

structurally
sound

AISC'S NEW VIEW FROM PRU



AISC HAS MOVED! (But not far.)

On June 27, AISC relocated its national headquarters from its longtime home at 1 E. Wacker Drive. “We’re going to miss our location in the first U.S. building to use 50-ksi steel, but we’re also looking forward to a new office that will provide additional needed space,” said Roger E. Ferch, AISC’s president.

AISC’s new home will be on the 20th floor of 130 E. Randolph St., a 41-story steel-framed building overlooking Chicago’s Millennium Park and Grant Park landmarks. Completed in 1955, the Prudential Building (also called One Prudential Plaza) was constructed using the air rights above the Illinois Central Railroad tracks. It was one of the first post-war skyscrapers constructed in Chicago and featured a rooftop restaurant and observation deck that were, at the time, the highest public spaces in the city.

Starting in 2013, the mid-century modern building received an extensive exterior and interior makeover. The aluminum and limestone facade was polished and cleaned, windows and interior finishes were replaced and mechanical systems were upgraded.

But one feature hasn’t changed: the structural steel frame, comprised of riveted built-up shapes. The steel is in such good condition—and so visually striking—that many new tenants have chosen to expose elements of the frame. In fact, AISC’s space prominently exposes two riveted columns, now protected by a decidedly 21st century intumescent coating. ■