CERTIFICATION

AISC Releases Program Requirements for Certified Erectors of Structural Steel

After reviewing and incorporating public comments, AISC has released the Program Requirements for AISC Certified Erectors of Structural Steel for the Erector Quality Management System (QMS) Certification Program. This is the governing program document and references the Standard for Structural Steel Erectors. The use of governing requirement documents began with the recently completed and successful conversion of the bridge certification program from a checklist to a standard-based certification scheme. The goal is to provide consistency, clarity and transparency to the program requirements and processes. The requirements supersede the former erector checklist criteria and existing categories (Certified Steel Erector and Advanced Certified Steel Erector).

“The updated program is designed to ensure companies have quality procedures in place and demonstrate they are actually following them,” said Jacques Cattan, an AISC vice president. “AISC’s certification programs continue to offer the industry a valuable means for qualifying companies and serve as an effective way for those companies to communicate their commitment and capability with respect to quality.”

The AISC QMS Certification Program is designed specifically to examine the unique requirements of structural steel erectors and fabricators. The goal of the program is to embed a quality management system within an organization to increase productivity, which helps to reduce unnecessary costs and ensure the quality of processes.

The Erector Requirements will supersede the current checklist criteria for new applicants on February 2, 2015. Additionally, a Certification Bulletin will be released to address the transition of current erector participants.

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

PUBLICATIONS

AISC Nuclear Specification Supplement Available for Public Review

A draft of a new supplement to the AISC Specification for Safety-Related Steel Structures for Nuclear Facilities (ANSI/AISC N690-12) is now available for public review.

Developed by an AISC Adhoc Subcommittee under Task Committee 12—Nuclear Facilities Design and ultimately approved by the AISC Committee on Specifications, the supplement incorporates 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 document and public review form are available on the AISC website at www.aisc.org/publicreview. Please submit your comments electronically to duncan@aisc.org using the review comment form, or mail them to: Cynthia Duncan, AISC, Suite 700, 1 East Wacker Drive, Chicago, IL 60601-1802 to be received by January 19, 2015. A hard copy is also available for a fee of $35 by calling 312.670.5411 or emailing Janet Cummins at cummins@aisc.org.

People and Firms

• Ecospan Composite Floor System, a division of Nucor Vulcraft Group, has launched a new responsive design website, www.ecospan-usa.com, designed to assist architects, builders and engineers in making well-informed decisions in less than three clicks.

• Steel connection software maker Qnect llc, has hired Tim Fraser as its vice president of engineering. Fraser is currently on the AISC Committee for the Seismic Manual and Chairman of the Seismic Provisions Subcommittee on Members and Connections, and was previously a member of the AISC Specification Committee and the Canadian standards equivalent, CSA S16, for the Design of Steel Structures.

• A new book, A Whole New Engineer: The Coming Revolution in Engineering Education, aims to inspire a revolution in engineering education. Written by David E. Goldberg, president of Big Beacon and emeritus professor of engineering at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, and Mark Somerville, professor of engineering and associate dean at Franklin W. Olin College of Engineering, the book provides guidance on creating educational experiences aligned with the creative imperative of the twenty-first century. For more information, including purchasing details, visit http://wholenewengineer.org.
NASCC

NASCC Registration Now Open

Registration is now open for the 2015 NASCC: The Steel Conference, taking place in Nashville, March 25-27.

The Steel Conference is the ideal place for structural engineers, steel fabricators, detailers and erectors to learn about structural steel design and construction, to interact with their peers and to see the latest products for steel buildings and bridges. It offers more than 100 technical sessions and is the premier educational event for structural engineers, fabricators, erectors and detailers.

In addition to practical seminars on the latest design concepts and construction techniques, the conference features an extensive trade show (displaying products ranging from structural software to machinery for cutting steel beams) and plentiful networking opportunities. It’s a once-a-year opportunity to learn the latest techniques, see the most innovative products and network with your peers and clients. And one low registration fee gains you admittance to technical sessions, keynote address, the T.R. Higgins Lecture and the exhibition hall.

Next month’s issue of Modern Steel will feature a handful of session preview papers, and the March issue will feature the full exhibitors list. To view the complete schedule, review travel information, register and more, visit www.aisc.org/nascc.

PROJECTS

Transbay Transit Center Steel Emerges from the Ground

Dignitaries and workers gathered late last year at the construction site of the San Francisco Transbay Transit Center to celebrate the emergence of the first piece of structural steel visible above ground. The ceremony marked the project’s latest milestone and the beginning of the structural steel assembly process, which is scheduled to complete in mid-2016.

“On this day, the Transbay Transit Center begins to emerge from the ground,” said Transbay Joint Powers Authority (TJPA) Executive Director Maria Ayerdi-Kaplan at the event on November 7 to honor the occasion. “This steel column is the first of many that will rise together to form a Bay Area icon, a world-class station that will combine 11 difference public transit systems under one roof.”

More than 22,000 tons of steel will be used to construct the Transit Center, all of which was supplied and fabricated domestically in accordance with the project’s Buy America status.

Production facilities in 19 states have been involved in providing the steel for the Transit Center, several of which are AISC Members and AISC Certified facilities.

The project has created more than 8,000 construction-related jobs to date, almost 3,000 of which are associated with steel production.

The project features an innovative design that requires many different types of steel elements, with some single pieces as large as 65 tons. The steel pipe columns and cast nodes that form the exoskeleton of the structure are engineered to exact specifications that are test-fitted at the fabrication site to ensure quality. And the column put in place during the ceremony, as well as all columns that will be installed, features a seismically safe design not used before in the U.S., according to a release by TJPA.

When finished, the Transbay Transit Center will accommodate approximately 100,000 travelers daily. Bus operations are scheduled to begin in late 2017. To learn more about the project, visit www.TransbayCenter.org.
Canam Lands New Atlanta Falcons Stadium

Canam Steel Corporation (an AISC Member and AISC Certified fabricator), a subsidiary of Canam Group Inc., has been awarded a contract of more than $200 million for products and services required for a new multi-purpose stadium in Atlanta, which will be the new home of the Atlanta Falcons NFL football team.

The contract includes design-assist and detailing, building information modeling (BIM) and project management services as well as the fabrication and erection of steel components for the stadium and an iconic retractable roof.

The roof is comprised of eight radially organized interlocking panels that form a central overhead oculus. These movable panels will be supported by an extensive network of more than 200 trusses that span up to 735 feet across the length of the stadium. The total construction cost of the stadium is estimated near $1.2 billion. It will seat 71,000 spectators and is scheduled to open for the start of the 2017 football season.

The agreement was signed with HHRM, a joint venture formed by Hunt Construction Group, Holder Construction Company, H.J. Russell and Company, and C.D. Moody Construction Company.

“We’re honored to have the opportunity to work with Arthur Blank and the entire Atlanta Falcons organization as well as the design and construction team made up of HHRM, 360 Architecture, and Buro Happold,” commented Peter Frantz, senior vice president of Canam Group.

The contract represents the 74th stadium project that the company has collaborated on. You can follow the project's progress on its website http://newstadium.atlantafalcons.com.

STEEL TOOLS

New Design Aids for Your Steel Tool Belt

The Steel Solutions Center (SSC) is offering two new steelTools: the Structural Steel Detailing Tool and CraneBeam 2010. Both are available for free at www.steelTOOLS.org.

The Structural Steel Detailing Tool is the ultimate reference for detailing dimensions for all rolled sections in the 2013 Edition of the 14th Edition AISC Steel Construction Manual—while at your desk or on the go. For a direct link to this resource, go to www.aisc.org/DetailingTool.

Crane Beam was originally developed as a companion to AISC Design Guide 7 as an educational utility to help with crane runway design. The latest version is now updated for the 2005 and 2010 AISC Specifications. Wide-flange beams and beams with cap channels can be evaluated, and detailed sample calculations follow procedures in the Design Guide and AISC Specifications. Calculations can be done using any of the 1989 ASD, 1999 LRFD, 2005 LRFD/ASD and 2010 LRFD/ASD design methods.

An online community with utilities developed by the SSC as well as design and construction professionals, steelTOOLS.org helps visitors find an optimal solution for a wide variety of design and building challenges. To contact the SSC, email solutions@aisc.org or call 866.ASK.AISC.