries hold great promise for the future.

Selection was based on manufacturers’ descriptions and claims; no product testing or evaluation was performed. This list does not constitute a product endorsement by Modern Steel Construction or AISC.

AceCad Software StruM.I.S Planning and Scheduling Feature
AceCad has added the ability to plan specific resources for manufacturing to its StruM.I.S fabrication software, to ensure delivery of steelwork to the project site in sequence and on time. The new planning and scheduling functionality addresses the complex trade-offs that arise when managing multiple projects, often with competing priorities, through diverse fabrication processes. Human and mechanical resources can be synchronized across multiple facilities and disciplines to balance and maximize workshop capacities. Project milestones, material availability and processing strategies are linked, taking into account remaining capacity, both at the advanced planning and detail levels.

For more information, visit www.acecadsoftware.com or call 610.280.9840.

Bentley Systems LEAP Bridge Steel
LEAP Bridge Steel from Bentley Systems provides parametric 3D modeling, streamlined analysis, design and rating of straight and curved I-girder and box-girder bridges. It is the latest addition to the LEAP Bridge offerings for concrete bridge design and rating, used by 42 state departments of transportation. Users can select member cross sections from supplied libraries of standard sections or defined as built-up plate girders, and bridges are modeled completely in 3D with full 3D visualization. The software is powered by the STAAD. Pro engine for structural analysis and offers users two analysis options: (1) line girder or (2) 3D grillage. It conforms to the provisions of the 6th Edition of the AASHTO LRFD Bridge Design Specification and the 2nd Edition of the AASHTO Manual for Bridge Evaluation.

As a complement to the LEAP Bridge Enterprise, LEAP Bridge Steel shares the RC-PIER system for pier and abutment design. Capitalizing on the full Bentley Bridge Information Modeling portfolio of solutions, the software works with Bentley MicroStation, Power GEOPAK and Power InRoads.

For more information, visit www.bentley.com or call 800.BENTLEY.
Descon Plus New Vision for DesconWin and DesconBrace

Descon Plus is taking a new approach to the development of DesconWin and DesconBrace by implementing client ideas directly into the two structural steel connection design software packages. The company is currently upgrading to the latest .NET conventions of coding for Windows, which will allow for flexibility within the interface and additional functionality, while still providing existing features and capabilities. It has also revamped the license management system so that network users can have better access and monitor licenses more easily, and stand-alone users can upgrade to the latest releases without license confusion.

For more information, visit www.desconplus.com or call 888.8.DESCON.

Design Data SDS/2 Approval

Design Data’s SDS/2 Approval software supports AISC’s methodology for model review by allowing communications like sketches, addendums, RFIs and status updates to be stored and exchanged via the 3D model. Users can run reports designed to aid in the review process and assign statuses to members to denote the level of review, such as “revise and resubmit” or “rejected.” These statuses—along with a number of other items, much like a review checklist—can be used to color code the model to give visual feedback from start to finish of the review process. At any point, engineers can send a submittal’s review status back to the detailer to update the detailer’s model as to which members meet conformance or need to be revised.

Checkers using the software can take advantage of similar features, which are customized for the specific purpose of checking models or drawings. This information can be communicated back to the detailer through the same process of assigning status and generating a file that can update the in-progress model. This simple way of communicating through status updates will color code the model to alert the detailer to areas where changes are necessary.

For more information, visit www.sds2.com or call 800.443.0782.
**FabSuite Project Scheduling Feature**

FabSuite’s Project Scheduling allows users to manage multiple baselines of the same schedule and run “what if” scenarios (e.g., showing the effects of a proposed change order), providing the opportunity to set up a schedule breakdown to match real-life job processes. Users can add links and dependencies between tasks, view and manipulate multiple project schedules in a single Gantt chart, overlay the baseline values on the Gantt chart, update statuses with single click and view a schedule’s history to identify changes.

For more information, visit www.fabsuite.com or call 757.645.0842.

**Hutchinson Industries Tire Saver Shield**

New to the industrial market, the Hutchinson Tire Saver Shield provides “military tough” protection to the highly stressed sidewalls of industrial vehicle tires and ensures the continued operation of vehicles in the most difficult applications. The shield consists of heavy-duty reinforced material that is extremely resistant to tearing and perforation and creates a barrier between the tire sidewall and damaging terrain such as curbs, rocks, metal objects, rebar and other harmful debris.

As sidewall damage is not typically covered under tire warranty, the product helps truck owners avoid costly and time-consuming tire replacements. In addition, a reduction in sidewall damage will result in increased tire life and improved equipment up-time. Safety is increased as well, as the shield greatly reduces the frequency of the dangerous blow-outs.

For more information, visit www.hutchinsoninc.com or call 609.394.1010.

**LeJeune Bolt Company TnA 144**

TnA is LeJeune’s new structural fastening system, incorporating tightly controlled torque for snug-tight, followed by precisely controlled rotation (angle) for final installation.

The TnA 144 bolt is a unique 144-ksi minimum-strength, fixed-spline bolt that produces A490 tension using A325 raw material, allowing a significant reduction in the number of bolts per connection. The TnA tool first installs each fastener in the connection to a defined and consistent level of snug-tight. For bolts installed in snug-tight joints, you’re done. For pretensioned and slip critical joints, the tool is then switched to angle tightening. From the snug-tight condition it turns the nut a specific number of degrees to achieve a consistent, high level of preload.

The installation tool is free from transferred torque and pinch points, providing the safest work environment for the operator. And it’s all done from a single side, by a single operator, considerably reducing labor costs.

For more information, visit www.tightenright.com or call 800.872.2658.
The RISA-Tekla Link extends Tekla Structures’ 3D structural model capabilities to include steel connection design, a critical piece of the overall design process, directly within the Tekla Structures environment. This eliminates the need to manually enter connection components into separate design software, resulting in increased accuracy and a reduction in the time and cost associated with steel connection design. With RISA-Tekla Link, users of Tekla Structures and RISAConnection can run analysis and design on moment and shear connections; group and solve connections collectively or analyze them individually; view pass/fail analysis results in the Tekla Structures 3D BIM model or in a report format; access individual detailed design calculations from within RISAConnection; and print connection calculations.

For more information, visit www.risa.com or www.tekla.com, or call 949.951.5815 (risa) or 770.426.5105 (Tekla).

Peddinghaus Anglemaster-HD Angle Line

The Peddinghaus Anglemaster-HD employs three-speed 153-metric ton punch cylinders with triple tool punches and a 467-metric ton shear cylinder with single-cut tooling. The machine’s Smart Cylinder Technology increases output by optimizing hydraulic fluid levels for accelerated production.

The HD also comes equipped with an automated material dimensioning system, allowing it to identify the size of a profile to determine the shortest stroke needed for maximum production speed, resulting in an intelligent angle line that saves processing time and increases throughput.

For more information, visit www.peddinghaus.com or call 815.937.3800.

RISA Technologies–Tekla
RISAConnection–Tekla Structures Link

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SE Solutions SE University

SE University is a web-based continuing education resource for structural engineers, providing regularly scheduled live web seminars on a wide variety of topics. Attendees come away with new information and innovative ideas that they can use right away to be more successful in their everyday work environment. The sessions are accepted in all states and for SECB Recertification. A schedule of upcoming sessions is available at the our website.

For more information, visit www.learnwithseu.com or call 805.482.8436.