

BUILDING ENGINEER

Association of Building Engineers

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INTERNATIONAL NEWS

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JULY 2009 CRUDE STEEL PRODUCTION FOR THE 66 COUNTRIES REPORTING TO WORLDSTEEL

World crude steel production for the 66 countries reporting to the World Steel Association (worldsteel) was 103.9 million metric tons (mmt) in July. Although this is -11.1% lower than July 2008 production, it is the highest monthly production figure this year.

China's crude steel production for July 2009 was 50.7mmt, 12.6% higher than July 2008. It is the first time ever that China

has produced over 50mmt of crude steel in a month accounting for almost 50% of world crude steel production. Since April 2009, world and China's crude steel production has shown a steady month on month increase.

Elsewhere in Asia, Japan produced 7.7mmt of crude steel in July 2009, down by -24.9% compared to the same month last year. South Korea showed a decline of -13.3% from July 2008,

producing 4.0mmt of crude steel in July 2009.

In the EU, Germany's crude steel production was 2.7mmt in July 2009, a decrease of -28.8% from July 2008. The UK produced 0.8mmt in July 2009, down by -30.6% from July 2008.

The US produced 5.0mmt of crude steel in July 2009, -41.6% lower than July 2008. Brazil produced 2.5mmt of crude steel in July 2009,

a decrease of -22.8% compared to the same month last year.

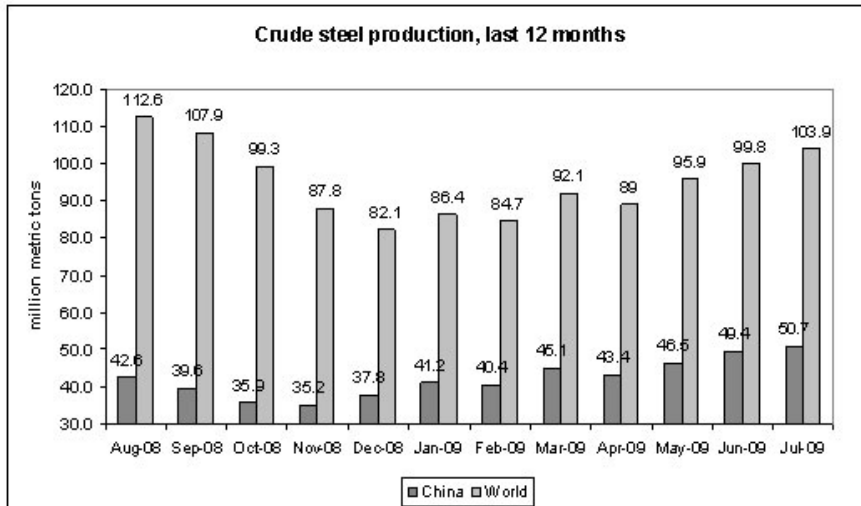
Russia's crude steel production for July 2009 was 5.0mmt, a decrease of -18.4% from July 2008. Ukraine produced 2.7mmt of crude steel in July 2009, -27.7% lower than July 2008.

Turkey produced 2.3mmt of crude steel in July 2009, -8.5% down from July 2008. Iran produced 0.9mmt of crude steel in July 2009,

15.1% more than in July 2008.

In July, almost all the major steel-producing countries – including China, Japan, Germany, the US, Brazil, Turkey, Russia and Ukraine – have shown their highest monthly figures so far this year.

Total crude steel production in the 66 reporting countries for the first seven months of 2009 was 653mmt, a 19.9% decrease over the same period of 2008.



SIMPSON GUMPERTZ & HEGER HIRES NEW LEADER

Ronald A Mayville has recently joined Simpson Gumpertz & Heger Inc (SGH) as senior principal and national head of SGH's Engineering Mechanics and Infrastructure group.

In his role at SGH Dr Mayville will lead the expansion and growth of the firm's practice in the nuclear, water and wastewater, and science and defence industries. The group's clients include governments, utilities, and private companies across the United States and internationally.

In addition to his leadership role Dr Mayville will be responsible for conducting structural integrity assessments for several types of structures, including rail vehicles and track, pressure vessels and piping, special-purpose mobile equipment, and defence systems. His technical focus is in the areas of impact, dynamics, and fracture and fatigue. He conducts work in the transportation, oil and gas, and chemicals processing industries.

Dr Mayville is an internationally recognised expert in crash energy management for railroad vehicles. Dr Mayville previously

directed his consulting practice, R A Mayville & Associates Inc, which performed structural mechanics work involving finite element analysis and testing on a wide variety of structures. Prior to this he worked for Arthur D Little Inc, where he was an associate director and led the Applied Mechanics Group.

Dr Mayville holds a PhD and a Master's Degree in mechanical engineering from the University of California, Berkeley and a Bachelor's Degree in mathematics from Michigan Technological University.

TRAGIC CARE HOME FIRE OPENS SPRINKLER DEBATE IN BELGIUM

Belgian and international media have reported the tragic fire in a care home in Melle, near Ghent, which killed nine people on 5 August. The fire started at about 20:00 in the Kanunnik Triest home, which houses about 90 residents. Many of the residents were asleep at the time. Local councillor Frederik de Buck said that a piece of equipment overheated and smoke spread rapidly since the doors were open in the hot weather.

The Belgian newspaper De Standaard interviewed Erik de Smet, a fire engineer, who said that the tragedy could have been prevented had sprinklers been fitted. The Belgian fire safety code dates from 1974 and assumes that in a fire everyone will quickly evacuate the building. Care home residents cannot quickly evacuate a building. When

asked why sprinklers are not compulsory he said, 'because we think we are safe enough. The politicians and citizens have rocked themselves to sleep. The knowledge and technology exists but we don't use it. A huge disaster is always needed to reopen the debate. I hope then that this happens'.

Peter Degadt of Zorgnet Vlaanderen, the association of Christian care homes and hospitals, said that he was not against sprinklers but that the benefits had to be weighed against the costs. The Flemish government has since announced that under the new care home decree a fire safety technical committee will develop additional fire safety standards for care homes. The committee will meet for the first time in September and among other things will discuss sprinklers.

OSH AND ECONOMIC PERFORMANCE IN SMALL- AND MEDIUM-SIZED ENTERPRISES

Good occupational safety and health (OSH) practice can be a strong economic advantage for organisations. For instance, a reduction of accidents costs can improve efficiency of businesses. A new EU-OSHA working paper reviews the connection between OSH and economic performance especially as related to small- and medium-sized enterprises.

- The full report is available free of charge at http://osha.europa.eu/en/publications/reports/TE-80-09-640-EN-N_occupational_safety_health_economic_performance_small_medium_sized_enterprise

HACKER INDUSTRIES, INC DONATES FLOOR UNDERLAYMENT TO HABITAT FOR HUMANITY



Hacker Industries Inc, a leading supplier of cementitious floor underlayments and acoustical control products, recently donated FIRM-FILL® 2010 Gypsum Concrete Floor Underlayment to the San Diego Habitat for Humanity (SDHFH). The product donation provided a smooth, hard surface for finished floor coverings in SDHFH's new Roosevelt Garden Condominiums in Carlsbad, California.

'Hacker Industries Inc's involvement with Habitat for Humanity began many years ago', said Kerry Hacker, vice-president of Hacker Industries Inc. 'This is truly a great cause, and we are very proud to contribute our products to the Roosevelt Condominiums

and continue our support for Habitat for Humanity.' In 2008, Hacker Industries Inc celebrated its 25th Anniversary by teaming up with the New Orleans Area Habitat for Humanity to help rebuild homes in New Orleans' Musician's Village.

Roosevelt Gardens is an 11-unit condo complex consisting of six 674 square foot one-bedroom units and five 894 square foot two-bedroom units. FIRM-FILL 2010 not only provided a flat surface for the project, but also offered high compressive strengths matched with sound and fire resistance.

'This is SDHFH's first set of buildings where the floor/ceiling design required this type of product. I am more than pleased with the

end product, and the service that Hacker Industries and Hi-Tech Gypsum provided,' said Joe Carton, General Superintendent for SDHFH.

Hi-Tech Gypsum Inc, a Licensed Applicator of Hacker Industries, Inc, installed approximately 2,400 square feet of FIRM-FILL® 2010 in the first building and is expected to pour the second building later this year. Hi-Tech Gypsum also contributed labour and materials to the project.

- Further information from Hacker Industries Inc. E-mail: info@hackerindustries.com
Web: www.hackerindustries.com

GE UNVEILS 'NET ZERO ENERGY HOME' CONCEPT

A leader in Smart Grid solutions, GE has unveiled plans for a Net Zero Energy Home project which combines GE's most efficient appliances and lighting, the company's new energy management systems, and GE power generating and storing technologies in new home construction. When applied together, the system would enable a homeowner to achieve net zero energy costs by 2015.

As part of the company's ecomagination strategy, the GE Net Zero Energy Home offerings will be comprised of three major groups within the product portfolio:

1. energy efficient products including appliance and lighting products that will reduce energy consumption in the home
2. energy management products that will enable consumers to manage their costs and energy consumption; and
3. energy generation/storage products like solar PV, advanced energy storage and next generation thin film solar

One new product that will give consumers more control will be available as early as 2010, when GE will introduce the Home Energy Manager, the central nervous system for the Net Zero Energy Home that will work in conjunction with all the other enabling technologies in the home to help homeowners optimise how they consume energy. GE will also introduce a line of smart thermostats in 2010 that, together

with the Home Energy Manager, will inform consumers on their energy use and empower them to make smarter decisions on their energy consumption. The smart thermostats can help consumers significantly save on their energy bills.

Study reveals US and UK consumers want more control

The Net Zero Energy Home announcement comes as a new GE/Ipsos poll gauging existing US and UK consumer awareness and comprehension of smart grid found that three out of five people in both countries would change their electricity consumption behaviour around smart grid adoption. Two thirds in both countries would monitor their energy usage on-line at least once a week. GE's plans to be the first manufacturer to offer a full suite of demand response appliances that work with smart meters would give consumers more control over their energy use without major interruption to their lifestyles.

GE also announced that three new customers are in the process of implementing its smart grid technologies in projects around the world:

1. In partnership with the Hawaiian Electric Company (HECO), Maui Electric Company (MECO), the Hawaii Natural Energy Institute (HNEI) of the University of Hawaii and the US

Department of Energy, GE has formally launched the Maui Smart Grid project which will develop and demonstrate the use of smart grid technologies to help Maui Electric Company control peak circuit demand, maintain adequate circuit voltage levels, and integrate intermittent renewable energy resources

2. Eka Chemicals Plant in Salaberry-de-Valleyfield, Canada, will be the first to demonstrate GE's new smart grid asset optimisation solution to help reduce transformer-caused downtime in the plant. This first collaborative effort demonstrating GE's new smart grid Asset Optimisation service offering will illustrate how utilities and industrial sites can improve productivity, maximise transformer performance and extend asset life through status-based maintenance and upgrades
3. Orion New Zealand Limited completed implementation of the first phase of a sophisticated network management system based on GE smart grid technologies to help improve power reliability for customers. The system of smart grid technologies will significantly improve the network company's ability to manage big network emergencies and help it to restore power faster when outages occur.

INNOVATIVE FLOOD DAM TECHNOLOGY WINS THE CIWEM STOCKHOLM JUNIOR WATER PRIZE

Every year, the International Stockholm Junior Water Prize (SJWP) attracts thousands of participants between 15 and 20 years old from over 30 countries who have conducted water-related projects of environmental, scientific, social or technological importance. Andrew Dunn, 17, is the winner of the UK Stockholm Junior Water Prize 2009, organised by CIWEM.

Andrew, from Yarm School, Stockton-on-Tees, designed and constructed a domestic flood protection barrier that is inexpensive, recyclable, easy-to-use and quick to install. His Flood DAM serves to prevent flooding damage to homes and businesses, fitting easily into a door or window recess. The Flood DAM was tested with a tank in a river and found that it performed well. Although it still requires more extensive testing, Flood DAM could potentially be applied for wide use by families, fire brigades, local councils and disaster relief and has led Andrew to set up his own business.

Now Andrew will represent the UK at the prestigious International Stockholm Junior Water Prize competition later this month. All national winners will compete for the overall title, \$5,000 (USD) and a blue crystal sculpture in the shape of a water droplet.

LAKEVIEW BUCHAREST – A FIRST FOR BREEAM IN ROMANIA

AIG/Lincoln's Lakeview office building in Bucharest is the first building in Romania to achieve a BREEAM Very Good (Design and Procurement) rating.

Paul Gibbon, BRE Global's Director of Sustainability said: 'we are delighted to be awarding the AIG/Lincoln building the first BREEAM certificate in Romania. This is a great demonstration that BREEAM can be adapted for any country. Lakeview demonstrates reduced environmental impact with enhanced functionality and durability which will provide higher user satisfaction'. David Lawrence, European Director for Construction and Development at AIG/Lincoln said: 'we are delighted to achieve the first ever BREEAM certification for a building in Romania. High priority was placed on developing a brief for the building that put sustainability at the forefront'.

Lakeview is positioned in a prime location between Bucharest airport and the city centre providing excellent public transport links. The building is situated on a former industrial site and a commitment has been made to increase the ecological value of the site when the development is complete.

- Further information on BREEAM can be found at www.breem.org/international.

The Prize will be presented by H.R.H. Crown Princess Victoria of Sweden. This year marks the 13th year for the international Stockholm Junior Water Prize programme.

Chris Lawrence, a product design student at Bedford School, received a commendation for his project 'Fount Funnel' which is a device to prevent spillages and reduce the wastage of water.

CIWEM President Alastair Moseley said 'this competition brings together the world's brightest young people to encourage their interest in water and the environment and both students submitted inspiring and innovative solutions to pressing environmental problems. Better environmental education is the key to a sustainable future and is a vital charitable aim of CIWEM, so we are proud as the organiser for the UK Stockholm Junior Water Prize competition to congratulate both Andrew and Chris on their wonderful projects. As part of our Environment Education Initiative we hope to encourage even more youngsters with environmental talents from around the UK to test their environmental skills and initiatives in the competition in 2010.'

THE WATER FRAMEWORK DIRECTIVE: EMERGING WATER MANAGEMENT CHALLENGES

A joint CIWEM/EWA and ASTEE International Conference
29-30 September 2009

World Trade Centre, Lille, France

This conference will explore crucially important issues which have developed since the Water Framework Directive came into force in 2000.

The aim of this conference is to provide an opportunity to share experiences, to gain feedback on innovative practical solutions and to address key topics about the operational implementation of the WFD. Attendees will benefit from a sharing of insight and knowledge by attending an event that will consider new ideas and how to

BRINGING PRODUCTS TO MARKET – FROM CHINA TO EUROPE

SATRA will be presenting a series of seminars in Dongguan China during the week 30 November to 4 December 2009 intended to provide information and advice to companies involved in supplying products into Europe.

The seminars are an opportunity for manufacturers, resourcing companies, retailers and distributors to gain useful information on the topics covered, including:

- General product safety directive
- PPE certification - CE marking
- Furniture flammability
- Safety footwear
- Environmental and quality management systems
- Safety critical testing of footwear
- REACH and restricted substances
- Laboratory accreditation.

Delegates will also be able to find out how SATRA can get the best out of products.

- For more information visit website www.satra.co.uk/portal/event_view.php?id=21 or contact conference organiser Jackie Glasspool direct at jacqueg@satra.co.uk
Web: www.satra.co.uk

implement them.

The individual delegate rate for this two day event is €300 plus local tax.

- For further information visit www.ciwem.org/events/lille_wfd_conference.asp Registration forms in both French and English are available to download from the ASTEE website. www.astee.org/agenda/calendrier/accueil.php

FIRE IN A PARISIAN TOWER BLOCK KILLS FIVE

Le Monde reports that a fire early on Monday morning, 10 August has killed five people in a tower block in Sevran-Beaumont in the north of Paris. Two children and a baby were among the dead. Twenty-nine other people suffered from smoke inhalation, with 15 being taken to hospital.

The fire brigade was called at 04:17. Early investigations suggest that the fire was set deliberately, with fires reported on the seventh floor and the landing between

the ground and first floors. The building is known to house drug gangs and police had previously sealed roof exits to prevent guns being stored on the roof or suspected criminals from using the roof to escape during a raid.

While there are obviously many problems in this building, a sprinkler system may have prevented these fires from killing so many people. Sprinkler systems have often controlled or extinguished deliberate fires.

APPLICATIONS FOR MSc IN ARCHITECTURE (SUSTAINABLE CITIES) NOW OPEN

Applications for the Master of Science in Architecture (Sustainable Cities) Programs 2009/2010 at the Institute of Architecture and Planning at the University of Liechtenstein are now open:

- MSc focused on sustainability in city design and planning – urbanSCAPE (Urban Sustainability, Climate and Planning Education)

Course Language: English

Fees and Tuition: Swiss Francs 750.00 per semester

Course Start Dates: 28 September 2009 and 01 March 2010

Apply for MSc in Architecture and Planning (UrbanSCAPE) at www.hochschule.li/Portals/0/docs/ar/040308_AR_MScA_Applicationform_URBANSCAPE.pdf

About the UrbanSCAPE Programme:

The urbanSCAPE programme focuses on the design of cities and towns with

CTBUH 2010 REMAKING SUSTAINABLE CITIES IN THE VERTICAL AGE

3-5 February 2010 – Mumbai

Almost 200,000 people migrate from rural to urban regions somewhere on the planet every day. This translates into the need for the world to accommodate the equivalent of a new city of one million people every week. How can our urban centres accommodate this growth?

Humanity needs to evolve into a more sustainable pattern of existence, and cities need to become denser with more concentrated centres for living, working and playing. Where can these new homes be built? In the ever increasing, energy-profligate suburb, or in denser cities with their greater potential for energy saving? Whilst these envisaged new cities have an important role to play in the future, in themselves they are not the solution. The rural to urban migration is centred on existing cities, many of which are struggling with the consequential population explosion and the impact on existing infrastructure and patterns of life. Thus the real situation that countries face is not necessarily how to create new sustainable cities, but how to re-make existing cities in a sustainable way. This conference presented by the CTBUH (Council for Tall Buildings and Urban Habitat) will debate these urban and policy issues, while considering what role tall buildings and increased urban density will play.

- Further details from <http://ctbuh2010-india.com>

near and far futures in mind. It combines architecture, landscape and civic design with advanced concepts of local energy and water autonomy, to help fight climate change and other challenges to social, economic and environmental health. Founded on traditions of responsible design, it helps participants conceptualise and manage places as authentic settings with a strong genius loci – nurturing global connectedness while building local prosperity at a shrinking ecological footprint. The programme consists of four connected core areas:

1. the Future Design Studio
2. the Renewable City
3. Responsible Property Development; and
4. Urban Quality: Inquiry, Ideas and Interventions.

About the Graduate Programme:

Quality over size: a distinguishing feature of this graduate course of studies are the small size of classes to enable the best development of the student's personal interests and abilities. The Master course consists of two years (four semesters) of

study leading to the Master of Science (MSc) in Architecture and Planning.

About the University of Liechtenstein:

The University of Liechtenstein is set in one of the most extraordinary natural environments, at the foot of the Alps in the heart of Europe. A unique regional identity emerges from the interaction of people at this point of convergence between Liechtenstein, Austria, Germany and Switzerland. Ongoing exchanges with over 25 partner Universities throughout the world foster the international dimension of the courses. The compact University campus, located in the country's capital, Vaduz, encourages focused studying while the nearby mountains provide the scenery for plenty of fun activities.

- Read more about the Graduate Programme at www.hochschule.li/Architektur/MasterStudium/tabid/198/Default.asp Download the prospectus at www.hochschule.li/Portals/0/docs/ar/HLI_SF_ARCH_MA_engl-12.03.08.pdf

ONE MILLION LIGHTS WELCOMES ANAND HARIHARAN, TO ITS BOARD

One Million Lights has announced that Anand Hariharan, Manager at Cisco Systems, San Jose, has joined its board. Hariharan and the solar energy-focused One Million Lights were matched through the Wharton Non-profit Board Leadership Programme (NPBLP) at the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania's executive MBA program in San Francisco. One Million Lights is a non-profit organisation with a goal to distribute one

million environmentally friendly, rechargeable solar lights to adults and children around the world.

Hariharan, a 2010 candidate of the Wharton|San Francisco MBA for Executives programme, brings expertise in emerging technologies, global business solutions, and cutting-edge technologies. He will serve on the One Million Lights board until May 2010.

GREEN BUILDER® FOUNDER NAMED TO IGCC

Green building pioneer and Co-Founder of Green Builder® Media, Ron Jones, has been selected as a member of the recently formed Sustainable Building Technology Committee (SBTC) of the International Code Council (ICC) charged with developing the initial draft of the newly announced International Green Construction Code, or IGCC. Committee meetings will commence in August and are scheduled to continue through January 2010.

Ron Jones, a licensed general contractor for more than 25 years, served as Chairman of the consensus committee that developed the National Green Building Standard™ (also known as ICC 700-2008) which was approved by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) in January 2009.

As part of his duties with Green Builder® Media, Jones has worked with a wide variety of trade groups, government agencies, and building product manufacturers such as the Whirlpool Corp, Kohler and MASCO.

He is the only person to have served on the Boards of Directors of both the US Green Building Council and the National Association of Home Builders.

The American Institute of Architects (AIA) and ASTM International are cooperating sponsors for this important project and will have visible participation in the development process.

- Further information is available at www.iccsafe.org/IGCC

FIRE INDIA 2009

07-09 September
Mumbai

Fire India 2009 will attract the best of fire equipment, manufacturers, suppliers and service providers, showcasing an entire range of fire engineering products, latest machinery in fire appliances, new technologies for prevention, detection and fire suppression. The exhibition has been organised with the aim of introducing and bringing in international technologies to encounter the danger faced by progressively growing India.

- Further details from www.fire-india.com

COMPETITION FOR IMAGE MODELS OF 20TH CENTURY ARCHITECTURAL HERITAGE

The French Ministry of Culture and Communication (Direction of Architecture and Heritage – DAPA) and the International Union of Architects has announced a joint initiative aimed at enhancing and expanding their web index of 20th century architectural heritage: www.archi.fr/UIA/

This project focuses on an international student competition for digital representations of landmark 20th century buildings. The competition will be run entirely through the internet. An initial national competition will be carried out by the UIA Member Sections and the winners of the national selections will be submitted to the international jury.

The panoramas and 3D models designed for this competition will be based on digital photographs and developed using the Autodesk software Autodesk® ImageModeler™ and Autodesk® Stitcher™. This software will be made available to the participants free of charge for a period of three months.

The competition will be launched during the European celebration of Architectural Heritage Days, organised by the Minister of Culture and Communication on 19 and 20 September 2009. Project submissions are planned for April 2010. The grand prize winners and all projects selected at the national level will be exhibited at the Venice biennial in September 2010.

- The digital presentations of all selected projects will be posted on line at www.archi.fr/UIA/

JEC ASIA INNOVATION AWARDS PROGRAMME 2009

JEC Composites is announcing the new winners of the JEC Asia Innovation Awards Programme 2009. This year, nine companies and their 15 partners will receive awards at the JEC Asia Composites Show (14-16 October, Singapore). The Programme was created in 1998 with the goal of promoting innovation.

This top-level competition for Innovation is a focus of attention in the international composite market. It is supported by major companies and trade magazines in the industry that are committed to the development of composite innovation.

Each year, a jury of renowned international experts chooses the best composite innovations, based on their technical interest, market potential, partnership, financial impact and originality.

The winners:

- Environment and recycling – a brand new environmentally-friendly surfboard, using renewable cellulose by Cobra International Co Ltd (Thailand) in partnership with Porcher Industries (France)
- Raw materials – a ground-breaking material endowing composites with high fire-resistant properties by Regina Glass Fibre Pty Ltd (Australia) with partners CRC-ACS (Australia) and Ampelite (Australia)
- Process – design and process development of non axi-symmetric four-axis integral filament winding of double-D-shaped, all-composite road tankers by Modern Engineering

Plastics (Pvt Ltd MEPL (India) with partners NGN Composites (India), CNC Technics Pvt Ltd (India), Crescent Consultants (United Kingdom and TIFAC Governments of India

- Automation – a laser-assisted thermoplastic tape placement process by Fraunhofer IPT (Germany) with partners Suprem SA (Switzerland) and Diehl Aircabin GmbH (Germany)
- Aerospace – composite applications for radio telescopes (CART) project by National Research Council of Canada – Herzberg Institute of Astrophysics (HIA) and Dominion Radio Astrophysical Observatory (DRAO) – (Canada) with partner Profile Composites Inc (Canada)
- Building and Construction – FRPM pipes for sewage system by Kurimoto Plastics Co Ltd (Japan) with partner National Institute for Rural Engineering (Japan)
- Sports and Leisure – one-piece jointless composite ice hockey stick by Composites Busch SA (Switzerland) with partners Huntsman (China) and EPFL (Switzerland)
- Transportation/Marine – development of an all-carbon hull for Damen Shipyards DI 1102 Interceptor boats by DK Composites (Malaysia) with partners Damen Shipyards Gorinchem (The Netherlands)
- Transportation/Railways – a railway composite insulator by En Liang (Taiwan) with partners Brecknell Willis & Co Ltd (Taiwan).

SAGUS INTERNATIONAL CO-HOSTS 21ST CENTURY SCHOOLS SYMPOSIUM

Saglus International Inc co-hosted the recent 21st Century Educational Campus Symposium, aimed at establishing a blueprint for tomorrow's schools.

Chicago-based Saglus helped organise the Symposium alongside Dr Jim Rex, South Carolina's Superintendent of Education. The symposium attracted some of the best minds in education, architecture, sustainable design, technology, health care and government. The discussions centred on the development of a framework for 21st century school campuses that focus on students' total needs, prepare America's youth to compete in the global economy, and serve dually as community centres.

Saglus's involvement continues the company's commitment to improving educational results by transforming learning environments – not just in South Carolina, but across the USA. For more than 40 years, the Saglus group of companies has supplied furniture for elementary and secondary schools across the United States.

Saglus recently received international recognition for its donation to J V Martin

Junior High School, the rundown Dillon SC, school that's become a national symbol of what's wrong in some of America's schools.

In May 2009, Saglus replaced all of J V Martin's aged, damaged classroom and cafeteria furniture with top-of-the-line, ergonomic, environmentally-friendly Saglus furniture. Saglus's Darryl Rosser was inspired to make this \$250,000 donation after hearing the story of J V Martin 8th grader Ty'Sheoma Bethea. Ty'Sheoma captivated the nation with her passionate plea to President Obama to improve the condition of her 113-year old school.

Saglus was the first company to respond to Ty'Sheoma's plea.

Saglus and other educational leaders will use the lessons from last week's Symposium as they plan a new J V Martin facility. Groundbreaking is set to begin in the summer of 2010, with a school opening planned for the fall of 2011. The new school will employ the most advanced thinking in architecture, technology, design, education and health, and will be built in a cost-effective, environmentally-friendly manner.

OVER 100 ARAMARK EMPLOYEE VOLUNTEERS REFURBISH SECS

Southeast Community Services Inc (SECS) has received a much-deserved facelift from hard-working volunteers at ARAMARK, the global professional services company. This event jump started a new partnership with SECS and is part of ARAMARK Building Community, a company-wide initiative that fosters long-term support for local community centres in more than 25 cities.

On 12 August Southeast Community Services, an independent non profit organisation dedicated to increasing self-sufficiency for hundreds of low-income residents in economically challenged inner-city neighbourhoods, received a substantial transformation, including the creation of a food pantry that will be supplied with food

items collected by ARAMARK volunteers. Other projects include: painting a variety of murals for rooms throughout the facility, construction of storage units, shelves and benches, and landscaping the outside area with new flower beds.

ARAMARK Building Community and this enhancement project with SECS, and others across the country, demonstrates the company's dedication to employee volunteer service and is a leading example of a project supporting "United We Serve," a national effort launched by President Obama to engage more Americans in serving their communities this summer. United We Serve focuses on four key areas: education, health, energy and the environment, and community renewal.

CEMENT AND CONCRETE PRODUCT MANUFACTURING INDUSTRY GROUP IN THE US AND ITS FOREIGN TRADE

Research and Markets has announced the addition of Supplier Relations US, LLC's new report Cement and Concrete Product Manufacturing Industry Group in the US and its Foreign Trade (2009 Edition) to their offering.

The Cement and Concrete Product Manufacturing Industry report is the most comprehensive market research report available on this industry group. With complete 2008 data and sophisticated forecasts for 2009, the report provides the most updated data and analysis on the industry groups key financial data, cost and pricing, competitive landscape, industry group structure, and trends and opportunities.

This 160-page report includes the most recent information on the domestic market, global market and overseas growth opportunities. This detailed information resource, independently researched and supported by ten years of historical data, identifies best and worst case scenarios of today's pressing challenges. While the breadth of coverage leaves no aspect of the industry group uncovered, the depth of analysis delves into granular macroeconomic data on personal consumption, channel mix, government demand index, and pricing fluctuation.

- For more information visit www.researchandmarkets.com/research/f20a7a/cement_and_concret

GRACE OPENS NEW EUROPEAN CENTRE NEAR BARCELONA

WR Grace & Co has opened a new Customer Centre of Excellence near Barcelona, Spain.

Employees at this location support customers across Europe for Grace Construction Products. The centre brings employees from several locations together to provide a high level of support. The Barcelona site enables Grace to standardise customer service protocols and cross train among product groups, allowing for increased productivity and efficiencies.

Thirty employees currently work at the new Viladecans (Barcelona) location with the site having the capacity to house up to 80 employees. In conjunction with this opening, Grace is relocating an additional 30 office employees from a nearby manufacturing location in Sant Boi, Spain.

Grace has operated in Spain for nearly

50 years. In addition to the Barcelona sites, Grace has a manufacturing location in Hernani, Spain that supplies coatings for aluminium containers.

Grace Construction Products produces speciality construction chemicals and materials, including concrete admixtures and fibres used to improve the durability and working properties of concrete; additives used in cement processing to improve energy efficiency, enhance the characteristics of finished cement and improve ease of use; building materials used in commercial and residential construction and renovation to protect buildings from water, vapour and air penetration; and fireproofing materials used to protect buildings in the event of fire.

- For more information, visit Grace's website at www.grace.com

HONG KONG INTERNATIONAL LIGHTING FAIR

27-30 October
Hong Kong

This year the international lighting fair, which is the largest exhibition of its kind in Asia and the second largest in the world, will feature over 1,600 exhibitors from 33 countries and regions, displaying commercial lighting, green lighting, household lighting, LED lighting, outdoor lighting and more.

In 2009, the fair introduces the Hall of Aurora, a new environment which shows branded products to the best advantage.

During the 2009 fair a number of forums and seminars will focus on new lighting technologies and global market trends.

- Further information from <http://hklightingfairae.hktdc.com/>

NEW BOOK

Schuff Steel Company, the National Council of Structural Engineers Associations (NCSEA) and the International Code Council (ICC) recently published Performance-Based Plastic Design Earthquake-Resistant Steel Structures. The authors Subhash C Goel PhD PE, Professor Emeritus Structures and Materials Engineering, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor MI, and Shih-Ho Chao PhD Assistant Professor of Civil Engineering, University of Texas, Arlington, Texas. Schuff Steel Company is a subsidiary of Schuff International Inc (OTC: SHFK), a leading family of companies providing fully integrated steel construction services.

This new publication will provides structural engineers, educators and students with practical guidance on how to design a building for desired seismic performance using the new Performance-Based Plastic Design (PBD) method. The book offers clear explanations of design methodology. It also applies the methodology to different structural systems while clearly demonstrating each step of the process through numerous design drawings, formulas and tables.

The book is a collaborative effort based on research conducted by Goel and Chao at the University of Michigan.

- Performance-Based Plastic Design Earthquake-Resistant Steel Structures is also available on CD. To purchase a copy of the book or CD, contact ICC at ICCsafe.org or call 001 888-422-7233.

SEOUL'S SPECTACULAR NEW GWANGHWAMUN PLAZA

Gwanghwamun Plaza, a new landmark in downtown Seoul, was formally dedicated and opened to the public on 1 August 2009.

The Plaza, 34 metres in width and 557 metres in length, is located along Sejongno, the city's main boulevard in the heart of Seoul that was named after the fourth king of the Joseon Dynasty. Starting at Gwanghwamun, the main gate of Gyeongbokgung (palace), the Plaza runs south to the Sejongno Intersection and Cheonggye Plaza. Built at a cost of US \$36 million, the project took some 15 months to complete.

Sejongno was known as Yukjo Street during the Joseon Dynasty. Yukjo means Six Ministries – all located along the street at the time.

By restoring and accommodating the heritage of Yukjo Street, the Plaza will serve as a place to experience Korean history and culture for citizens. It will also offer a panoramic view of Gyeongbokgung and Bugaksan, a mountain rising behind the palace. The royal palace and Cheonggyecheon, a stream that runs through downtown Seoul, will be connected from the Plaza, serving as a walking, people-centric hub for pedestrians.

The first sight that greets visitors at the new Gwanghwamun Plaza is Haechi Madang, a sunken square built under the water fountain in front of Admiral Yi Sun-sin's statue. Haechi, an imaginary creature signifying justice and distinguishing good from evil, is a character that also represents the city of Seoul. Madang means court in Korean.

Measuring 1,197 square metres in area, Haechi Madang is connected to the Gwanghwamun subway station and a commercial area. A wall display, measuring 5 metres by 6 metres, shows the layers of stamped earth of Yukjo Street, which was uncovered last September during the construction of the Plaza. The display demonstrates traditional ways of constructing roads during the Joseon Dynasty.

Haechi Madang has a reinforced glass ceiling to bring in natural light. Elevators and slopes provide convenient access to the ground level while the Arisu Fountain provides fresh water to thirsty visitors. Arisu is the brand name of Seoul's water supply, which is

provided directly from water reservoirs without passing through pipes.

[A new water fountain built around the statue of Admiral Yi Sun-sin](#)

A few steps from Haechi Madang stand the statue of Admiral Yi Sun-sin, which was dedicated in 1968 and has served as the symbol of Sejongno. A new water fountain, the Admiral Yi Sun-sin Fountain, over 17 metres wide and 68 metres long, was built around the statue. With 228 sharp jets and 136 ground jets, the fountain shoots water up to different heights to illustrate the Admiral's victorious spirit in repelling the Japanese invasion during the Joseon Dynasty.

[Haechi Boar attracts citizens with its high-tech digital system](#)

Haechi Madang and ground level are connected by a slope way, which is equipped with a high-tech digital audio/video system named Haechi Board. The board has superior sound and picture quality, making outdoor events such as street cheering for televised sports games more enjoyable to watch. Through mobile phones or emails, citizens can request the display of a special message on the board on a given date and time to surprise their family or lovers. This digital board will serve as a communication tool for the citizens of Seoul.

Another attraction in the Plaza is the Waterway of History which flows right and left of the statue of Admiral Yi. These two

365-metre-long waterways with a depth of 5-centimetres reflect the history of Korea. The eastern waterway is engraved with historical events from the foundation of the Joseon Dynasty in 1392 to modern day, while the western waterway remains without engraving to illustrate the history of Seoul and Korea to come.

[The Plaza continues to evolve to become Korea's landmark](#)

A new statue of King Sejong will take its place in the Plaza 250 metres north of the statue of Admiral Yi. King Sejong invented Hangeul, the Korean alphabet, in the 15th century and the new statue will be dedicated on 9 October 2009, the day when the invention of Hangeul was proclaimed.

Along the podium of the statue – tentatively named Sejong Story – the system of Hangeul and the process of its invention will be depicted. An underground space below the statue will have wall displays showing the chronology of King Sejong and the scientific superiority of Hangeul.

King Sejong's other important scientific inventions, such as the sundial, water clock and rain gauge, will be displayed in front of the statue. Six pillars, symbolising the King's will to strengthen the security of six northern districts against invasion from the Jurchen tribe, will stand behind the statue.



YKK AP WINS RENOWNED INTERNATIONAL DESIGN EXCELLENCE

AWARD

YKK AP's ThermaShade sunshade has won an IDEA Silver award in the Commercial and Industrial Products category in the 2009 International Design Excellence Awards. The award was announced on 29 July 2009 in the Business Week IDEA report and on BusinessWeek.com

ThermaShade is the only commercial building sunshade system that incorporates a thermally broken anchor to minimise energy transfer into the façade at the point of attachment. Sunshade systems without the thermal break feature can reduce the energy efficiency of the façade by nearly 5%. This patent-pending feature allows YKK AP ThermaShade products to be used with YKK

AP curtain wall systems while maintaining the maximum thermal efficiency of both products.

ThermaShade is also the only Cradle to Cradle SM (C2C) certified sunshade system on the market. C2C certification recognises the environmental merits of the product, green manufacturing processes and social responsibility.

'Building components are not the type of products that typically win design competitions. ThermaShade's strength is the way it adds to the energy efficiency of a building and at the same time offers an architectural element for building design,' said Richard Braunstein, product

development manager for YKK AP.

The IDEA® (International Design Excellence Awards) programme is an international competition honouring excellence in industrial design. Entries are invited from designers, students and companies worldwide.

The 2009 IDEA jury, comprised of 20 world-renowned designers and design thinkers, judged each entry on eight areas of industrial design excellence: design innovation; benefit to the user; benefit to the client/business; benefit to society; ecological responsibility; appropriate aesthetics and appeal; usability testing; rigor and reliability; and design strategy category.

RESEARCH AND MARKETS: HOW STRUCTURES WORK: DESIGN AND BEHAVIOUR FROM BRIDGES TO BUILDINGS

Research and Markets

(www.researchandmarkets.com/research/1877d6/how_structures_wor) has announced the addition of John Wiley and Sons Ltd's new report How Structures Work: Design and Behaviour from Bridges to Buildings to their offering.

The alliance between architecture and structural engineering is fundamental to the design of the buildings and bridges around us. Anyone who needs or wants to understand a building must have a good understanding of the structural concepts involved. Yet structure is often cloaked in mathematics

– which many find difficult to get to grips with.

How Structures Work has been written to explain the behaviour of structures in a clear way without resorting to complex mathematics. Using the minimum of mathematics it explains the structural concepts clearly, illustrated by many historical and contemporary examples, allowing readers to build up a general understanding of structures. In this way they can easily comprehend the structural aspects of buildings for themselves.

Primarily aimed at students who require

a good qualitative understanding of the behaviour of structures and their materials, it will be of particular interest to students of architecture and building surveying, plus architectural historians and conservationists. The straightforward, non-mathematical approach ensures it will also be suitable for a wider audience including building administrators, archaeologists and the interested layman.

- For more information visit www.researchandmarkets.com/research/1877d6/how_structures_wor

RESULTS OF THE 2009 INTERNATIONAL TORSANLORENZO PRIZE

This international prize was created to highlight completed landscape projects and promote quality urban and private green spaces. It is open to architects and landscape planning professionals registered with the professional body in their countries. This annual prize is approved by the International Union of Architects (UIA). Two prizes are awarded in each of the following categories: Landscape design, urban green spaces, private gardens and parks.

The international jury was chaired this year by Lars Nyberg (Sweden), President of the European Foundation of Landscape Architects. UIA was represented by one of its Vice Presidents, Kazuo Iwamura (Japan).

WINNERS

Landscape design:

- 1st Prize: Urbanisation of a foot path in Manresa, Catalonia. Pere Santamaria Garcia, Mireia Palomas, Pilar Toll, architects with Gemma Torras, Francesc Rubi (Spain)
- 2nd prize: Lotus Lake Wetland Park in Tieling, China. Jie Hu, Yixia Wu architects with Lushan Lu, Yi Han engineers (China)
- Mention: Lankheet country estate. Berno Strootman, René van der Velde, architects with Thijs van der Zouwen (The Netherlands).

Urban green spaces

- 1st prize: Rio Hortega Hospital garden landscaping in Valladolid. Luis Vallejo Garcia-Maurino, Sacramento Garcia Pastor, Guaria Canon, architects with Javier Menendez, engineer (Spain)
- 2nd prize: Freedom Park in Salvokop, South Africa. Graham Young, Anton Combrie, Annamari Combrie, Andrew Kerrin architects with John Barnard, Erica Van Den Berg, Marco Cianfanelli (South Africa)
- Mention: Kirckberg Central Park Peter Latz, Aleth de Crecy, Stefanie Hackl, Christine Rupp-Stoppl, architects, Luxembourg. Renaca Norte Natural Park in Chile. Carla Ruttimann, Cecilia Rencoret, Beatriz Majluf, architects, Chile.

Private gardens in cities and suburbs

- 1st prize: Le Barroux in Carpentras, France. Anthony Paul, architect, France
- 2nd prize: Countryside by the sea garden in Potenza Picena, Italy. Carlotta Montefoschi, Maria Cecilia Villanis Ziani, Niccolo Cau, architects, Italy.

