People and Firms

• The Structural Engineering Institute (SEI) of the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) has elevated Jonathan D. McHugh, P.E., to the membership grade of Fellow. One of the most esteemed honors that structural engineers can receive from their peers, the SEI Fellow grade is given to a select group of leaders in the profession. McHugh is a senior structural project engineer and project manager based in Gannett Fleming’s Pittsburgh, Pa., office.

• Kimberley S. Robinson, S.E., chief engineer at Star Seismic (an AISC member), was recently recognized as “Engineer of the Year” by both the Structural Engineers Association of Utah (SEAU) and the Utah Engineering Council (UEC). She was also recognized as a distinguished alumna by the University of Utah Department of Engineering.

NSBA

Bill McEleney Named NSBA Managing Director

Bill McEleney has been promoted to managing director of the National Steel Bridge Alliance (NSBA), a division of AISC. McEleney has worked as a director and regional director with NSBA since 1997, and prior to that spent 10 years as a regional engineer with AISC.

“Bill has long been respected as the voice for steel bridges in the bridge design and construction communities and brings his extensive experience and knowledge to lead our steel bridge market development and technical initiatives,” said Roger Ferch, NSBA’s executive director and AISC’s president. “His leadership and vision will have a great impact on the growth of NSBA and collaboration with our members and industry partners on the development, promotion and construction of cost-effective steel bridges in the U.S.”

McEleney was intimately involved in the development of the AASHTO/NSBA Steel Bridge Collaboration and currently serves on its Steering Committee. A joint effort between AASHTO and NSBA—with representation from state DOTs, FHWA, academia and the various industries related to steel bridge design, fabrication and inspection—the Collaboration provides a forum where public and private professionals can work together to improve the quality and value of steel bridges. McEleney also served as a member of the ASCE Steel Connections Committee and the AREMA Steel Bridges Committee 15.

“NSBA is looking forward to building on the foundation established since its inception in 1996,” said McEleney. “We expect to expand the scope of our fundamental technical activities while increasing our direct interaction with members of the bridge design and development community, as well as the general public and their elected representatives.”

SAFETY

Safety Supplement Public Review

A supplement to the AISC Specification for Safety-Related Steel Structures for Nuclear Facilities (ANSI/AISC N690-12) is available for public review until June 9. Developed by an AISC Adhoc Subcommittee under Task Committee 12, Nuclear Facilities Design, and ultimately approved by the AISC Committee on Specifications, the draft Supplement consists of a new appendix providing requirements for the design and construction of steel-plate composite walls. The system consists of two steel faceplates composite with structural concrete sandwiched between them for use in safety-related structures for nuclear facilities.

The supplement, along with the review form, is currently available at www.aisc.org/N690S1PR1. Copies are also available (for a $15 fee) by calling 312.670.5411. Please submit comments, using the online form, to Janet Cummins, AISC’s engineering and research coordinator, at cummins@aisc.org by June 9 for consideration.

• Modjeski and Masters has appointed Thomas Murphy to vice president and chief technical officer. As the firm’s newest principal and with nearly two decades of engineering experience, Murphy will continue to provide technical and managerial leadership to his colleagues for many of the firm’s complex and long-span design projects. He formerly served as senior associate and structural project manager.

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RESEARCH

Floor Beam Proves Fire-Resistant

Steel structures typically require special partitions or fireproofing methods, but a new steel floor system has been proven to achieve a four-hour fire rating on its own.

Deltabeam, a slim-floor system for multi-story buildings, was recently tested with the Underwriters Laboratories (UL) in Northbrook, Ill. It successfully passed the requirements of the one-, two-, three- and four-hour ratings without any fire protection, making it the first fire-rated exposed steel beam. (UL Ratings are now available at www.ul.com under N904, N905 and N906.)

The system’s manufacturer, Peikko (an AISC member), recently posted a YouTube video (www.youtube.com/watch?v=24GAof80uk) that includes commentary from John Cross, an AISC vice president, and Tabitha Stine, AISC’s director of technical marketing.

“This type of design allows for a low floor-to-floor height application with no additional fire protection being required, and that’s a major benefit in the marketplace,” said Cross. “Those are the kinds of questions we hear on a daily basis, and to be able to say there is an innovative solution to address that is huge.”

“UL is known as the authority for fire ratings,” added Stine. “To get the local building code to sign off on a tested assembly and for the architects and engineers to hang their hat on it, you need that trusted designation by UL.”

ENGINEERING JOURNAL

Engineering Journal Q2 Now Online

The second quarter 2014 issue of Engineering Journal is now available. This is the first of two issues with a special focus on the “simple for dead load—continuous for live load”—or SDCL—design concept. The premise behind the concept is that girders erected as simple spans can be made to function under live load as continuous spans by providing continuity with a unique field connection. In addition to covering research, the journal will highlight two successful SDCL bridge projects from the engineer’s perspective. Here are the Q2 articles:

➤ 2012-22R Simple for Dead Load—Continuous for Live Load Steel Bridge Systems Atorod Azizinamini

➤ 2012-23R Development and Experimental Testing of Connections for the Simple for Dead Load—Continuous for Live Load Steel Bridge System Nick Lampe, Nazanin Mosabeki, Aaron Yakel, Reza Farimani and Atorod Azizinamini

➤ 2012-24 Numerical Analysis and Design Provision Development for the Simple for Dead Load—Continuous for Live Load Steel Bridge System Reza Farimani, Saeed Javidi, Derek Kowalski and Atorod Azizinamini

➤ 2013-02 Continuous for Live Load Steel Girder Construction in the Northern Panhandle of West Virginia Anthony Ream and William Beining

➤ Research 35 Current Steel Structures Research No. 35 Reidar Bjoerboe

You can search the complete collection of Engineering Journal articles at www.aisc.org/ej.

AWARDS

Higgins Award Nominations Now Being Accepted

AISC is now accepting nominations for the T.R. Higgins Lectureship Award. Each year the award recognizes an outstanding lecturer and author whose technical paper or papers, published during the eligibility period, are considered an outstanding contribution to the engineering literature on fabricated structural steel.

The award is named for Theodore R. Higgins, former AISC director of engineering and research, who was widely acclaimed for his many contributions to the advancement of engineering technology related to fabricated structural steel. The award honors Theodore for his innovative engineering, timely technical papers and distinguished lectures.

AISC encourages everyone involved with steel construction to submit nominations. The author must be a permanent resident of the United States and available to fulfill the commitments of the award. The paper or papers must have been published in a professional journal between January 1, 2009 and January 1, 2014. The award winner will give a minimum of six presentations of the lecture on selected occasions during the year.

Nominations must be received by August 1, 2014. The 2015 award will be presented at the 2015 NASCC: The Steel Conference in Nashville. For more information on the award, including nomination requirements, visit www.aisc.org/higgins.

Send nominations to:
T.R. Higgins Award Nomination c/o Janet T. Cummins Engineering & Research Coordinator American Institute of Steel Construction One East Wacker Drive, Suite 700 Chicago, IL 60601 cummins@aisc.org