AWARDS

Call for Entries for AWS 7th Annual Image of Welding Awards

Jessica Sladek

The American Welding Society (AWS) has issued a call for entries for the 7th Annual Image of Welding Awards program, which salutes the year's most outstanding public initiatives and programs that promote the image of welding.

The program is open to all welding industry professionals, and the awards are issued in six categories. All entrants, organizations, and groups may be nominated for multiple categories, and self-nominations are also welcome. Winners will be honored at the Image of Welding Awards Ceremony to be held during the FABTECH International and AWS Welding Show on November 15–18, 2009 at McCormick Place in Chicago.

The Image of Welding Awards Program recognizes outstanding achievement in the following categories:

- individual (you or other individual)
- section (AWS local chapter)
- small business (less than 200 employees)
- large business (200 or more employees)
- distributor (welding products)
- educator (welding teacher at an institution, facility, etc.)
- educational facility (any organization that conducts welding education or training)

Nominations will be judged by the Welding Equipment Manufacturers Committee (WEMCO), a standing committee at AWS—composed of executives of welding industry suppliers—that promotes the welding equipment market.

To see past Image of Welding Award winners and to submit a nomination, download the PDF nomination form online at **www.aws.org/awards/image.html**. You can return your completed form to **image@aws.org** or 305.443.1552 (fax). For questions and other requests, please call 800.443.9353. The entry deadline is July 10, 2009.

Innovative Joist Design

Have an innovative joist project? The Steel Joist Institute is now accepting entries for its 2009 Design Awards. The winning entries will be announced in November 2009 and the company with the winning project in each category will be awarded a $2,000 scholarship in its name to a school of its choice for an engineering student.

The awards will be presented in three categories:

- industrial (distribution centers, warehouses, and light manufacturing)
- non-industrial (office buildings, schools, and churches)
- unique applications (projects with a unique application of steel joists)

Eligible projects—new or major retrofits/expansions—must be located in the United States, Canada, or Mexico, and the steel joists and/or joist girders must be manufactured by an active member of the Steel Joist Institute. (A list of members can be found here: **www.steeljoist.org/members**.) Projects must have been constructed within the last three years.

Companies can submit more than one project, and each project will be judged separately. Judging of each project is evaluated and based on flexibility, speed of construction, value, and aesthetic considerations.

Visit **www.steeljoist.org/awards** by July 24, 2009 for an online entry form and a complete listing of rules.

And to see the winners of AISC's own awards program, the IDEAS^2 Awards, visit **www.modernsteel.com/2009IDEAS**.

STANDARDS

Mechanical Tests, Metric Standards

A new ASTM International standard will serve as a guide for manufacturers and laboratories that make and test steel products according to standards using the SI system of units.

The new standard, ASTM A1058, *Test Methods for Mechanical Testing of Steel Products—Metric*, arose from a need for a stand-alone metric steel testing standard, according to Lester Burgess, director of quality with TSP/U.S. Bolt Manufacturing and chair of Subcommittee A01.13 on Mechanical and Chemical Testing and Processing Methods of Steel Products and Processes.

The new standard follows a distinctly different format from that of well-known testing standard ASTM A370, *Test Methods and Definitions for Mechanical Testing of Steel Products*. For example, ASTM A1058 does not include the product annexes found in ASTM A370. ASTM A1058 provides detailed direction for mechanical testing and includes coverage of international standards. The new standard references and cross-references international standards such as the European Committee for Standardization, the International Organization for Standardization, and the Japanese Standards Association.

ASTM A1058 was developed by a task group under the direction of Subcommittee A01.13, part of ASTM International Committee A01 on Steel, Stainless Steel, and Related Alloys. Committee A01 subcommittees will begin referencing the new standard as it applies to their individual specifications.

ASTM International standards are available for purchase at **www.astm.org**.

EVENTS

South Africa to Host Mining Conference

The Southern Africa Institute of Steel Construction will host an international conference, Structures for Mining and Related Materials Handling, in Sun City, South Africa November 9–12, 2009. The conference will be aimed at structural and mechanical engineers responsible for the design, construction, and maintenance of structures associated with mining. Presentations will deal with the variety of structures required for extracting mineral resources from the ground and conveying, storing, and processing the materials. Additional information is available at **www.saisc.co.za**.

Academy Prepares Women for Leadership Roles

The National Center for Construction Education and Research (NCCER) and the National Association of Women in Construction (NAWC) will host the third annual Women's Leadership Academy on June 27–30, 2009 in Florissant, Colo.

The Women's Leadership Academy targets business owners, education directors, office managers, training coordinators, or anyone interested in learning how to be a more effective leader. It consists of three days of intense training sessions specifically geared towards women covering such topics as powerful language skills, gender-based power in business leadership styles, negotiating techniques, time management, productivity, and conflict resolution. Participants also receive lasting network opportunities by sharing their experiences with peers from around the nation.

The Women's Leadership Academy is led by quality instructors that motivate and engage participants through a series of team-building exercises, group projects and hands-on activities. Tuition for the academy is $1,495 and includes lodging, all meals, course materials, and airport transportation.

Upon completion of the academy, participants will receive continuing education units and may receive industry-recognized credentials from NCCER's National Registry. To register for the Academy, visit **www.nccer.org/leadership**.

PUBLICATIONS

Public Review of 2010 AISC Seismic Provisions

The 2010 draft of the AISC *Seismic Provisions for Structural Steel Buildings* is available for public review from May 1 to June 15, 2009. The *Provisions* are available for download from the AISC web site at **www.aisc.org/AISC341PR1**, along with the review form, during this time. A summary of some of the major revisions is included with the review form. Copies of the draft *Provisions* are also available (for a $12 nominal charge) by calling 312.670.5411.

Please submit comments using the form provided online to Cynthia J. Duncan, AISC's director of engineering, at **duncan@aisc.org** by June 15, 2009 for consideration.

news & events

EVENTS

Domestic Steel Industry to Open its Doors this September

On September 18, architects, engineers, contractors, and others in the AEC community will have the opportunity to visit steel fabricators, mills, service centers, and other facilities throughout the country. The occasion? SteelDay.

Hosted by AISC, SteelDay 2009 is the first national event dedicated to providing the AEC community with accessibility to the latest happenings in the structural steel industry. To announce SteelDay 2009, AISC recently launched a new web site and portal, **www.steelday.org**, which features information and resources on where all of the action is taking place, including a map of the event locations and how to attend or host an event. The event was also promoted at this year's NASCC in Phoenix (see **www.modernsteel.com/2009NASCC** for coverage of the conference).

Currently, more than 100 SteelDay events are scheduled in 43 states for participants to tour facilities and jobsites, attend educational seminars, network, and see how the structural steel industry is contributing to building America.

"SteelDay is a unique chance for participants to receive hands-on education about the latest advances in the structural steel industry and witness new technologies first-hand," said Chris Moor, AISC's industry mobilization director. "AISC holds tours and seminars throughout the year in specific locations, but we wanted to do something on a grand scale where more people could get these types of learning experiences without having to travel very far."

AISC member Lyman Zolvinski, president of structural engineering consulting firm Zolvinski Engineering in Michigan City, Ind., attended an AISC seminar at a service center last year and hoped to see more fabricator and mill tours become available in his local area. "A wealth of information can be obtained by visiting service centers, fabricators, and mills that can't be put into literature," said Zolvinski. "It also keeps one up to date on the latest supply and fabrication techniques and availability." Zolvinski plans to attend a steel mill tour in Indiana on SteelDay.

During SteelDay, participants will gain hands-on knowledge about structural steel's key benefits and features such as sustainability, availability, speed, and cost. They can also observe how design affects production and efficiency, prompting advances that have resulted in high-performance projects that minimize construction's impact on our planet while also saving time and money.

Visit **www.steelday.org** for more information.

letters

Missed it by that Much

The following errors have been found in our article "Design of Vertical Bracing Connections for High-Seismic Drift" in the March 2009 issue:

1. In Figures 4 and 6, the 19-in.-long fillet welds of the HSS brace to the gusset plate should be $\frac{9}{16}$ in., not $\frac{5}{16}$ in.
2. In Figure 7, the slots should be $1\frac{3}{16} \times 2\frac{1}{2}$, not $1\frac{1}{16} \times 2\frac{1}{2}$.

William A. Thornton
and Larry S. Muir

*(A corrected version is posted at **www.modernsteel.com/0309seismic**.)*

Sound Advice

I am an assistant professor at the University of Nevada–Las Vegas School of Architecture, where I teach construction technology to upper-division students. I've just read Rob Kincher's article "The Sounds of Silence" in the April 2009 issue (**www.modernsteel.com/0409silence**). Mr. Kinchler has hit the nail right on the head. The text we have been using is so weak on properly explaining Sound Transmission Class. The article is perfect in explanation and comparisons of various materials and systems.

Jay Barry

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