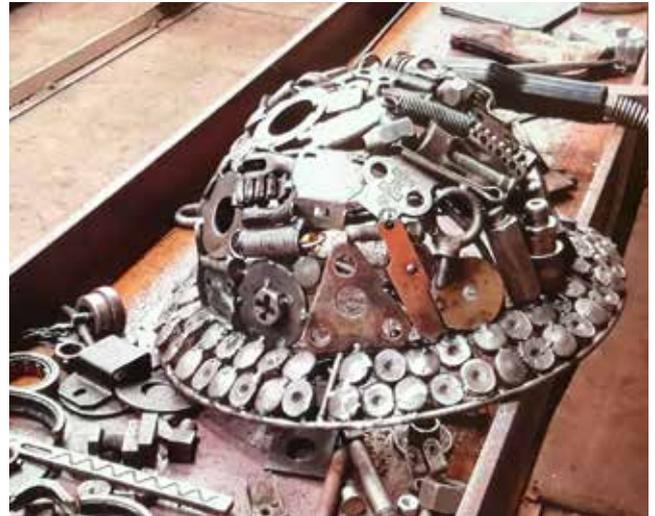


structurally
sound

MAN OF REAL STEEL



WITH ALL DUE RESPECT TO SUPERMAN, *Man of Steel* is the real deal.

The sculpture, which won this year's AISC SteelDay Sculpture competition by garnering the most votes at NASCC: The Steel Conference in San Antonio in March, is *actually* made of steel.

Man of Steel was designed and fabricated by Victor Velazquez, an employee with AISC member Universal Steel of North Carolina (USNC) and a talented artist who turns "scrap" into art.

"This piece of art is just one of many that Victor has created," noted Babette Freund, president of USNC and an AISC board member. "The concept was a culmination of many ideas from his imagination. We are very fortunate to have an artisan like Victor working with us at USNC."

Victor used, among other things, washers, springs, small wrenches, bolts, chains, round bar and flat bar to bring *Man of Steel* to life. Once the "man" was complete, he added the hard hat and the accessories, then tacked the assembly to a base, which he also created. It took Victor approximately one week to fabricate the sculpture, using only a welding machine.

Man of Steel was one of five finalist sculptures on display at the Henry B. Gonzalez Convention Center in San Antonio, where attendees voted for their favorite. The only rules for the competition, now in its sixth year, are that: (1) entrants must be AISC full or associate members; (2) the sculptures must fit into a 2-ft by 2-ft by 2-ft box; and (3) they must be made entirely of steel. Nine sculptures were entered into the competition this year, and you can view all of them via AISC's Facebook page, www.facebook.com/aiscdotorg (go to the "2016 Steel Sculpture Competition" photo album). ■