

## Steel Construction Unaffected by Steel Tariffs

**Chicago, IL**—Contrary to some media reports, President Bush's proposed tariffs of up to 30% on steel imports will not affect the commercial building market. While the action may indeed result in higher prices on such products as cars and appliances, the hefty tariffs do not apply to structural steel, steel deck or steel joist.

"President Bush's recommendations should have no effect on the price or availability of structural steel in the United States," stated H. Louis Gurtlet, president of the American Institute of Steel Construction, Inc.

Bush's report to Congress does not recommend or impose tariffs on the products that are used in the construction of steel-framed buildings—such as wide flange members, angles and channels. In addition, the tariffs don't apply to steel decking products, which are used as part of a floor or roof system, or for steel joists, which are used to support floors and roofs. As a result, the imposed tariffs will have no impact on the steel construction market. However, the tariff situation may affect con-

crete construction prices, since Bush recommended a 15% tariff on reinforcing bar—a key ingredient in concrete construction.

Currently, the mill price of structural steel is approximately the same as it was 30 years ago—but with two important differences. Today's steel is nearly 40% stronger. And, all domestically produced beams and columns are manufactured almost exclusively from recycled material. (For more information on steel recycling, please visit [www.aisc.org/steelfanatic.html](http://www.aisc.org/steelfanatic.html).)

Steel availability is currently at excellent levels with an even rosier future ahead with the anticipated start-up of another major domestic steel mill. Steel Dynamics Inc. reported that they anticipate shipping beams and columns beginning in May, joining the strong production of Nucor-Yamato Steel and TXI-Chaparral. (For more information on steel production in the United States, please visit [www.nucoryamato.com](http://www.nucoryamato.com), [www.chaparralsteel.com](http://www.chaparralsteel.com), or [www.steeldynamics.com](http://www.steeldynamics.com).)

## Second Public Review of Seismic Provisions

AISC is now requesting a second public review of the 2002 AISC *Seismic Provisions for Structural Steel Buildings*. This specification is available for downloading on the AISC web site at [www.aisc.org](http://www.aisc.org). Copies are also available (for a \$12 nominal charge) by calling 312.670.5410.

Please send your specific comments to Cynthia J. Lanz, Director of Specifications, at [lanz@aisc.org](mailto:lanz@aisc.org) or by fax to her attention at 312.644.4226. Negative comments must be accompanied by specific recommendations for revision. Comments must be received by May 1, 2002 for consideration.

## Steel News via E-mail

The American Institute of Steel Construction, Inc. invites you to learn up-to-date information about the steel and construction industry. Receive information about AISC's latest programs, initiatives, publications and events. The E-Mail Newsletter will also give helpful AISC website hints. To receive AISC's E-Mail Newsletter, sign up by visiting

[www.aisc.org/news.html](http://www.aisc.org/news.html).

## Seismic Steel Teaching Sculpture Debuts

**Chico, CA**—On February 22, 2002, the first steel teaching sculpture including seismic steel details was dedicated at California State University-Chico. In addition to demonstrating more common aspects of steel construction, the sculpture features examples of several earthquake-resistant details (for example, "dog-bones") that have been developed following the 1994 Northridge earthquake.

Steel teaching sculptures (also known as steel teaching aids) are promoted by AISC's University Relations department. There are nearly 100 similar sculptures located at as many universities around the country. AISC and the California-based Structural Steel Educational Council are confident that CSU-Chico's seismic-focused teaching aid is the first of many that will be placed at California universities.

Many groups and individuals contributed to this first seismic teaching aid. Financial support was provided by the California Ironworkers Administrative Trust and by the College of Engineering, Computer Science and Technology at CSU-Chico. Eandi Metal Works of Oakland, CA, fabricated the sculpture, and Roberts Consulting Engineering and Applied Testing Consultants, both of Chico, provided site-engineering services. Professors Joel Arthur and Russell Mills worked closely with students on the sculpture's design and installation.

For more information on steel teaching sculptures, contact Fromy Rosenberg, Director of University Relations at AISC, via email at [rosenberg@aisc.org](mailto:rosenberg@aisc.org).



California State University-Chico is the home to this new seismic steel teaching sculpture.

# STEEL NEWS & EVENTS

## Steel Plus Network Launches New Programs

Ville de Saint-Georges, QC—Steel Plus Network unveiled four innovative and exclusive programs unique to the steel industry at its seventh annual convention held in Bermuda from January 17 to 19, 2002. Network Fabricator members will benefit from an attractive rewards program, unlimited detailing and engineering resources, a benchmarking tool that allows performance comparisons within the industry, and a succession plan that will ensure their business continuity and the transfer of their company to a second or third generation, including a financing program.

The new Steel Points rewards program launched by Steel Plus Network is a unique concept in the traditional steel manufacturing industry. Steel Plus Network fabricator members can accumulate points simply by combining their steel product purchases, especially joists, from Canam Steel. Points can then be redeemed for business products and services or rewards.

The steel construction industry is facing a critical shortage of technical

personnel to prepare shop drawings based on engineering plans for steel fabricators. The new Detailer Access program provides a solution by allowing Network fabricator members to lease the services of experienced detailers or engineers wherever they are in the world. A number of engineers and detailers at the office in Brasov, Romania, are currently available for this program.

Steel Plus Network has developed the Succession Plan program to ensure business continuity and to facilitate the financial independence of Network fabricator members. This succession plan is accompanied by a temporary financing plan that allows the transfer of businesses from one generation to another without compromising the continuity of the companies. Statistics indicate that 70% of businesses do not survive the transfer to the second generation in North America and 90% do not survive the transfer to the third generation.

Finally, the steel industry lacks comparative data. It is currently extremely difficult, if not impossible, for a structural steel fabricator to compare and measure the company's results with those of other companies in the same industrial sector. In order to meet this need, Steel Plus Network and twenty-five of its fabricator members have created a steel sector reference group. The PDG program (Performance, Development and Growth) is a new management tool that allows Steel Plus Network members to compare their performance and make necessary changes to improve the quality of their business.

Steel Plus Network members are specialized in structural steel fabrication and the Network offers them innovative services to help them increase competitiveness and sales volumes. Steel Plus Network has 117 fabricator members and 87 supplier members in Canada and the United States.

## AISC Announces 2002 I.D.E.A.S. Award Winners

Sponsored by the American Institute of Steel Construction, I.D.E.A.S. awards (Innovative Design and Excellence in Architecture with Steel) recognize architectural designs using structural steel as a prominent architectural feature.

AISC will present each project's architect with their I.D.E.A.S. award at the AIA 2002 National Convention and Expo at the Charlotte Convention Center (Charlotte, NC) May 9-11, 2002. Award-winning projects will be featured in the July 2002 issue of *Modern Steel Construction*.



### 2002 I.D.E.A.S. Award Winners

#### Up to \$10M

##### *National Award*

Imperial Bank Tower Renovation—Murphy/Jahn, Chicago, IL

##### *Merit Awards*

World Peace Bell & Pavilion—NBBJ, Columbus, OH

Roseville Park Shelters—Meyer, Scherer & Rockcastle, Ltd. Minneapolis, MN

#### \$10M or greater, but less than \$25M

##### *National Award*

The Pavilion at Symphony Lake—William Rawn Associates, Boston, MA

##### *Merit Awards*

Learning Laboratory for Complex Systems—Cambridge Seven Associates, Cambridge, MA

Donald W. Reynolds Center on Aging—Perkins Eastman Architects, Pittsburgh, PA

#### \$25M or greater, but less than \$100M

##### *National Award*

Stonebriar Centre—ELS Architecture and Urban Design, Berkeley, CA

##### *Merit Awards*

The Great Platte River Road Archway Monument—Urban Design Group, Inc., Denver, CO

Diamond Ranch High School—Thomas Blurock Architects, Costa Mesa, CA

Utah Olympics Oval—Gillies Stranksy Brems Smith, Salt Lake City, UT

#### \$100M and above

##### *National Award*

McNamara Terminal at the NorthWest World Gateway—Smith Group, Detroit, MI

##### *Merit Awards*

Heinz Field—HOK Sport + Venue + Event, Kansas City, MO

Pusan Convention Center and Exhibition Hall—The Leonard Parker Associates, Minneapolis, MN

## SAISC Photographic competition 2002: STEEL THE SHOW

The South African Institute of Steel Construction (SAISC), along with the Earth Summit on Sustainable Development to be held in Johannesburg in September 2002, would like to spotlight the inspiration of people who create new life from a piece of steel.

Steel lends itself to being used more than once before eventual re-melting. Often, using second-hand material brings out the best in people, from architects to farmers. Capture their ingenuity on film, and your creativity could win you R15000. International entries are welcome.

Closing Date	June 30, 2002
First Prize	R 15000
2 <sup>nd</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> Prizes	R 2500 ea.

All entries must be delivered to SAISC, 7<sup>th</sup> Floor Metal Industries House, 42 Anderson Street, Johannesburg 2001, South Africa, or posted to SAISC, P.O Box 1338, Johannesburg, South Africa, 2001.

For more information and pick-up points contact Annalise Lubbe at tel: +27.11.838.1665, [annalise@saisc.co.za](mailto:annalise@saisc.co.za), [www.saisc.co.za](http://www.saisc.co.za).

Please refer to the website, [www.saisc.co.za](http://www.saisc.co.za), for all the rules of the competition.

## Corrections

**February 2002:** In the article "Spanning the Sky," we failed to credit the project's fabricator, AISC-member Addison Steel of Lockhart, FL. We apologize for the omission and any inconvenience it may have caused.

**March 2002:** In the article "Does anyone want to be a detailer?" we failed to mention that Southwestern Community College of Creston, IA, offers a 10-month program resulting in a Diploma in Structural Drafting and a 19-month program resulting in an Associate of Applied Science Degree in Structural Engineering Technology. For more information on these programs, visit [www.swcc.cc.ia.us](http://www.swcc.cc.ia.us). We regret this oversight and any inconvenience it may have caused.

**March 2002:** In the detailer listing:

- Cliff Heights Detailing Corporation's phone number was incorrect. The correct phone number is 718.384.9101.
- Trevian Projects Ltd. was incorrectly listed as Trevian Products Ltd. We apologize for the error.
- The detailing company, Steel Draft, has the following changes:  
E-mail: [sd22@afes.com](mailto:sd22@afes.com)  
% of staff not in North America: 0  
Software: 1, C
- The email address for McCormick Warner Inc. has changed to [mccormickwarner@att.net](mailto:mccormickwarner@att.net). View the most up-to-date detailer listing online at : [www.modernsteel.com](http://www.modernsteel.com)