

There's plenty to celebrate within the American structural steel industry and plenty of ways to do it on AISC's 10th annual SteelDay.

SteelDay Times Ten

BY GEOFF WEISENBERGER



Geoff Weisenberger (weisenberger@aisc.org) is the senior editor of *Modern Steel Construction*.

GET READY: THE 10TH ANNUAL STEELDAY is September 28!

For the past decade, AISC and its members and partners have teamed up to host exciting, engaging events across the country—from education via presentations and webinars to a behind-the-scenes look into the industry with fabrication shop tours to witnessing it all come together at project site visits.

When SteelDay was originally conceived, it was difficult to visualize the hundreds of events that would take place and the thousands of attendees that would take part over the following years. But here we are, and the fabricated structural steel industry is better for it, as all of those attendees—engineers, general contractors, owners, developers, other construction industry personnel, students, educators and even the general public—now have a better picture of how steel works, how it ties into our economy and how to get the most out of it in projects.

For AISC full and associate members, being a SteelDay host is a fantastic opportunity to showcase your facility, projects and capabilities while making connections and helping to raise the profile of the industry. Here's a look at some of the events taking place this year. If you're near one of these cities—or feel like taking a trip (long weekend, anyone?)—consider signing up for one of them. And if you need more incentive, many of them involve a free lunch!



Integrated Design Engineers



SteelDay Welding Scholarship Contest – Puma Steel Cheyenne, Wyo.

Join Puma Steel (AISC member and certified fabricator), Laramie County Community College and AISC in the final judged events for the 2018 Student Welding Competition at Puma’s fabrication shop. Over \$10,000 in scholarships will be awarded to the student contestants in conjunction with AISC’s David B. Ratterman Scholarship program of. The competition starts at 9:00 a.m. and will be followed by a shop tour at 11:00 a.m. Come and support our young steel professionals as they compete! Lunch will be provided after the shop tours, so come hungry! Safety gear and personal protective equipment (PPE) will be provided as needed.

HARC LEED Platinum and Net Zero Project Tour – Houston

The 20,000-sq.-ft Houston Advanced Research Center (HARC) facility has received LEED Platinum Certification and is also approaching Net Zero Energy Building Certification—and was one of the first buildings in Texas to be subjected to a whole-building life-cycle assessment (LCA). The project team approached the design with this green end in mind, and the LCA pointed to the use of a structural steel frame to achieve it. Attendees will get an intimate look into the structure’s features and learn about the collaborative approach that makes this facility a stunning example of sustainable design.

Steel: From Mill to Service Center – Dallas

Join us on a three-stop tour of the steel life cycle. At the mill, you’ll witness the beginning (and end) of the structural steel supply chain by seeing the awesome capability of these huge scrap metal recycling and steel production facilities. You’ll also experience the quality control procedures throughout the process and develop an understanding of rolling schedules and steel availability. Next is a hot-dip galvanizing facility, where fabricated steel is staged, cleaned, prepped and finally dipped into a kettle full of molten zinc to complete the galvanizing process. The third stop is a structural steel service center, which acts as a “warehouse” for thousands of tons of steel shapes that are available for jobs as needed. *(Note: This event takes place on Thursday, September 27—what we like to refer to as SteelDay Eve.)*

Steel Fabrication of the Amazon Spheres – Seattle

Jay Taylor, senior principal at structural engineering firm Magnusson Klemencic Associates (MKA) and leader of the firm’s Cultural, Civic and Education Specialist Groups, will discuss the design and steel fabrication of Seattle’s striking Amazon Spheres project.

North Transfer Station IDEAS² Award Presentation – Seattle

Also taking place in Seattle is a tour of the North Transfer Station—one of the most beautiful garbage (and green) waste facilities you’ll ever see and also a 2018 AISC IDEAS² Award winner (see the May issue at www.modernsteel.com). In recognition of the award, AISC will conduct a presentation ceremony with entering firm Integrated Design Engineers and the primary members of the project team.

NSBA/DOT Happy Hour – Houston

Join the National Steel Bridge Alliance and for a SteelDay happy hour at Baileson Brewery! Opened just last year, Baileson is a quaint microbrewery in the heart of Houston’s Rice Village. The beer is tasty and the outdoor space is a great place to unwind on a Thursday evening. *(Note: This event takes place on Thursday, September 27.)*

Wilson School Project Tour – Arlington, Va.

Come tour the future home H-B Woodlawn and Stratford programs. The new building will open next fall, serving 775 students and acting as a temporary fire station while the current Fire Station 10 in Rosslyn is rebuilt. Discover the unique challenges faced by the project team and learn how the use of steel helped meet those challenges. Shared spaces, outdoor terraces and open areas for recreation and learning are abundant throughout the building. During lunch, leaders from the project team of Silman, Leo A Daly/BIG, Banker Steel Company (AISC member and certified fabricator) and Gilbane Building Company will give a short presentation on the challenges of the project before the tour begins. *(Note: This event takes place on Thursday, September 27.)*



AISC Certification Panel – Boston

A Boston SteelDay event invites attendees to learn the value of AISC Certification. This evening event will include a one-hour panel discussion followed by a cocktail reception. The panel will discuss how AISC Certification brings value to your project, reducing risk and streamlining the fabrication and erection process. The panel will also talk about what is involved with maintaining certification. Attendees will be encouraged to submit questions ahead of time to help direct the conversation and make it more interactive. (Note: Actual date to be determined.)

Screening of *Leaning Out* – Chicago

Watch an exclusive pre-screening of the documentary film *Leaning Out*, the story of the acclaimed structural engineer Leslie E. Robertson, and earn 1.0 PDH. Told by the guru of high-rise structural design himself and those closest to him—with voices of visionary architects and engineering experts—the film recounts Robertson’s storied career pioneering tall landmark structures, including New York’s original World Trade Center, and highlights his unique perspective on innovative uses of steel and wind engineering.

Webinar: Birth of the Steel Skyscraper Presented by Ben Schafer – Chicago

This talk will present the history and context that led to the birth of the steel “skeletal” skyscraper in late 19th century Chicago. The tenets of “structural art” will be introduced and mapped against the skyscraper and its evolution. The conditions that give rise to innovation in structures, the engineering role in skyscraper innovation and the solutions that rise to the highest level of engineering success will all be explored. The lesser-known role of the engineer John Wellborn Root of the First Chicago School of architecture and skyscrapers will also be highlighted. Using these early structures for context, comments on more recent steel skyscrapers will briefly be explored as time

allows. Taken together, you’ll gain a better understanding of the history of steel solutions for tall buildings—and you can also earn 1.0 PDH!

Cookie Delivery – Chicago

Also in Chicago, AISC’s Chicago staff will be delivering SteelDay cookies to AEC firms in and around the Loop. (Note: If you haven’t received SteelDay cookies in the past and would like to add your firm to the list, please contact AISC’s Chicago structural steel specialist, Joe Dardis, at dardis@aisc.org.)

Architectural Boat Tour – Chicago

But wait, there’s yet another SteelDay opportunity in the Windy City! Join AISC and the Chicago design community on an architectural boat tour on the Chicago River. It will be a narrated tour with Chicago Line Cruises—with a twist! In addition to the typical narrated tour, several local designers who worked on recently completed steel projects will have the opportunity to discuss how steel was used in their respective projects. Don’t miss this opportunity to enjoy a great day on the river and learn about great Chicago buildings from some of the people that made them happen. The boat is covered on both the top and bottom deck, so a rain-or-shine plan is in effect. And guess what: Lunch will be provided.

Take Ten—Off!

Also, in honor of the 10th SteelDay, any AISC bookstore publication purchases will be discounted 10%! Visit www.aisc.org/publications to take advantage of this deal, which runs September 28 - October 1.

For more on these events and others taking place across the country on or around Friday, September 28, visit www.steelday.org. And if you’re interested in hosting an event, sign up today at www.steelday.org/hosts, which includes SteelDay logos, a marketing kit and more information. Happy SteelDay! ■