

National Institute of Steel Detailing

Connection

Summer 2023

Celebrating 55 Years of Excellence



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National Institute of Steel Detailing

Join the NISD for a private tour!

Date: September 19, 2023

Time: 11:00 AM –5 PM

Nucor - Yamato Beam Rolling Plant Tour

Join the NISD on September 19, 2023, for a tour of the Nucor-Yamato Beam Rolling Plant! Nucor-Yamato Steel Company was formed in 1987 as a joint venture between Nucor and Yamato Kogyo with the goal of operating a steel mini-mill to manufacture wide-flange beams in Blytheville, Arkansas. Today, Nucor-Yamato Steel Company has the capacity to produce over 2.5 million tons per year. This tour is being held in conjunction with the NISD Board Meeting on September 20, 2023 at 9AM at the Embassy Suites Hotel, Memphis TN. All tour attendees are welcome to attend the board meeting.

Highlights

- Tour is limited to 30 guests
- Bus boards at Embassy Suites
- 11am; departs 11:30am
- Closed toe shoes required
- Tour is free
- Call NISD today to reserve your spot!!! 360.426.4108

Embassy Suites

1022 South Shady Grove Road
Memphis, TN 38120

Hotel Phone: 833-433-1138
NISD Room Block: Sep 18-20, 2023



National Institute of Steel Detailing
Would like to thank our Bus Sponsor
American Steel Detailing, LLC
Additional sponsors are welcome!

Connection

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The "Connection" is the official publication of The National Institute of Steel Detailing, Inc., 171 E. Phillips Lake Loop Road, Shelton, WA 98584. Editor, Kerri Olsen

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LIFTING THE INDUSTRY

WORKING TO FILL THE JOB GAPS WITHIN THE SKILLED TRADES INDUSTRY WITH A TECH FORWARD APPROACH

www.industrylift.org





And Summer is upon us!

We are wonderfully green and cool this early summer here in what is known as the ‘Evergreen State’! For those of you who believe it just rains here all the time, I can tell you we have had weeks without any rain and the weather here has been glorious!

It has now been a bit over a year since the NISD office move, and while there have been some fits and starts, I am feeling much more comfortable with the work. The caretaking of memberships, IDC and QPP participation has been a welcome learning curve. Though I do not claim to know it all at this point, I have learned much and I thank all of you for your support and continued patience.

Everyone’s participation thru the membership, IDC and QPP programs mean so much, not only with the continued support of fellow members and non-member detailers, but to the industry as a whole. It is through this office that we are able to come together as a single body, validating the importance of each and every one of us, whether we are a company of one or hundreds – we make the stand as one. This is why we continually ask for your help to speak out at the roundtables, send us emails about your thoughts and concerns, send articles about your company, participate in online and in person meetings – get out there and be heard! We are our own best advocate in the steel detailing industry and there is power in that when we use it!

Growing participation in all the NISD programs, webinars and roundtables is all about hope for the future! We will be adding webinars designed to support those who are planning on taking their new and renewal IDC tests, so do look for those in the schedule in the months ahead.

In this issue of the Connection, we add Part two of the ‘Hope for a Brighter Future’. This article is looking at the changes which are coming to the surface for how steel detailing is thought about and managed and how we can help to support that forward, more positive movement.

For those of you who were unable to attend the April NISD Annual Meeting, please know that we did miss you! Speaking for myself, I had a wonderful time and it was a joy to see everyone who was able to attend! There was so much new information to take in at the annual meeting that I wish we were set up for recording these sessions. The President’s Banquet Mystery Dinner was so much fun, it was a bit difficult to keep up with all of the action! I do want to thank all of the volunteer actors who participated and did such a great job, their talent made all the difference!

If you were unable to attend NASCC and The NASCC ‘Detailing Conference’ featuring the “Detailing Track” speakers mentioned in the last issue of the Connection, these sessions were recorded and the AISC will have a link to those recordings for us soon. We will provide access information in future issues of the Connection.

We did have the Conference room camera on during the NISD Annual Meeting, and our thanks goes to those who were able to attend virtually. This was an NISD first with being able to offer such an option. We did learn from this event how to make the future meetings a better experience! Also, we do have it cleared with the AISC to use this same camera for our NASCC Detailing Conference sessions next year. While it is always preferable to attend these events in person – being able to log in and virtually participate in real time is the next best thing.

Thanks to the hard work of NISD Vice President Christine McCulloch, the tour plans are now complete for the trip to the Nucor-Yamato Steel Company in Blytheville, Arkansas. This event, together with the mid-term Board of Directors meeting is scheduled for September 19th and 20th, 2023 in Memphis, Tennessee. For more information, please see the inside front cover of this issue of the Connection! A big thank you to Ryan Wunderle of American Steel Detailing, LLC for sponsoring the bus which will take attendees round trip from Memphis to Blytheville on tour day! Remember, this tour is limited to 30 attendees, so please, get your reservations in early to secure your place!

We are taking suggestions for other events or places to visit from our members, so please, drop us a line or call the office to let us know your thoughts!

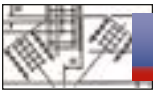
See you in Memphis!

Kerri Olsen, NISD President



Kerri Olsen
President





HELLO FELLOW NISD MEMBERS!

Hello Fellow NISD Members,

I cannot believe we are almost half way through the year. It feels like only a few weeks ago that we were at the NISD annual meeting in Charlotte, North Carolina. If you were able to join us, I hope you had as much fun as I did, talking to other members, learning, networking and attending the murder mystery dinner! If you were not able to participate this year, consider joining us next year, or plan to attend the September 19, 2023 Nucor Yamato Steel Company beam mill rolling plant in Blytheville, Arkansas and the semi-annual meeting in Memphis, Tennessee. Keep an eye on your email for the flyer and see the inside cover page of this issue of the Connection for more information!

The bi-weekly webinars continue to go strong. Since we began offering these presentations in 2022, we have now a backlog of over 25 of these webinars. We always get positive feedback regarding the topics and content. I personally find these webinars to be very rewarding. It has been said that teaching is one of the best ways to learn, and I am experiencing that first hand. There are always great discussions and questions which keep me and the other speakers learning and on our toes. At the end of the day, I have to tell you that these webinars are just fun to do. If you are an NISD member who have missed any of the webinars, please send me an email request and I can send you the recording. See our website for the full list of past webinars.

The bi-weekly roundtables have also been great. The online round table discussions are a safe place for me and other members to get advice, talk shop, vent & just have a good laugh. Detailing can sometimes feel like you are living in a cave so I really look forward to seeing the light and other humans every two weeks. If you have not attended one before I encourage you to join. These online round table meetings are an open forum to talk about pretty much anything steel industry related.

We are still working on getting our website updated, refreshed, and adding new features. It is a big task, and for that reason we are looking into bringing in some outside help for get this project. If you or someone you know is willing to donate some time to help on this or any other NISD project or committee, feel free to reach out to me or other board members.

As always, we really appreciate your membership and hope to see you soon at our next webinar, roundtable or in person meeting!

Thank you,

Ryan Wunderle
NISD Board Member - Marketing Chair, memberservices@nisd.org



Ryan Presenting to a full house at NASCC - NISD Conference on Steel Detailing



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Ethan Blum



Michael Fischer, Jemai Gomez, Fischer Design Group, LLC



National Institute of Steel Detailing

Membership Application

The annual membership cycle runs from June 1st through May 31st

Member-At-Large Membership is open to any company that conducts its office in the Americas, and is regularly engaged in, the business of steel detailing. Such office shall have been conducted for a minimum period of one year. A member in this category has all privileges and benefits of membership including voting and holding office.

Fee Schedule: \$290 for companies with a gross annual income of less than \$250,000 [June-September]
Prorated dues when joining October-February \$200 March to May 31 of the following year (15 months) \$290

\$450 for companies with a gross annual income greater than \$250,000 [June-September]
Prorated dues when joining October-February \$305 March to May 31 of the following year (15 months) \$450

Associate Membership is open to any company, national or regional trade or professional association interested in enhancing the detailing profession or the activities of the NISD, whose primary business is not in structural steel detailing. This category includes all privileges and benefits of membership except those of voting and holding office.

Fee Schedule: Annual membership fee is \$360 [June-September]
Prorated dues when joining October-February \$245 March to May 31 of the following year (15 months) \$360

Individual Associate Membership is open to a person employed as a steel detailer or other person interested in the future of the steel detailing industry but who does not fall in the category of Regular or Associate membership. This category has limited privileges and benefits of membership, which precludes them from voting and holding office.

Fee Schedule: Annual membership fee is \$65 Annual dues of \$65 are renewable on June 1st

Overseas Membership is open to any company that conducts a regular office for, and is regularly engaged in, the business of steel detailing outside the Americas. Such office shall have been conducted for a minimum period of one year. Members in this category may vote (no proxy votes), but they may not hold national office.

Fee Schedule: Annual membership fee is \$450 [June-September]
Prorated dues when joining October-February \$305 March to May 31 of the following year (15 months) \$450

Member Emeritus Membership is open to any individual who was a former regular member of the NISD and has retired from the competitive field, but wishes to remain active in the NISD. Members in this category may not hold office.

Fee Schedule: Annual membership fee is \$100 Annual dues of \$100 are renewable on June 1st

The undersigned hereby applies for membership in the National Institute of Steel Detailing, Inc.

Name _____ Title _____

Company Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State/Province _____ Zip/Postal Code _____

Country _____

Telephone _____ Fax _____

E-mail _____ Web site _____

For more information: Visit our website at www.nisd.org or send us an email at nisd@sbcglobal.net

Payment in US Dollars

Membership Fee: US\$ _____

Postage/handling, add:
\$40 for Canada \$ _____
Central & South America

\$75 for International \$ _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED US\$ _____

Method of Payment

Check, payable to: **NISD, Inc.**
171 E. Phillips Lake Loop Road, Shelton,
Washington 98584 Phone - 1-360-426-4108



MasterCard Visa AmEx

Number: _____ Expiration Date: _____

Signature: _____

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Rev. 12-2022



NISD ANNUAL MEETING – Charlotte, North Carolina

by Kerri Olsen

The NISD Annual Meeting – Celebrating 55 years of Excellence – came off without a hitch on April 10-11, 2023 in Charlotte, North Carolina. Missy, Christine and I spent about six months planning this event, with the burden of the work on Vice President Christine McCulloch. Christine’s main duty is with making hotel and food arrangements, though this year she also arranged the Steel Fab tour and transportation. Which was an absolute blast, by the way.

Our reward for organizing all of this is to see you all in attendance and having fun! The NISD Annual Meeting is always a whirlwind for me. From the time I arrive it is business details, introductions and paperwork in between catching up with old friends.

This year we had the newly added feature of the Conference Room Camera for virtual attendees. We were able to use our Go-To-Meeting account for our virtual attendees to sign in. The conference camera has the technology to focus in on whomever is talking. Additional views may be selected to show multiple speakers, and then the whole room view may also be added. This new conference room camera proved successful enough to market and expand upon for the next annual meeting, with plans to be able to record sessions for future use. We learned much from this experience and we thank our virtual attendees for helping out.



As published in the last Connection, we had Mr. Larry Kruth, P.E., of Kruth Engineering, LLC., Mr. Brian Pyper, with Dowco Consultants, LTD, and Mr. Ravi Polamarasetty, P.E., with DGS Technical Services, there to share their knowledge and expertise with us.

Larry’s talk on the ‘Updates to the AISC Code of Standard Practice – What Steel Detailers Need to Know’ provided us with the highlights on how the new updates will help the Steel Detailing Trade. Larry’s presentation was recorded at the NASCC Detailing Tracks. If you missed both presentations, you may go to the AISC Website to view. If you are familiar with the NISD Webinars and are an NISD Member, you may request a copy of this recording from Ryan Wunderle at memberservices@sbcglobal.net.

Larry Kruth, P.E.

Brian’s presentation on ‘Steel Detailing Challenges and Opportunities with Design Build/BIM Project’ was most informative for those who want to know more about this type of delivery system. Once just a dream, the ‘Design, Build, BIM projects are becoming much more common. Brian’s ‘SWOT’ presentation approach supported giving both large and small companies the tools to work with should they decide to add this type of work to their sales base.

Ravi’s discussion on ‘Connection Design: The Good, The Bad and the Ugly’ was very educational and helpful for those who may have reservations regarding making suggestions for connection changes. Ravi showed us some typical connection designs, explained what was particularly good or bad about them, and provided alternative design suggestions.

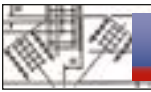


Ravi Polamarasetty, P.E.

Our sincere thanks to all of our speakers, we truly appreciate the time and effort they spent on creating and executing these presentations!



Brian Pyper, Dowco Consultants, LTD



NISD ANNUAL MEETING – Charlotte, North Carolina

by Kerri Olsen

Our President’s Banquet this year did include entertainment by The Murder Mystery Company, who did a fine job with engaging our crew in the ‘Best Laid Plans – An Old Hollywood Whodunnit’ theme for our President’s Banquet. It was awesome to discover that we have some great actors in our group. Our President’s Banquet Dinner attendee volunteer ‘actors,’ enthusiastic with their willingness to participate together with their playful imagination made all the difference. Steel detailers tend to be a very reserved group by nature. Who knew there was so much hidden talent?

The fun began immediately for me as I entered the banquet room encountering first Ryan Wunderle as he introduced himself to me as ‘Huge Ego’.

Brian Pyper was ‘Mr. Purple’. Linda Tracz was Dr. Sarah Dippity, wins the award for best actor. Ravi Polamarasetty was Mr. Green, who received the award for ‘Best Death Scene’. Jack Metcalf stars as Detective Peter Ness and did win the ‘Best Detective award’.



The Murder Mystery Company Actors



Linda Tracz as Dr. Sarah Dippity.

I wish I would have taken better notes, so that I would now be better suited to report the happenings with solving the case. The entire evening was action packed with somethin different occuring at each table. Best of all, everyone seemed to be enjoying the challenge!



Ravi Polamarasetty as Mr. Green

The Murder Mystery Company actors set the stage by introducing themselves table to table and immediately dropping clues in those conversations. You had to be pretty sharp to keep up, and I was amongst the group who simply sat back and enjoyed the show.



Brian Pyper as ‘Mr. Purple’

Many were engaged with the ‘murder’ turn of events and were very busy with trying to remember what was said during the actor’s conversations, and did collaborate with other attendees at other tables to comparing notes and work out the clues.



Paulo Calluci, DP Steel Detailing and Michael Tinker of Tinker Steel Detailing trying to work out the clues

In the end, the ‘killer’ was revealed to be ‘Cherry Bomb’, played by Christine McCulloch. She did a wonderful job and it was a total surprise that she turned out to be ‘guilty’!

As an event organizer, all I can think now is that this is going to be hard to top for next year!



Ryan Wunderle as ‘Huge Ego’

NISD ANNUAL MEETING – Charlotte, North Carolina

by Kerri Olsen



Person of the Year - Ryan Wunderle

The 'Person of the Year' went to Ryan Wunderle because of the fine work he has been doing over the past year with the NISD Webinars and Round Tables.

We wanted to be sure that Ryan knows how much we all appreciate his dedication to the NISD, and that we do acknowledge the behind the scenes effort with the many volunteer hours involved to organize the webinars and round tables. These presentations have become a very special and vital member benefit. Thank you so very much Ryan for all that you do!

Especially dear to us is the work that Michael Pelliccio does with representing the NISD at NASCC every year! We made the special 'Dedication and Service' award to thank him for his continued volunteer time to organize and be present year after year, without fail, at the NISD booth for membership promotion.

Michael is a long term NISD Member, is currently on the Board of Directors as the NISD Membership Director. Michael celebrates his 83 birthday this year! Many more happy years to you Michael, and as always, looking forward to seeing you again and the Mid Term Board Meeting in September!



Michael Pelliccio - Thank you for your many years of Dedication and Service!

Jack Metcalfe, Metcalfe Consulting, LLC, aka Detective Patrick Ness wins 'Best Detective' award!



Christine McCulloch as 'Cherry Bomb'

NISD 55th Annual Conferen

Attendees

Officers

Kerri Olsen, President

Christine McCulloch, Vice President

Michele Mercurio, Secretary/Treasurer

Directors

Kerri Olsen, Controller

Russell Neal, Michael Pelliccio, Ryan Wunderle, Brian Pyper, Jim Truitt

Members

Mike Bowers, Joe Fabregas, Michael Fisher, Jemai Gomez, David Merrifield, Jack Metcalfe



NISD Secretary Michelle Mercurio

Call to Order: President Kerri Olsen called meeting to order at 3:45 pm Kerri Olsen read the

NISD antitrust statement. - *Participants at this meeting of the National Institute of Steel Detailing are reminded to refrain from any actions, or discussions, which may be construed as violations of anti-trust law. Specifically, there will be no discussions relating to market allocations, selling price, or distribution area. Furthermore, no participant is to use this meeting as an opportunity to embarrass any person, company or association. Attendees should refrain from discussing specific supplier/manufacturer problems and limit their questions and statements to those general industry practices. Individual detailer/supplier - related problems should not be discussed and will not be a part of this meeting.*

NISD Mission Statement - NISD will foster a professional approach to business, by advocating improved quality, through member networking, education, and certification, and create a better understanding of the importance of detailing services in the construction process.

1 Opening Remarks: Kerri Olsen

Kerri welcomed everyone to the BOD Meeting and thanked them for attending.

2 Review of Minutes: Kerri Olsen

Reading of January 31, 2023 BOD Meeting Minutes was waived– Mike Bowers motioned to approve, 2nd by Ryan Wunderle.

3 Committee Reports

- a. Committee Reports were reviewed as submitted. Please see the conference book for a copy of all the reports.

4 NISD 56th Annual Meeting – March 18th & 19th, 2024 – San Antonio, TX – Christine McCulloch, VP

- a. NASCC Steel Conference, March 20-22 Henry B. Gonzalez Convention Center
- b. NISD Meeting Schedule is Welcome Reception Monday 6:30 – 9 pm; Tuesday 8:30 – 4:30pm Meeting; 6:30 – 9:30 Dinner. Unanimous vote to keep dates and schedule of events consistent.

ce - Board Meeting Minutes

- c. A/V costs have become unreasonable. Unanimous vote to purchase our own equipment and ship to meeting locations.

5 Nominating Committee

- a. Currently, our BOD has 8 members.
- b. Recommended changes to our by-laws include increasing board size to 12. A ballot will be sent this summer to approve/or not, this and three other changes.
- c. A nominating committee has been established to plan for this anticipated change and to find candidates to replace those board members who will be rotating off at the end of their term.
- d. Committee volunteers: Brian Pyper - Chair, Mike Bowers, Mike Fisher, Jack Metcalfe, Russell Neal, Ryan Wunderle

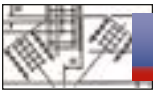
6 Next NISD BOD Meeting

- a. Nucor Yamato Steel Co., Blytheville, Arkansas –Beam rolling plant has offered to host a tour for our board. Recommend Tuesday, September 19th 2023, upon confirmation of tour availability. This will require meeting to be two days – open to others ie Mid-year mini meeting Tour of first day, meeting on day two. (NOTE: SDS2 meeting is in October in Omaha.)
- b. Executive BOD will need to confirm availability of flights and hotels. POST NOTE: Embassy Suites 1022 South Shady Grove Road, Memphis, TN 38120 has been confirmed. A coach bus has been reserved thru Cline Tours for travel to and from tour. Cost \$1,944 Sponsored by American Steel Detailing, LLC. Space is limited.
- c. All Board members are encouraged to attend.
- d. This meeting is also open to any committee chair.

7 Adjournment

- a. Motion was made to adjourn at 5:04pm by Ryan Wunderle second by Missy Mercurio
- b. Meeting Adjourned





Steel Fab Tour in Charlotte!



This year's gathering in Charlotte, NC for the NISD Annual meeting began with the fabrication shop tour of Steel Fab, Inc., about 18 miles from our hotel. We met at 1:30 p.m. at the Lobby of the Embassy Suites in Uptown Charlotte and loaded into the chartered bus for the trip to the shop.

At least, most of us did. Mr. Jim Truitt was on a call and did get left behind. He had to take an Uber. We did wait for him to arrive before we entered the building prior to starting our tour!

Established in 1955, Steel Fab, Inc. has grown to include 14 fabrication facilities and 15 offices, with the corporate office based in Charlotte. Steel Fab, Inc., is an AISC Certified Steel Fabricator. The fabrication shop is about 400,000 square feet with 260 employees, processing about 12,000 labor hours and shipping 80 truckloads of fabricated steel per week. If you do the math on that, they are potentially producing 3.2 million pounds of steel PER WEEK at the Charlotte location alone! That's a lot of steel.

Castellated beams - pictured right and below, are a 'bread and butter' item in Steel Fab's shop.

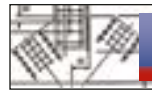
The manufacturing process here involves cutting the beam web in the pattern shown in the bottom picture, then welding the beam 'center' pictured right.

This way, designers get both the beam strength and depth needed to use as a steel joist substitute.



Below is a view of the complicated truss weld joint.





Steel Fab Tour - Charlotte, North Carolina



This is, hands down, the largest fabrication shop I have ever had the honor to see. Tour guides Brando Crouse and Henry Duncan were professionals at their job for sure. Each attendee was given eye protection and head phones prior to the start of the tour. The head phone sets each had a mic, enabling us to both hear our guide and to ask questions while on the tour.

There were 26 of us on the tour split into two groups. We were allowed to take pictures at will. We have included some of our favorites in this article. Many projects were underway, the largest of which were trusses for the Charlotte airport in various stages of fabrication. A huge portion of the shop was taken up with castellated beams in various stages of completion. It was explained to us that these castellated beams were currently a popular replacement for steel joist with long lead times.

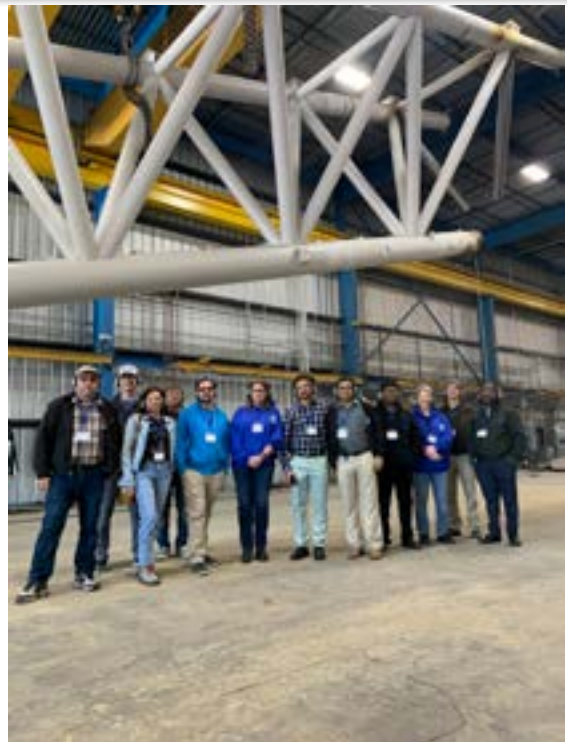
Much of their work is moved by overhead crane, and just about every work bay had several cranes of varying capacity. You can see from the pictures how varied their project types are.

For many steel detailers, getting out of the office and being able to see the physical aspect of steel fabrication shop is a real treat. There is nothing quite like being able to see what was just lines on a page or a computer screen being transformed into something tangible.

We did make sure that Jim was on the bus before we left.

Thank you, Christine, for all your hard work with organizing this tour for all of our members. It is truly amazing to witness a well-oiled-machine such as Steel Fab, Inc., in action!

These trusses, being manufactured for the Charlotte Airport expansion shown below and to the right. The truss size dwarfs those standing next to it.





GROUP HEALTH INSURANCE TOWN HALL

Hello Fellow Members,

I'm pleased to report a new NISD member benefit: We have recently aligned with BBSI to provide our members with access to exclusive benefits and preferred pricing on its services. I met BBSI by way of the Steel Erectors Association of America (SEAA) that partnered with BBSI to offer its members discounted workers' compensation coverage as well as access to top-rated group health insurance.

On July 26, we will be hosting a virtual town hall session for all members. You will meet the BBSI leadership team and learn more about the opportunity to partner with them. The discussion will also preview what you'll need to gather so they can quote your group health, including the opportunity to move midterm without any penalties.

BBSI Benefits Introduction

July 26 at 4:00PM EST

You will receive an email with a link to join the webinar. If you don't see the email

email me at memberservies@nisd.org

In addition to its large group buying power, what I really like about BBSI is how they personalize their services for you. You won't get an 800-number or a QR code to use when you need to support. Each client is paired with a personalized team (usually local) of professionals dedicated to providing a hands-on, fully integrated experience:

- Access to national group benefit plans including health insurance
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- Optional staffing and recruiting services, 401(k), Learning Management System

Click [here](#) to learn more about BBSI. I encourage you to also consider listening to their podcast series, [Entrepreneurs \(doers\)](#).

I look forward to seeing you on July 26. Between now and then, please let me know if you have any questions about this program.

Ryan Wunderle, Board Member - Marketing Chair - National Institute of Steel Detailing



NASCC Speakers in Charlotte!



Brian Pyper - Dowco

Right on the heels of the NISD Annual Meeting is the American Institute of Steel Construction's North American Steel Construction Conference, or NASCC.

Since 2019, the 'NISD Conference on Steel Detailing' has been part of NASCC, providing information and educational presentations for steel trade professionals and industry partners.

While there is much to see at the NASCC Conference, I do highly suggest carving out some time to attend any of the sessions offered!



Jim Truitt - Rocky Point Detailing, LLC



Ryan Wunderle - American Steel Detailing, LLC

Please keep in mind that it is all volunteer time on behalf of the speakers to create and execute these presentations, most of which is based on their own practical work experience. You just can't buy that type of wisdom.

Session attendance is included with the price of NASCC admission, and they are all highly informative. These speaker presentations are recorded, so if you are an AISC member, you will be able to view the sessions at the AISC website later this year.



Maribelle Fernandez and Brian Cameron - Canam Steel Corporation



Chad Peterson - Martin & Martin Consulting Engineers

Right now we are working to include a minimum of 13 sessions to cover the use of a single meeting room at the conference. The AISC has told us that we are welcome to include more sessions if we wanted to do so. Speakers presenting at NASCC do get free admissions and are included in all of the NASCC events.

If you would like to volunteer as a speaker for the NISD Annual meeting and/or at NASCC, please contact Kerri Olsen at the NISD Administrative Office!



Larry Kruth, P.E. - Kruth Engineering, LLC



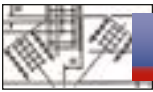
Michael Olsen, PE - KL&A



Michael Dodd - Sellen Construction and Joel Hicks, PE - Ferrell Engineering, Inc.



David Merrifield - Alpha Fabrication Services, LLC



HOPE FOR A BRIGHTER FUTURE - PART 2



Since the last issue of The Connection, we have noticed some very positive things to be shared in this part two article of 'Hope for the Future'. The first item we would like to bring to your attention is the proposed updates to the AISC-207 – The AISC Standard for Certification Programs, out for public review and comment from June 7 to July 7, 2023.

For those who are unaware, the AISC Standard for Certification Programs is the format by which the steel fabricators are directed to use to develop their Quality Control Manuals for becoming AISC Certified.

If you are not familiar with this document, as many steel detailers may not be, a free copy is available for download at: [AISC 207 | American Institute of Steel Construction](#).

My focus was for the Section 1.7 - Detailing, as it is to this section that the steel fabricator will look for information on how to best manage their steel detailing.

While reviewing this document I noticed a stunning change. A much-needed adjustment had been made to one specific sentence taken from the current version of the AISC 207, section 1.7.6 – Detailing Functions, line 813, 814 which reads:

“A qualified checker shall check the fabrication and erection documents before release for fabrication.”

This sentence now reads (with the changed part highlighted yellow):

“A qualified checker shall check the fabrication and erection documents **prior to approval submittal**”

These four words are a complete game changer, giving me renewed hope for our steel detailing future.

In my opinion, this change moves to be in compliance with the 'Detailing for Steel Construction' manual, Section 8 – Detailing Quality Control and Assurance, page 8-2, Approval of Drawings. Section 8 has specific directives for how, when and by whom the shop detail and erection drawings are to be checked. It is only correct that this directive be upheld in other AISC documents, for otherwise there is conflict.

Many seasoned and knowledgeable steel detailers, fabricators NISD Members and the AISC Committee members helped to write the 'Detailing for Steel Construction' manual, you can see their names in the forward. This manual, endorsed, promoted and printed by the AISC, contains the standard format used to educate steel detailers on the correct process, procedures and execution for detailing steel.

Changing the requirement for checking in the Section 1.7.6 - Detailing Functions which once read 'before release for fabrication' to 'prior to approval submittal', closes what has been a serious gap in the pathway to excellence for the steel fabricator and other industry partners. Most importantly, this correction supports the steel detailer with preventing the unquantifiable and catastrophic shop detail and erection drawing defects and scheduling delays caused by ringing up questions on approval submittal drawings.

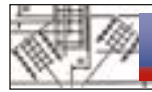
When this change is adapted into the updated standard, achieving this goal for sending checked drawings prior to approval submittal requires:

- 1) Adequate and complete construction drawing review prior to detailing
- 2) Execution of expedient RFI Submittals and returns
- 3) Incorporation of correctly answered RFI data into the approval submittal drawings
- 4) An end to questions on approval submittal drawings

For steel fabricators to be compliant with the process for quality to have checked drawings at approval submittals, the steel detailer must produce fabrication ready drawings at approval, an activity which has always been the NISD Industry Standard.

There may be a learning curve for less sophisticated steel fabricator project managers who are unaware of what is required to adhere to this quality standard, but most of us are willing and capable to help them learn.

If not already doing so, steel detailers will want to present and discuss missing information and completed design require-



HOPE FOR A BRIGHTER FUTURE - PART 2

Continued from page 18

ments as the focus of initial pre-detailing kick off construction team meetings. Scheduling delays will be avoided when information gathering and execution is handled correctly. This activity for quality will eventually motivate design teams to align construction drawings to be in compliance with the AISC Code of Standard Practice requirements.

I am looking into the future here, but that is in my job description. The 'ripple effect' of good quality control will feed into the other trades. For good quality means less stress, eliminates confusion and supports the return of profitability, among other things, but I digress.

While not new to the updated version of the AISC 207, here is a commentary in that same section of the standard of which you should be aware:

'Commentary: Detailers and checkers should be assigned on the basis of qualification, evidenced by experience, training, and education. Qualification standards and certifications granted by recognized industry organizations, such as the National Institute of Steel Detailing, Inc. (NISD), can be used as a basis for qualification.'

I had heard in the old days that the AISC generally did not care nor support steel detailers. This news both surprised and frustrated me personally, as I could not comprehend the sense of it as the construction trades are so intertwined.

What we have found in recent years is that sentiment has changed. That the AISC supports the detailing trade was proved by their actions in 2019 when AISC representatives Scott Melnick, AISC Vice President and Larry Kruth, then President of Engineering, attended our 51st annual meeting in St. Louis, on a mission to invite us to present the NASCC Detailing Tracks sessions annually. I remain excited and appreciative to help organize and support these sessions.

As my dear friend and colleague David Merrifield would say – "The rising tide lifts all boats". The more we learn, share and help each other be the best we can be, the more we all benefit from that effort!

Not to be overshadowed by the news of this AISC grand gesture, the second item of hope to which we wanted to direct your attention is regarding an article in the Summer Edition 2023 edition of the Steel Erector's Association of America's publication 'The Connector'.

It is an article written by Tim Heston, senior editor of The Fabricator Magazine, originally titled 'Best Communication Practices in Structural Steel Fabrication', and now titled 'Asking the Right Detailing Questions – Why Communication Problems in Construction Increase the Price Tag'. [Connector - Summer 2023 by The SEAA Connector - Issuu](#) – hopefully this link works for you as it is a great read and very informative. This article supports the need for inclusion of the steel erector's view and input in the pre-detailing meeting we should be having at the beginning of our projects.

Best practice for sequencing, connections, columns splicing, safety, weld symbols and minimizing field work mentioned in this article are all considerations for which the steel detailer needs to be aware. For those who have a copy of the 'Detailing Guide for Steel Erector's Safety and Efficiency', Volume III, 2019, you will recognize much of the information this article provides.

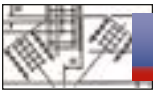
Steel detailing has grown from being considered a trade consequence or inconvenience to what is now thought of as a highly valued entity. Our clients and partners have come to realize that the right choice for steel detailers is vital to project success. Steel detailers have always known this, but now it is a common conversation amongst our peers. Thought impossible by many, this type of positive recognition has now become a reality.

My friends, we have arrived.

The NISD is truly grateful for the continued support of all our trade partners, and especially now to the American Institute of Steel Construction and the Steel Erectors Association of America for all that they do!

In closing, I continue to be proud to be an NISD member, am very honored to serve, and remain encouraged about our future! My hope is that you too, are hopeful and positive about the possibilities which lie ahead!





TURNING LEMONS INTO LEMONADE

Hello fellow members!

Turning Lemons into Lemonade – Why a bad client/project can be a good thing.

We have all been on a project that has pushed our stress level and/or patients to the max. These types of situations can be trying as our natural behavior is usually to run to the hills. I have been in this situation from time to time when I am working with a client or on project that just will not die. Believe it or not situations like this can be a blessing.

Four Reasons why a bad client or project can be a blessing.

- 1.) They make you re-evaluate your own systems/processes. It makes you take a step back to really think about holes in your system. How did I get here? How did this bad client get through my screening process? What could I have done differently?
- 2.) Helps you learn how to handle difficult situations. When you have a bad client or project it forces you to think outside the box and look at it from different angles to come up with a new solution.
- 3.) You learn how to communicate differently and/or better. Bad clients or projects often make us refine our communication skills. If I only told them earlier... If I had it in writing, I could have.... If I pushed back more and stood my ground.... Communication is critical in the construction industry, especially when dealing with a bad client or project.
- 4.) You learn about new resources. Often when we are going through difficulty we reach out to others for help. You try and find someone who has been through a similar situation before. You can often find a new person or resource that you did not know existed before. You can expand your team of mentors and advisors and become stronger for it.

In the end it is always uncomfortable going through strife. It pushes you outside your comfort zone which if taken in stride forces you to learn and grow. At the end of the day, it is one of the quickest, best, and most painful ways to learn.

In the steel detailing world, there is no shortage of difficult situations. There is so much diversity in projects, experience, people, and companies that it is pretty much impossible not to run into conflict from time to time.

Next time you are working with a tough client or project. Take a step back to think how can I learn from this. You will thank yourself later.

Ryan Wunderle, Board Member, NISD Marketing Chair



Michael Olsen, PE, Randy Norris with KL & A, Nick Osmond, Qnect



Milos Radic - Tesla BIM Engineering and Ana Wahbi - Tesla Steel, Serbia



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Visit *Your* NISD Website...

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The NISD Board of Directors was pleased with the feedback it has had from membership regarding new ways that NISD can help expand the scope of services for the benefit of members and the steel detailing industry!

Our web site is contemporary, easy to navigate, and represents our members as a professional and knowledgeable organization. Check it out!

Visit NISD.org



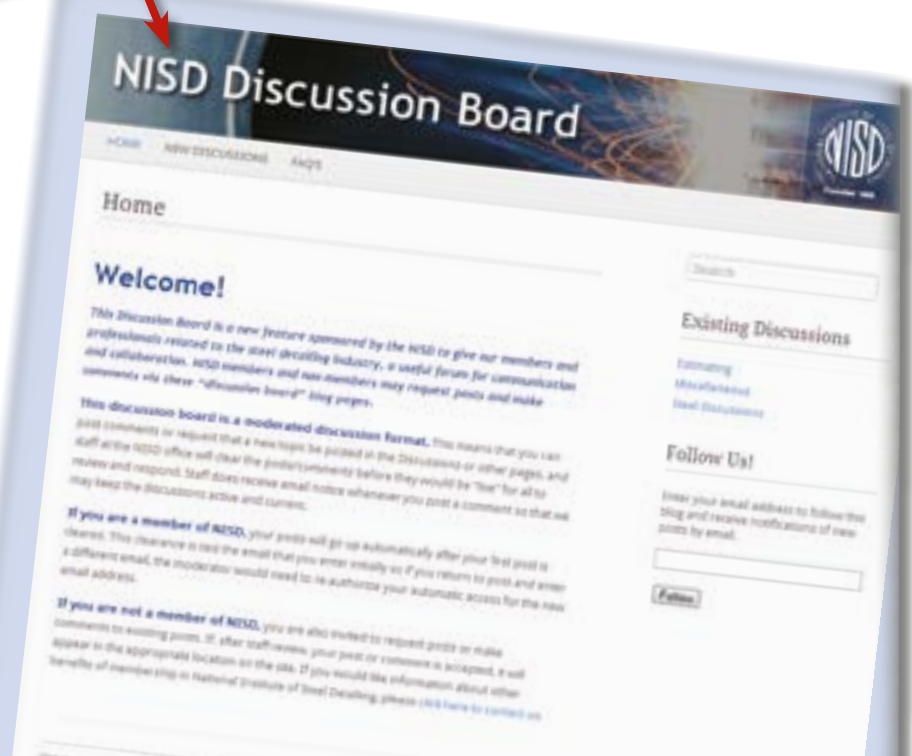
Networking Knowledge!

Our Discussion Board is a tool to allow sharing of knowledge and resources. Post your industry-related questions or comments. Receive responses from other professionals. Utilize your NISD membership network today! nisdorg.wordpress.com

Find us on Facebook too!



www.facebook.com/NISD.org



Because NISD fosters a professional approach to business and advocates improved quality through member networking, education, and certification, our members are highly regarded by fabricators, architects, engineers and contractors.



National Institute of Steel Detailing

Application for Individual Detailer Certification



Classification:

- Senior Detailer – Class I: Minimum 10 years experience including checking
- Detailer – Class II: Minimum 5 years experience

Disciplines:

- Structural/Miscellaneous
- Bridge

Submit:

- Experience history, and
 - Either a letter of recommendation from a steel fabricator, a Certified Class I detailer, or a NISD National Director.
- When your application is processed, you will receive a sample test and a list of publications to study for the test.*

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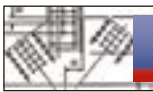
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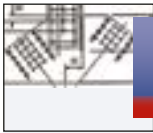
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Congratulations!

This Regular Feature Recognizes Detailing Companies Who Have Successfully Passed The QPP Audit. Celebrate with us in their Commitment To Quality!

Please join us with our first NISD IDC readiness training webinar on BIM hosted by David Merrifield on August 3, 2023 at 3:00 p.m Eastern. This is the first of many planned webinars designed to support those who are studying to take the test to obtain either their Class I or Class II Individual Detailing Certificate on steel detailing.
Be sure to keep an eye out for future webinars at the NISD.org webpage! All sessions are free and are designed to support all detailers working in the North America Market! Recordings of these sessions are available to Members only!





CALENDAR

*Events are great ways to stay current on trends, and network with others.
Join us for any of these events in 2023!*

| | |
|------------------------------|---|
| September 19, 2023 | Nucor-Yamato Beam Plant Tour – Blytheville, Arkansas |
| September 20, 2023 | NISD Mid-Term Board Meeting - Memphis, Tennessee |
| October 11 - 12, 2023 | SDS2 Summit 2023 – Omaha, Nebraska |
| March 18-19, 2024 | NISD 56th Annual Meeting – San Antonio, Texas |



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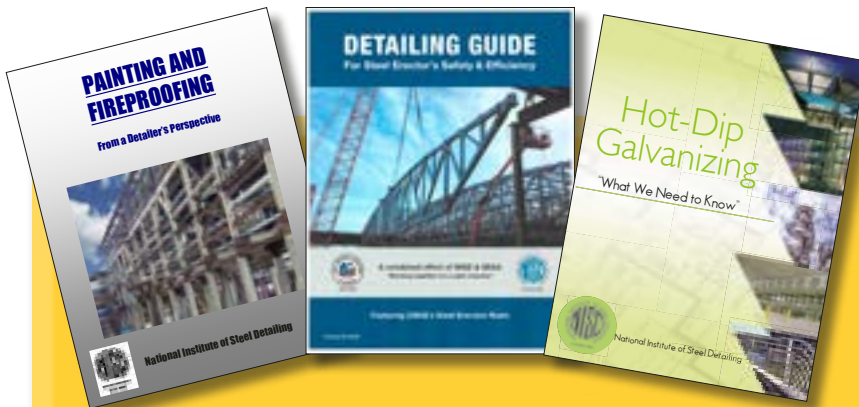
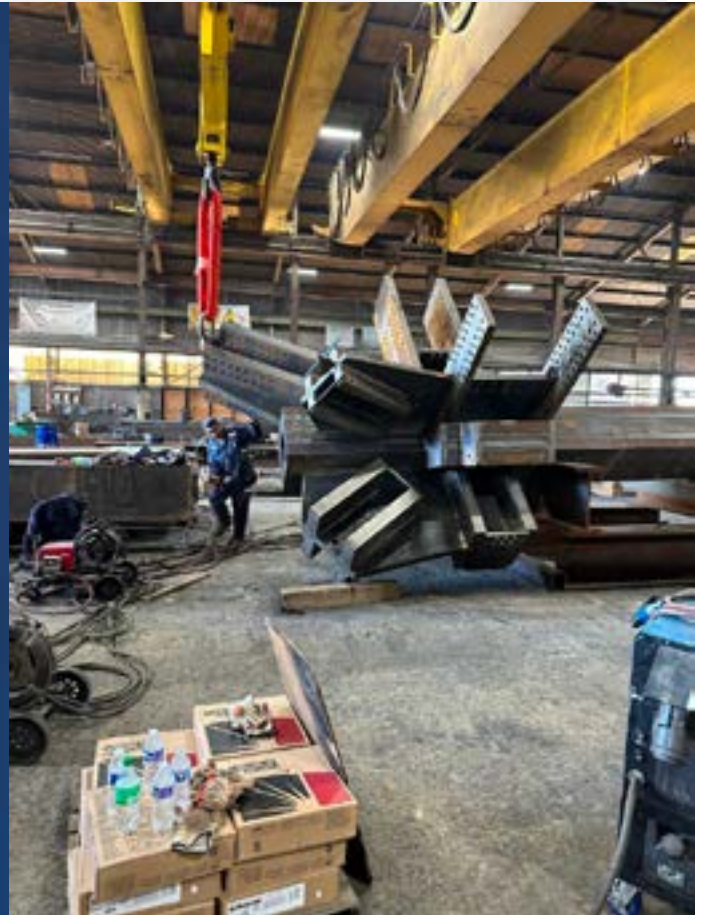
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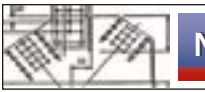
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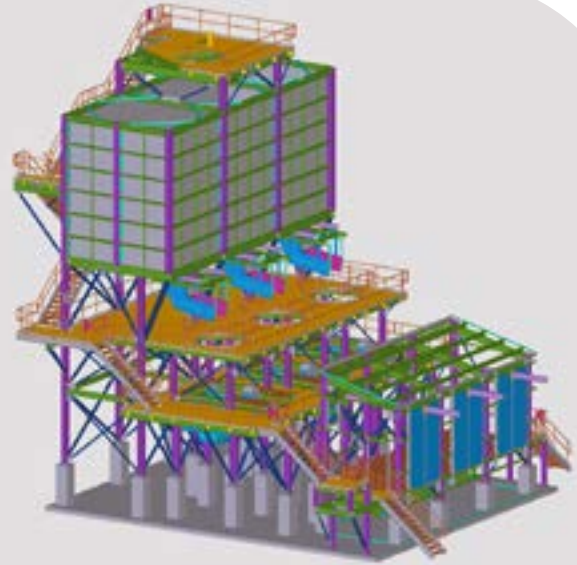
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