

WILLIAM EMLING

36-YEAR LIFE MEMBER



WILLIAM H. EMLING received his B.S. degree in metallurgical and material science engineering from Case Western Reserve University in 1979. He is a Fellow of the Weatherhead Graduate School of Management at Case Western Reserve University, serves on the board of the Case Alumni Association and received executive management training at the University of Virginia's Darden School of Management. He began his career with National Steel Corp. (now United States Steel Corporation) in Granite City, Ill., USA, before moving on to LTV Steel. At LTV, he spent many years as a department manager in continuous casting research and later in operations and technology management. After 20 years as a steel producer, he joined the SMS group in 1999. Emling worked for seven years with SMS Millcraft as a vice president and plant manager. He joined SMS USA LLC in 2006 in his current role, Vice President Steelmaking and Continuous Casting. Emling has been an active member of AIST and its predecessor organizations, having served as the chairman of the Iron & Steel Society's Steelmaking Division and AIST's Continuous Casting Operating Committee. He has served on the board of directors for both ISS and AIST and is currently serving his sixth and final year as an AIST Foundation Trustee. He is a member of four Technology Committees and an instructor for the annual Continuous Casting Technology Training Conference. He has published more than 50 technical papers, twice being awarded the Charles H. Herty Jr. Award, and also winning the Robert W. Hunt Award. Emling is currently a member of the Pittsburgh Member Chapter.

When did you first hear about AISE/ISS and how? How did your involvement progress over the years?

I joined the Iron & Steel Society (ISS) shortly after starting with Jones & Laughlin Steel (which later became LTV) in 1981. My supervisor, Bob Blosssey, encouraged me to join. The following year, I gave a speech at the Detroit ISS Chapter's Young Engineers Night, and I published my first technical paper on BOF bottom stirring.

In 1983, I began working for AIST Distinguished Member and Fellow Pierre Dauby. Pierre introduced me to many international colleagues in the steelmaking world, and encouraged me to continue to publish papers. Another supporter in my early years was Len

Nelson, also a Distinguished Member and Fellow and former ISS president.

How has membership benefited you in your career?

I spent 20 years as a steel producer in operations, research and quality control. In 1999, I became a supplier for a company known as Acutus Gladwin, which was later purchased by SMS group. Having been a producer for so many years, I had some unique perspectives that helped in my new career, but the professional contacts made through my ISS and AISE membership opened the doors in many cases. Having served on committees with meltshop and caster managers, and having published papers, gave me the credibility I needed to succeed.

How do you see AIST benefiting people in the steel industry today?

Much like my situation, the professional relationships that are available to members are certainly a benefit. Today, AIST provides much more benefit to its members than either of its predecessor organizations. Technology Training Conferences are now available for focused learning opportunities. I've had the opportunity to attend two international AIST Study Tours: the Continuous Casting tour in Germany in 2015 and the Electric Steelmaking tour in Italy in 2016. I encourage those who want to grow their professional resume to participate in both their local AIST chapter meetings and technology committees in their area of expertise.

► Emling (second from left) with Pierre Dauby, Steve Mis and Robert Sobolewski at LTV Technology Center, circa 1985.



► Emling (left) receiving the Charles H. Herty, Jr. Award, along with Jeffrey Powers and Chuck Tomazin, at the ISS Conference, 1990.



► Emling at CONAC Conference with Jorge Nieto, ArcelorMittal Lázaro Cárdenas.



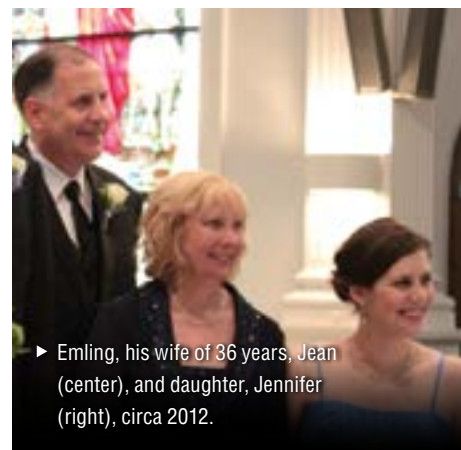
► Emling (second row, far left) at the AISI Caster Operating Committee Meeting in Monclova, Mexico, circa 1992.



► Emling (second from left) at the inaugural AIST Casting Committee Meeting in Cleveland, Ohio, 2004.



► Emling, his wife of 36 years, Jean (center), and daughter, Jennifer (right), circa 2012.



How have you seen the industry change over the years?

The industry is much more global today, with many producers working for international companies. Domestically, there are many less companies due to mergers and acquisitions. More focus is being placed on competing internationally.

I was transferred from one plant to another in the 1980s, which was extremely rare. Not only did employees stay at a given plant, but they also tended to stay in individual departments. I was willing to move, because it enabled me to learn new and exciting things. Today, mobility is the norm. Engineers are constantly being moved from one position to another. Due to demographics, there are many more advancement opportunities for young talent, compared to earlier years. AIST has recognized this, and serves the industry by developing and promoting the Technology Training Conferences, which are aimed at providing excellent

technical introductions to various areas of steelmaking

What do you foresee in the (near or far) future for the steel industry?

The rate of change will continue to increase. Information technology and automation have made such an enormous difference in the past decade. Developments in energy savings, waste energy recovery and safety will occur in the next decade. New “disruptive” technologies will, no doubt, be introduced going forward (use of virtual reality, 3D printing, nanomaterials, composite alloys, etc.). I am sure that, before long, AIST will be at the forefront of introducing these new technologies to the steelmaking community.

If you were to recommend AIST to a new graduate just coming into the industry, what would you tell him/her?

It has been really exciting to interact with students and young graduates as a part of the AIST Foundation. The

programs that have been set up in recent years have introduced the industry to thousands of young people who never would have realized the incredible opportunities that are available. Reading the scholarship and internship applications of those who apply each year is very gratifying. We have helped the industry locate and develop a great pool of talent for the years ahead. Unfortunately, there are only a few dozen of these awards every year.

The number of openings for young, motivated talent far exceeds what the Foundation has and can contribute. I would tell any young graduate that the steel industry provides a tremendous career for someone who wants to work hard and contribute. Once joining our industry, I would encourage him or her to actively participate in any activities that build a professional network — like joining AIST. ♦