



PAUL N. WIGTON •

ASSOCIATION OF IRON AND STEEL ENGINEERS

have been accomplished by the sophistication of already established equipment and processes. These engineering and processing improvements have advanced the state of the art in costs, productivity and quality. The industry as a whole has made significant gains in efficiency, serving its customers better in every way and making us more competitive with the rest of the world.

In addition to the changes in technology, there have been many changes in the basic structure of the companies involved in the business. Just a few years ago, the domestic raw steel capacity was rated at 152 million tons annually. Today, 112 million tons would be closer to the maximum with many new smaller producers, and most of the larger companies reduced in size, more specialized, with fewer product lines. Vendors to the industry have also changed, focusing their services to meet the needs of the changing industry. All of these changes are paving the way to a better and more effective industry for the future.

As the previously mentioned changes take place, they bring new challenges to the engineering and technology professionals in the industry. The need to advance is more necessary than any time in the history of the industry. The professionals of engineering and process technology must provide the innovation that will keep the industry vital and dynamic.

In my opinion, our Association is an important link for each individual member and his or her company to advance to higher levels.

As president, I will work with our Officers, Board and professional management to make certain that our organization is out in front serving our members and the industry through these exciting and dynamic times.

Paul N. Wigton

PAUL N. WIGTON, President, LTV Steel Tubular Products Co., Youngstown, Ohio, received a B.S. degree in chemistry from Youngstown State University and also completed a senior executive management course at Massachusetts Institute of Technology. He received an honorary doctorate in engineering from Youngstown State in 1980.

President's Message 1988

I am honored to be the 1988 President of the Association of Iron and Steel Engineers and will work during this year to continue to serve the members and the organization.

Change is ever certain, but in the steel industry, during the past decade or two, changes have occurred at an accelerated rate.

The technology of steelmaking and processing has seen dramatic changes in nearly every process in the chain to produce a finished product. Some of this has been by the installation of new processes such as continuous casting, modern electrogalvanizing lines, ladle metallurgy processes and many others; but most of the changes in processing