

June 1, 2003

The Technical Administrative Committee (TAC) on Metals has eight active Technical Committees that encompass a range of activities relating to disseminating information and promoting research and practice on the behavior and design of metal structures. These committees typically meet once a year, often at the SEI Structures Congress or at other national conferences related to metal structures.

Recently published or in-preparation documents that will be of interest to structural engineering practitioners and researchers include:

- The Committee on Cold-Formed Members published an article entitled "Accommodating Building Deflections: What Every EOR Should Know About Accommodating Deflections in Secondary Cold-Formed Steel Systems" in the February 2003 issue of *Structure*. This excellent article sheds light on the important topic of design for deflections in cold-formed steel structures.

- The Committee on Composite Construction published an article on "Construction Considerations for Composite Steel-and-Concrete Floor Systems" in the September 2002 issue of the *Journal of Structural Engineering*, ASCE. This document discusses issues critical to practitioners who run into challenging problems related to construction of composite floor systems.

- The proceedings of the United Engineering Foundation Conference entitled *Composite Construction and Steel and Concrete IV* was published in 2002 with assistance from the Committee on Composite Construction. This document, available from ASCE Publications, includes approximately one hundred comprehensive, state-of-the-art, peer-reviewed papers from around the world on research and practice in composite construction.

- The Committee on Compression and Flexural Members is preparing a document on the design of partially-restrained steel structures using up-to-date procedures for stability assessment.

- The Committee on the Design of Steel Building Structures published the "Compendium of Design Office Problems, Volume III," in the May 2002 issue of the *Journal of Structural Engineering*, ASCE. This valuable document, the third in a series that have been published over the years, includes brief discussions and solutions to some of the most challenging problems faced by practitioners in day-to-day design of steel buildings.

- The Committee on Fatigue and Fracture is working on a document comparing different approaches for bridge rating, with a particular emphasis on assessing fatigue and fracture-critical details.

- The Committee on Load and Resistance Factor Design is preparing a comprehensive database of experimental results related to the nonlinear behavior of steel I-girders.

- The Committee on Special Structures published a book entitled "Dynamic Response of Lattice Towers and Guyed Masts," available from ASCE Publications. This comprehensive document is an excellent

resource for all who design guyed masts.

- The Committee on Structural Connections is initiating work on preparing a state-of-the-art report to provide recommendations for expanding the design provisions for connections to hollow structural sections.

The committees sponsor related sessions at the SEI Structures Congresses and other conferences around the country, and often host technical discussions at their meetings. Anyone interested in offering papers for these sessions are invited to contact the committee chair.

If you are interested in any of these committee publications or activities or in joining any of the committees, please contact Prof. J. F. Hajjar, Chair of the Technical Administrative Committee on Metals at the University of Minnesota. Telephone: (612) 626-8225; E-mail: [hajjar@struc.ce.umn.edu](mailto:hajjar@struc.ce.umn.edu).

*Young engineers are particularly encouraged to join.*

## Mark Your Calendars

### 2004 Structures Congress

Nashville, TN; May 24-26, 2004

NOTE: This conference is on a Monday to Wednesday format rather than the usual Thursday to Saturday format.

Go to [www.asce.org/conferences/structures2004](http://www.asce.org/conferences/structures2004) for further information.

*Deadline for Student Poster Entry Application:* October 31, 2003

Send applications to Prof. P.K. Basu at [prodyot.k.basu@vanderbilt.edu](mailto:prodyot.k.basu@vanderbilt.edu)

*Presenters' Deadline Extension*

The deadline to submit your final publication-ready paper has been extended to November 4.

4. Go to the web site address noted above, and follow the directions to submit your papers.



### 2005 Structures Congress

April 20-24, 2005; New York City

*Call for papers:* go to

[www.seinstitute.org/conferences/structures2005](http://www.seinstitute.org/conferences/structures2005).

#### Important Dates:

Session Requests/Abstracts due ..... March 15, 2004

Notification of Preliminary Acceptance ..... May 15, 2004

Final acceptance of session requests/abstracts ..... June 15, 2004

Publication-ready papers due ..... November 4, 2004



## Orthotropic Bridge Conference – Call for Papers

Sponsored by ASCE Sacramento Section, Capital Branch

August, 2004 – third or fourth week

Abstract Deadline: November 30, 2003

Conference Paper Selection Date: February 28, 2004

Author Commitment Date Deadline: March 28, 2004

Written paper requirements: follow ASCE guidelines at [www.asce.org](http://www.asce.org)

For further details, go to: [www.orthotropic-bridge.org](http://www.orthotropic-bridge.org), or call 916-961-2723.

The technical six-day program will include a two-day class, a three-day conference, and a one-day tour of Orthotropic Steel Bridges in Northern California (San Francisco Bay area). There are six categories for the conference: Design, Construction, Fabrication, Wearing Surfaces, Bridge Maintenance, and Research.

## SEI's Electronic Newsletter

Your Guide to ASCE/SEI  
Standards, Services and  
Opportunities

The SEI Update is available to all SEI members. It includes technical articles about ASCE/SEI standards, SEI news, committee news, and announcements for conferences, seminars and call-for-papers. If you are a member of SEI and don't already receive the SEI Update, subscribe now!

Simply log onto our Web site at [www.seinstitute.org](http://www.seinstitute.org) and click on "Subscribe to e-Newsletter."

## Requesting Information on Programs for "Enhancing the Image of Structural Engineers"

What is the current image of a structural engineer? Is the public aware that structural engineers have participated in the design of where they live, work, play and pray? Bridges, sports stadiums, shopping centers, hospitals and almost every structure an individual occupies or uses during each day has required structural engineering. Do students consider structural engineering and the peripheral professions for which a structural engineering background is beneficial - as career choices? Does the public understand what structural engineers contribute to society?

Collectively the Public Relations Committees of the three organizations noted above are soliciting examples or other input of what you, your firm and your organization have done regarding *Enhancing the Image of the Structural Engineer*. We plan to organize and maintain the results on a web page for the use of all structural engineers and other related parties as well as publish the results in *STRUCTURE* magazine.

We have identified two distinct focus areas, **Public Outreach** and **Media Relations**.

**Public Outreach** efforts would be directed through the education system, community service groups, and other means. Some of the ideas or types of programs we have discussed are:

### Educational Community

- Prepackaged presentations for the various levels of education (from grade school through graduate school) including examples of where and how to present.
- Competitions involving structural engineering basics.
- Interaction between local educational programs and engineering organizations
- Scholarships.
- Judging contests.
- Discounted rates to your meetings and seminars.
- Entertaining seminars about what structural engineering is and how we do it.

### General Public

- Prepackaged presentations at community service groups; focusing on the positive contributions from structural engineering rather than disasters.
- Recognition of structural engineers participating in non-engineering activities.
- Putting the structural engineer's name on construction site signage.



**Media Relations** is also an area where structural engineers need to be more proactive. We hope that with your help we will be able to put together guidelines focused on how:

- Structural engineering organizations can establish ongoing relationships with the media.
- Qualified individuals can be made available when the media needs to conduct an interview.
- News material can be developed.

Any input you have regarding your past, current or future ideas or programs, would be greatly appreciated.

Please send to: Stephanie Young, P.E., [stephanie@mattsonmacdonald.com](mailto:stephanie@mattsonmacdonald.com), Fax: (612) 827-0805. Or, send by mail to:

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## Did You Know?

Structure magazine is available on-line for SEI/ASCE members-only at [www.seinstitute.org](http://www.seinstitute.org). Click on "Structure magazine", enter your ASCE or SEI member number and last name, and you'll have access to recent and archived issues.

