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STCA Update

www.steeltruss.org

Versatility of Options Is a Virtue by Michael de Ovando

STCA held its fourth Annual Meeting on October 17, 2002, at BCMC. The following were points of discussion:

- STCA staff developed a PowerPoint® presentation which recapped the association's activities for the past year.
- There was continued discussion about the Final Draft of the Quality Standard.
- Copies of the newest Steel Components in Construction (SCC) documents were distributed.
- TrusSteel and Aegis Metal Framing were recognized for their efforts to obtain a CSI MasterFormat designation specifically for CFS trusses.
- There was a consensus discussion of the continued need for a trade association representing our relatively narrow piece of the CFS product market; and importance of the work we are doing at the early stages of our industry's development.

Staff reviewed STCA activities for the past year, which included adding four new Regular members and two new Suppliers. The Executive Committee remains essentially the same, with the exception of the selection of Courtney Hanson, of NUCONSTEEL, as STCA Secretary due to the resignation of Jim Holland.

Text of the STCA Quality Standard is in Final Draft form and is available on the STCA web site. The only items remaining incomplete are photos of truss damage. There was considerable discussion of how best to illustrate acceptable versus unacceptable occurances, with the final suggestion being that each manufacturer work with their suppliers to establish procedures for their own plant, since this is in-plant quality control. If a component appears to fall into the category of "unacceptable," then an engineer will be contacted to make the final decision.

All parties present received copies of the latest in our series of SCC publications, "Truss Configurations" and "Fire Rated CFS Truss Assemblies." There was consensus that continued production of these publications is merited.

TrusSteel and Aegis Metal Framing were commended for attending the CSI MasterFormat redesign forum, and supporting STCA's position in favor of a specific CFS truss designation. The specific category number will not be known until mid-2003.

Finally, discussion focused on the opportunities that exist in the cold-formed steel component framing market and that our group can have a profound impact on its future as the industry grows. A membership promotion contest was proposed and has been implemented. Please

contact STCA staff at 608/268-1031 for further information.

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