

AWARDS

Student Steel Design Competition Winners Announced

Thirteen student design projects from universities across North America were honored in the 14th annual Steel Design Student Competition for the 2013-2014 academic year. Administered by the Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture (ACSA) and sponsored by AISC, the program challenges architecture students to explore a variety of design issues related to the use of steel in design and construction. A total of \$14,000 in cash prizes was awarded to the winning students and their faculty sponsors.

This year's Category I competition, "Border-Crossing Station," challenged students to design a border-crossing station sited on a boundary between two countries. Two projects received top

honors in this category: "Kyrgyzstan-China Border Crossing," by Donovan Dunkley, Vail Nuguid and Alexia Sanchez from City College of New York; and "Interjection," by Kyle Marren from Ryerson University.

Category II was the open submission design option. First place went to "Searching for Daylight in a Diagonal Urban Grid," by Zahra Hosseinabadi from North Carolina State University.

To view the complete list of winners, see AISC's news release (at www.aisc.org), which includes links to the individual projects. Next year, the competition celebrates its 15th anniversary. The full competition program is now available at www.acsa-arch.org.



"Kyrgyzstan-China Border Crossing"



"Interjection"

BOARD NEWS

Ritner Steel Receives Women's Business Enterprise Council Certification

Ritner Steel, Inc., in Carlisle, Pa. (an AISC Member/AISC Certified fabricator), has received official certification from the Women's Business Enterprise Council PA-DE-sNJ.

Founded in 1997, the Women's Business Enterprise National Council (WBENC) works to certify and recognize businesses owned, controlled and operated by women in the U.S. This national certification places Ritner Steel among the few structural steel fabrication businesses in the country approved by the United States Small Business Administration's Women Owned Small Business Federal Contracting Program.



To earn the certification, the company underwent a detailed process to validate that it is 51% or more owned, controlled, operated and managed by a woman. From there it completed a formal documentation and site visit process administered by a Regional Partner Organization of the WBENC.

Founded by Louis Dorbian in 1948 as Carlisle Steel Supply, Ritner Steel is now managed by CEO Babette Freund, who also serves on AISC's Board of Directors.

"I am proud of our team accomplishments and excellent management staff which allows us to compete in the steel industry," said Freund. "This WBENC certification takes our business to the next level, allowing us to take on public projects while continuing to carry on our company's proud tradition of providing consistency, dedication and value to all of our customers."

To learn more about Ritner Steel, visit www.ritnersteel.com.

People and Firms

- **The Steel Market Development Institute (SMDI)** has announced that **Mark A. Thimons** will succeed **Gregory Crawford** as vice president of the **Steel Recycling Institute (SRI)**, a business unit of the **American Iron and Steel Institute (AISI)**. Crawford announced his upcoming retirement earlier this year. Thimons joined SMDI in 2010 as director of construction sustainability.
- A full-sized mockup frame of AISC Member **Star Seismic's** buckling restrained braces (BRB) is currently on display at the "Designing for Disaster" Exhibit located in the National Building Museum in Washington, D.C.; the exhibit runs until August 2, 2015.
- **Casco Bay Steel Structures, Inc.** (an AISC/NSBA Member and AISC Certified fabricator) has won the inaugural Business of the Year Award from the city of South Portland, Maine.
- **SME Steel** (an AISC Member and AISC Certified fabricator) is reopening its Pocatello, Idaho, plant, which closed in May 2013. The company will hire 140 workers including welders, fitters and drill press operators.
- **Nemetschek AG**, whose **Nemetschek Vectorworks, Inc.**, is a producer of BIM software, will acquire 100% of **Bluebeam Software, Inc.**, a provider of PDF-based workflow solutions for digital processes and collaboration for the AEC industry.

BOARD NEWS

Oregon Iron Works VP Elected to AISC Board of Directors

Patrick F. Leonard, P.E., vice president of the Commercial Division at Oregon Iron Works, LLC, Clackamas, Ore., (an AISC Member and AISC Certified fabricator) has been elected to AISC's Board of Directors. Confirmed during AISC's recent Annual Meeting in San Diego, Leonard will immediately begin serving on the AISC Board, assisting with the organization's planning and leadership in the steel construction industry.

"I'm pleased to announce Pat as the newest member joining the AISC Board," said AISC Board of Director's Nominating Committee Chair William B. (Brad) Bourne, III, of Universal Steel, Inc., Lithonia, Ga. (an AISC Member and AISC Certified fabricator). "He brings 35 years of experience in both bridge and building structures and is a professionally registered civil engineer in the state of California. I'm excited to have Pat representing the West Coast region on the Board and thank him for his time and commitment."

Leonard has worked for Oregon Iron Works for the past 20 years. He has extensive experience in the design and construction of steel bridges, buildings and hydroelectric equipment/structures with an emphasis on the overall management of steel construction projects, including high-rise buildings, hospitals, schools, shopping centers, manufacturing facilities, arenas and seismic retrofit projects. Oregon Iron Works has also been very active with the National Steel Bridge Alliance (NSBA), a division of AISC, for a number of years.

In addition, he's a member of the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) and Structural Engineers Association of Oregon (SEAO). He served as a Board of Directors Member for the Structural Engineers Association of Central California (SEAOCC) and was a Safety Assessment Engineer on the Disaster Emergency Services Committee of SEAOCC. He was also an Employer Trustee and Chairman of the Board for

the Iron Workers Pension Trust and a Board of Directors Member for the Pacific Northwest Steel Fabricators Association (PNSFA). He holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Architectural Engineering from California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo.

View all of AISC's Officers and Board of Directors on AISC's website at www.aisc.org/board.



BRIDGE NEWS

New Report Calls for Infrastructure Investment

A new report from Duke University's Center on Globalization, Governance and Competitiveness (CGGC) suggests that the federal government's current approach to addressing the country's decaying transportation infrastructure costs the U.S. 900,000 jobs—including more than 97,000 in the manufacturing sector.

Congress last passed a long-term transportation authorization bill in 2005 and this past July was only able to pass another short-term funding patch, which expires next May. The Alliance for American Manufacturing (AAM) says the new Duke report demonstrates that delay and underinvestment is causing a decline in American competitiveness and reducing potential employment. Each \$1 billion invested in transportation infrastructure creates 21,671 jobs, the report found.

"Congress' top priority should be closing the gap between our infrastructure needs and the investment required to reclaim lost competitiveness and put Ameri-

cans back to work," commented Scott Paul, president of AAM.

"Our economy requires a reliable, efficient transportation system to move goods between American manufacturers and customers both at home and around the world," said Bill McEleney, NSBA's managing director. "Additionally, maintaining that infrastructure can provide employment for thousands of American workers, further fueling the domestic economy."

The study concludes that a long-term transportation bill of \$114 billion annually would support upwards of 2.48 million American jobs and rebuild our underperforming infrastructure. Other findings include:

- Every dollar invested in transportation infrastructure returns \$3.54 in economic impact
- Deficient and decaying infrastructure makes the U.S. less competitive than many of our top trading partners, with global assessments ranking the

U.S. 16 out of 144 nations and 6 among our top 15 trading partners

- The U.S. invests on average \$848 per person annually on transportation investments compared to the European Union's \$2,589 per person

The report also examines the ramifications of building large infrastructure projects using foreign-made construction inputs. The San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge, whose center span was built with steel made in China, faced numerous delays and cost overruns during its construction and now faces a potential government investigation due to serious safety concerns. Meanwhile, the rebuild of New York's Tappan Zee Bridge, which is using domestic steel, is expected to come in on time and under budget, and serve New York for 100 years without major structural maintenance.

The report is available for free at AAM's website, www.americanmanufacturing.org.

AWARDS

Chia-Ming Uang Wins 2015 AISC T.R. Higgins Award

Chia-Ming Uang, Ph.D., professor of structural engineering at the University of California, San Diego (UCSD), is the 2015 recipient of the AISC's annual T.R. Higgins Lectureship Award. Uang is being honored for his paper "A Flexibility-Based Formulation for the Design of Continuity Plates in Steel Special Moment Frames," which he co-authored in the third quarter 2013 edition of AISC's *Engineering Journal*.

Uang is a research expert in seismic design, rehabilitation and testing of large-scale steel structures, including buildings and bridges. He studies seismic code design issues and actively participates in code committees to ensure that structures perform well and withstand forces during earthquakes. He has served in various capacities for professional engineering societies. He is a member of AISC's Committee on Specifications, Committee of Research and Connection Prequalification Review Panel, and in 2007 he was given an AISC Special Achievement Award for his research and service contributions to the structural steel industry. He has also received three research awards from the American Society

of Civil Engineers: the Raymond C. Reese Research Prize in 2001 and the Moisseiff Award in both 2004 and 2014. He is also a member of the Earthquake Engineering Research



Institute, the American Welding Society and the Structural Engineers Association of California. He co-authored two textbooks on structural analysis and steel design, and his research results are published in many

journal papers, conference proceedings and technical reports.

Uang joined UCSD in 1993 after serving on the faculty at Northeastern University in Boston for six years. Prior to entering the world of academia, Uang was a structural designer in Taipei, Taiwan.

"Dr. Uang has been a tireless contributor to the success of AISC and the steel industry through his research and educational activities," said Charlie Carter, S.E., P.E., Ph.D., AISC vice president and chief structural engineer. "We are all very pleased to see Chia-Ming recognized as a recipient of this prestigious award."

The T.R. Higgins 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, which includes a \$15,000 cash prize, will be presented to Uang at the 2015 NASCC: The Steel Conference (www.aisc.org/nascc) at Music City Center in Nashville, Tenn., March 25-27. And for more information on the award, visit www.aisc.org/TRHigginsAward.

MARKET NEWS

Chicago Mayor Announces "1,000 Jobs" Campaign at Atlas Tube Plant

Chicago mayor Rahm Emanuel, along with World Business Chicago, Chicago Federation of Labor and local business leaders, announced 1,000 Jobs for Chicagoland Manufacturing, an initiative in the mayor's 2015 Budget that will place workers in 1,000 open manufacturing jobs over the next year. The announcement was made at JMC Steel Group's Chicago Atlas Tube plant (an AISC Member). The facility, which makes more than 450,000 tons of product annually, is actively hiring 42 positions to support this initiative.

The initiative will match at least 1,000 qualified job seekers with open manufacturing jobs and link residents who need additional skills to training and

apprenticeship programs that can result in full-time employment. Over the last three years, the manufacturing sector has curbed a 30-year decline in jobs, but there aren't enough skilled workers to meet current demand.

"This program to connect 1,000 workers to manufacturing jobs builds on the work that we have done to reestablish Chicago as one of the country's major manufacturing hubs," said Mayor Emanuel. "From working to bring the Digital Manufacturing Lab to Chicago to investing in College to Career manufacturing training programs at Richard J. Daley Community College, attracting new manufacturers to Chicago and training and supporting future manufactur-

ing talent, we are helping to ensure that Chicago's economy will continue to grow well into the future."

To learn more, visit 1000JobsCampaign.com.

