

## Southwest Member Chapter

The AIST Southwest Member Chapter hosted its annual fall meeting on 7–9 Nov 2010 at the Omni Hotel in Ft. Worth, Texas. The event was held in conjunction with AIST’s Safety and Health Conference and Leadership Conference. The three events were co-located to provide attendees with extended networking opportunities through joint receptions and meals.

Thirty-five participants enjoyed a sunny day of golf in the annual Southwest Chapter fall golf outing on Sunday, 7 Nov at the Golf Club at Fossil Creek. A welcome reception and vendor exhibits kicked off the event, with 24 exhibiting companies.

On Monday, 8 Nov, a joint breakfast featured a keynote presentation and Don B. Daily Safety Award presentation by Mario Longhi, president and CEO, Gerdau Ameristeel. The 2010 Don B. Daily Safety Award was presented to Matt Moore of Gerdau Ameristeel.

Following the breakfast, the Southwest Chapter meeting attendees participated in technical paper sessions. The morning technical presentations included:

- “The Texas Tailgate” by Wally Agarwal, meltshop supervisor, Nucor Steel–Texas.
- “Improvement of Castability Utilizing Automated Inclusion Analysis” by Sarah Pulido, quality engineering process metallurgist, Gerdau Ameristeel–Midlothian.
- “Casting Process Stabilization to Reduce Variation in Billet Weight” by David Usry, manager — quality engineering/metallurgical services, Gerdau Ameristeel–Midlothian.

Additional technical presentations began after lunch. These included:

- “Nucor Jewett Bar Mill/Bendotti Pusher Furnace Project” by Lee Merry, roll mill shift supervisor, Nucor Steel–Texas.
- “Picturing the Future With Infrared Technologies” by Christopher Welfel, maintenance reliability engineer, CMC Steel Texas.
- “Achieving OSHA VPP Star Status” by Randall Selman, roll mill supervisor, Nucor Steel–Texas.
- “ASRS: Automatic Storage and Retrieval System for Steel Plants and Warehouses” by Jagannathan Rajagopalan, senior consultant, Peshmel North America.

The afternoon came to a close with a joint roundtable discussion with the Safety and Health Conference attendees.

Later that evening, attendees of the three conferences enjoyed a dinner with a keynote presentation by John Goodish, executive vice president and chief operating officer, United States Steel Corporation.

On Tuesday, 9 Nov, attendees reconvened for a breakfast with a keynote presentation by John Ferriola, chief operating officer, Nucor Corp. Following the breakfast, the Southwest Chapter meeting participants attended a tour of Gerdau Ameristeel–Midlothian. There were 83 attendees at the Southwest Chapter fall meeting and more than 200 attendees overall at the joint events. ♦



Attendees and exhibitors of AIST’s Southwest Chapter fall meeting, Leadership Conference and Safety and Health Conference mingle at a vendor fair.



Southwest Chapter meeting and Safety and Health Conference attendees during the joint roundtable discussion.



Randall Selman of Nucor Steel–Texas during his technical paper presentation.



Southwest chair, Mitchell Davis, with 2010–11 AIST president, Bill Breedlove.



Southwest Chapter meeting attendees during a tour of the Gerdau Ameristeel–Midlothian facility in Midlothian, Texas, on Tuesday, 9 Nov 2010.