

Conference Recap

29th Crane Symposium

Conference Details:

12–14 June 2023, Pittsburgh, Pa., USA

No. of Attendees: 286, which sets a record for highest attendance at an AIST Technology Training Conference

Conference Highlights:

The symposium was themed “Back to the Future” and featured a comprehensive program focused on enhancing crane operations and safety measures and embracing advancements in automation. The event encompassed a wide range of topics relevant to the steel industry. Presentations were delivered on subjects such as safety protocols, automating crane control systems, synchronized crane movements and the implementation of wireless controls. Experts also discussed advancements in brake systems, crane runway girder connections and upgrading to Industry 4.0 automation. Furthermore, the symposium delved into crucial aspects of crane operations, including hoist safety, optimal crane lighting and the potential applications of augmented reality technology. Attendees gained insights into fall protection measures, the importance of wheel flange lube and the benefits of automating coil storage. Technical discussions also covered areas such as wire rope maintenance, vibration monitoring techniques,

the integration of radio controls, and the challenges and benefits associated with tandem lifts.

The event provided a platform for professionals in the steel industry to exchange knowledge, share best practices, and explore innovative solutions to common challenges. The 29th Crane Symposium fostered collaboration and networking opportunities among attendees. Additionally, the participants enjoyed a memorable experience outside the conference sessions. They were treated to a delightful attendee dinner on the Gateway Clipper, a popular riverboat, and had the opportunity to explore Pittsburgh’s rivers, showcasing the city’s vibrant atmosphere.

Looking ahead, the organizers announced that the 30th anniversary of the Crane Symposium would take place in June 2024, once again in Pittsburgh, Pa. With another milestone on the horizon, the steel industry can anticipate another enriching and informative event that celebrates the advancements and achievements in crane operations and safety. ♦



The organizing committee for the 29th Crane Symposium was represented by (left to right): Bill Schierenbeck, Russ Walters, Matt Bruels, Mark McGinley, Ryan Marks, Rich Warriner, Bobby Hamilton and Tom Berringer.