



RODNEY B. MOTT, Vice President and General Manager, Nucor Steel-Berkeley, Mt. Pleasant, S.C. He joined the steel industry in 1971 as part of a cooperative education program between U. S. Steel Corp. and Northeastern University in Boston, Mass. He received a B.S. in industrial engineering from Northeastern and was employed by U. S. Steel at the Fairless works, where he held various supervisory and engineering positions from 1971 to 1985. During that time, he received a Master's in Management Science at Trenton State College. In 1986, he joined Lone Star Steel as superintendent—rolling, prior to joining Nucor in 1987 as manager—hot rolling in Crawfordsville, Ind. In 1991, he was named general manager for the plant in Hickman, Ark., and following a successful start-up of that plant he was promoted in 1993 to vice president and general manager, Nucor Steel—Arkansas. He was appointed to his current position in May 1995.

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ASSOCIATION OF IRON AND STEEL ENGINEERS

President's Message 1998

It is truly an honor to serve as President of the Association of Iron and Steel Engineers for 1998. Throughout my career, I have utilized the AISE's expositions, meetings and publications to increase my knowledge of technical aspects of our business and I am pleased that the AISE continues to be the leading technical organization for our industry.

We have seen tremendous change in our industry in recent years as both the technology and scope of our business have changed. Engineers and operators in every plant accepted the challenge to increase productivity, reduce costs and produce steel to even higher quality standards. Numerous mills have undergone extensive modernization programs. Some have expanded to enhance their market position and new plants, even now, companies have been built to exploit the advantages that new technology has brought us. It has been stated repeatedly that "it's a great time to be in the steel industry" and I have been fortunate to have observed these changes and to have been on the leading edge of technology, which is every engineer's dream.

While our industry is highlighting the advantages of new technology, it is also becoming increasingly apparent that our responsibility to evaluate and implement this technology has become more difficult. The basic mission of the AISE has always been to provide technical information to advance the steel industry. The current direction of our association is to increase the availability of information and to provide forums to evaluate technology. This year, we plan to take another step toward becoming a partner to the industry by developing additional forums for process evaluation and training to assist you in this continuing challenge of implementing the winning combination of technologies.

The AISE staff has evolved into an extremely dedicated and dynamic unit

that is anxious to show you that they will provide the information, seminars and training programs that can benefit you. I encourage you to be active in our association and to provide additional input to keep this association strong and of value to you.

I am sure that 1998 will present unanticipated challenges for both the AISE and our industry. I look forward to meeting you and hearing your thoughts about the AISE and our industry.

Rodney B. Mott