

Steel Today |

2015 Steel Conference Heads to Nashville

The 2015 NASCC: The Steel Conference is heading to the heart of country music, March 25-27, at Music City Center

The Steel Conference brings together designers and builders of steel buildings and bridges to learn new design and construction methods and see the technologies and practices that will maintain the steel industry's success in the future. And this year's show will continue the trend of moving the industry forward, with top practitioners sharing the latest developments in seminars ranging from "Current Developments in the Bolt Spec" to "Engineers: Getting the Welds You Need and Want."

"These conferences are lightbulb moments, as they bring greater clarity on matters pertaining to structural steel," said Savitree Singh of KS&P, an attendee at last year's conference in Toronto.

"Research tends to be too theoretical and engineering tends to follow the design guidelines," said another attendee, Daniel Wan of Hardesty and Hanover. "The conference provides the opportunity to share real-life design experiences and new knowledge on the latest research and design development."

This year, The Steel Conference is offering more varied subject matter than ever before. The more than 100 technical sessions focus on design and construction as well as specialized areas such as:

- ▶ Working on Federal Projects
- ▶ Bridge Design and Construction
- ▶ Business Issues
- ▶ Quality
- ▶ Seismic Design
- ▶ Technology

The conference also offers a Council of American Structural Engineers (CASE) session on "Shop Drawings—Success & Failure." And at no additional



A demonstration of BridgeMaster, an automated girder welder and virtual assembler by AGT robotics

charge, registrants can attend all of the Structural Stability Research Council sessions in their Annual Stability Conference. Some sessions are aimed at engineers, while others are of greater interest to general contractors. However, attendees are welcome to attend any session.

The main conference offers up to 16 professional development hours (PDHs), which is equivalent to 1.5 CEUs. In addition, attendees at pre-conference short courses can earn an additional 4 PDHs, for a total of 20 PDHs. A complete list of conference sessions is provided in the Advance Program available at www.aisc.org/nascc.

Working Across Generations

Attendees from all generations will take away useful tips from this year's keynote presentation on working across the generation gap.

Speaker Haydn Shaw is the author of *Sticking Points: How to Get 4 Generations Working Together in the 12 Places They Come Apart* and Franklin Covey's best selling workshops "Leading Across Generations" and "Working Across Generations." He also writes on generations and leadership for the *Huffington Post*.

Shaw's presentation "Leading Across the Generations" will explain why generations are different and how to

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★ ADVANCE PROGRAM ★

To view the advance program, visit
www.aisc.org/nascc

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turn those differences into productivity. Attendees will learn the differences between Traditionalists, Baby Boomers, Gen Xers and Millennials and how to get through their sticking points to get stuff done. Shaw will also give guidance on gaining, training and retraining the “text message” generation.

On Display

In addition to dynamic, expert-led presentations, the conference offers an extensive trade show.

More than 200 exhibitors will take the show floor this year, featuring cutting-edge technologies and systems ranging from engineering software and connection products, to state-of-the-art fabrication equipment and coatings. Equipment manufacturers will also provide live demonstrations of steel beams being cut, punched and drilled.

The exhibit hall opens on Wednesday, March 25, at 2:30 p.m. with a Welcome Reception from 6 p.m. - 7:30 p.m., which is included in all full registration options. The reception is a great opportunity to network with other industry professionals and catch a preview of what exhibitors will offer for the rest of the show.

On Thursday, March 26, the exhibit hall will be open from 9 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. and on Friday from 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Virtual Sessions

For those who can't make it to Nashville to attend the conference in person, AISC is offering the opportunity to attend remotely by viewing selected streaming sessions online. Virtual attendees can watch their choice of 12 sessions (out of 24 being streamed) and receive PDH/CEU credits.

“Streaming sessions proved to be very popular last year and more than 600 people participated,” explained Scott Melnick, vice president at AISC. “It’s a very economical option and gives you a good taste of the sessions at the Conference. Not only do you save on travel and hotel costs, but it only costs \$225 for AISC members (\$350 for non-members) with each additional viewer from the same company paying only \$10. It’s not as good as being at the conference, but it’s the next best thing.” ■

For more information on attending The Steel Conference, visit www.aisc.org/nascc. To register for the streaming sessions from NASCC Live! visit www.aisc.org/nascclive.

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Iron Workers Offer 'Earn While You Learn' Apprenticeship Program

The Iron Workers offer a unique opportunity for those willing to put in the work. The Iron Workers' apprenticeship program is available at more than 150 locations across the United States and Canada. "This is a rigorous opportunity for anyone who wants to do the work of ironworkers, show up to work every day on time, and attend and pass related training classes," Iron Workers International Executive Director of Apprenticeship and Training, Lee Worley, says. "Training is a condition of employment for us."

Training through apprenticeship offers an attractive career path to skilled craft status and a means to pass along skills through built-in mentoring from experienced journeymen. The long-term nature of the apprenticeship, using a dual-learning approach combining classroom learning with learning on the job, produces craft workers who



Using a dual-learning approach, world-class Iron Worker training is offered at more than 150 facilities across the U.S. and Canada.

are broadly prepared and understand not only how to do work, but why they are doing it. While working on-the-job and acquiring skills, apprentices are a regular part of the workforce on whom contractors and co-workers rely because Iron Workers recruit, train and deliver the best skilled workers on earth. ■

For more information on the Iron Workers' Apprenticeship program, please visit www.ironworkers.org/training/about-training



Advanced Ideas For Building With Steel Enhance Design

New ideas abound in the area of structural steel joist, deck and beam design. Ongoing investments in R&D and market research point to the following advancements for enhanced structural steel building design:

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