



AIST Italy MEMBER Chapter Formation

Representing more than 60 countries around the world, AIST Member Chapters are the integral component in facilitating the exchange of ideas and strengthening AIST's global network. Currently, AIST has 22 Member Chapters with different geographical boundaries to further support that exchange on a grassroots level.

The benefits realized through active chapter networking — from the free exchange of ideas to the close proximity with a valuable knowledge base — are substantial for our members.

AIST is proud of the benefits found in Member Chapters, and was pleased when that value was further illustrated when a group of AIST members in Italy approached us with an interest to create a new regional chapter. After several exploratory meetings both in the United States and Italy, in addition to a strategic planning workshop, the inaugural event for the AIST Italy Member Chapter is being planned for the fall of 2010.

HISTORY

The chapter steering committee held its first meeting on March 18, 2009, in Brescia, Italy. Five AIST members participated in the meeting.

The meeting objective was to assess the start-up of an AIST Member Chapter to service the Italian steel market. In many ways, the steering committee realized that Italy is an ideal location for chapter growth, with many important European producers and worldwide suppliers based in the region. The list of our existing members in Italy was an additional boost to the chapter's potential.

External trends and industry needs were analyzed during the meeting. In addition, a major objective set forth by the steering committee was to not duplicate activities provided by other existing associations in Italy, opting either to collaborate or to introduce new ideas and activities not currently covered by these groups. As an association focused primarily on developing peer networks and providing training and education specific to the production and processing of iron and steel, as opposed to research or governmental lobbying, AIST is unique from many other types of associations in the steelmaking community.

The second chapter steering committee meeting was held on May 6, 2009, in St. Louis, Mo., during AISTech 2009 — AIST's Iron & Steel Technology Conference and Exposition.



(left to right) Stacy Varnecky, AIST; Mauro Medici, Pomini Tenova; Francesco Memoli, Tenova; Marco Capitanio, Automazioni Industriali Capitanio; Tiberio Roda, Sommer; Ron Ashburn, AIST; Giovanni Casarin, SEAUD Srl; Cesare Giavani, Tenova; Marta Guzzon, Tenova

Fourteen AIST members attended the meeting.

This meeting was scheduled to establish the next steps for the creation of an AIST Italy Member Chapter. During this meeting, we determined that AIST should hold a strategic planning workshop to discover common ground with other industry associations and to generate interest in an AIST Italy Member Chapter among steel-related companies in Italy.

On Oct. 14, 2009, AIST conducted a "Collaboration for the Steel Industry of Italy" meeting to investigate potential partnerships that may serve to benefit the steel industry of Italy. The meeting, hosted by Tenova and Nucor, was held at the Tenova Pomini factory in Castellanza, Italy. More than 30 individuals attended the meeting, where we presented an overview of the diverse technical programs of AIST and worked with attendees to enhance their understanding of our mission. (The Collaboration meeting was held in conjunction with Consteel Day in Milan, which is summarized on pages 156 and 157.)

The attendees also participated in a brainstorming session, providing feedback and strategic advice. The main topics included chapter functionality, training and education needs, steel producer engagement and recruitment, and university interaction. These main topics yielded numerous strategic

initiatives, with the following deemed to be the most important:

- Provide fundamental steel technology training for new employees.
- Collaborate with AIM and Federacciai for mutual education.
- Recruit core company executives to champion the chapter activities.

AIST's objective for this meeting was to generate ideas that complement the key activities of other Italian steelmaking associations utilizing our own areas of strength. Ultimately our goal is to form a strong bond of collaboration with these groups that will yield a benefit to industry personnel and lead to the establishment of an active, educated AIST Italy Chapter.

FUTURE

The first Italy Member Chapter meeting is currently being planned for the fall of 2010. The chapter meeting is slated to include technical sessions, a keynote address from one of the industry's leading executives, a social networking program and a plant tour. A planning meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 5, 2010, at 2 p.m. EST during AISTech. At this meeting, an overview of the event status will be provided, and any suggestions or ideas for strengthening the meeting will be encouraged. If you're interested in attending, please contact Stacy Varnecky, AIST membership communications manager, at svarnecky@aist.org or (724) 814-3066.



(left to right) Marina Landi, Tenova; Paolo Gaboardi, Pomini Tenova; Rex Query, Nucor Europe; Massimiliano Fantuzzi, LOI Italimpianti Tenova; Vincenzo Volponi, Centro Sviluppo Materiali S.p.A.; Lydia Stromei, Pomini Inc.; Elena Macchi, Pomini Tenova; Luigi Zampetti, CSM; Giorgio Romanelli, Acciaierie Venete; Paolo Losso, Danieli & C. Officine Meccaniche S.p.A.

consteel | DAY REVIEW

Tenova recently celebrated the 20th anniversary of Consteel®, the continuous charging system for electric arc furnaces, with a two-day international event Oct. 15–16, 2009, in Milan, Italy. Consteel was developed through the vision of John A. Vallomy at the end of the 1980s and is now used all over the world,

The meeting was opened on the first day by Raimondo di Carpegna, head of Tenova Metal Making, who greeted the guests at Villa Borromeo in Senago. Tenova is part of the Techint Group. A summary of the Techint Group's activities around the world were illustrated in a short presentation by the group's chairman, Gianfelice Rocca, who welcomed 150 entrepreneurs and corporate executives from the world steel industry.

Mr. Rocca examined today's international markets, identifying Asia, and China and India in particular, as the areas most likely to begin recovering from the economic crisis in 2010. "In a world where attention to polluting emissions is becoming a vital priority, technologies like Consteel are a valid alternative for greater environmental sustainability in production," said Rocca. He defined "the Consteel Club," founded by John A. Vallomy, as "a group of people working for scientific and technological innovation and placing special importance on the environment, an issue of interest to all countries in which the Techint Group has been working for more than 60 years."

Gianluigi Nova, CEO of Tenova, provided an overview of the structure and operations of Tenova, stressing the multicultural composition of the network — a business case studied at Harvard University — and the vital role played by the Business Units, each with its own distinctive technological excellences or full operating capacity.

The following morning, the Consteel Day guests visited Acciaierie Arvedi, site of the world's largest Consteel plant in operation. The afternoon was dedicated to the Consteel Users' Club Meeting at Tenova headquarters in Milan, where several papers on this technology were presented and discussed. A highlight of the celebration was the presentation of the book, *Consteel: 20 Years of a Great Idea*, a collection of photographs released specially for the occasion and published in three languages, given as a present during the gala dinner.

Today there are 36 Consteel plants worldwide, for an installed capacity of more than 30 million tons of liquid steel per year. None of these plants, in 20 years, has been dismantled or replaced with another technology. Ten new systems are currently under construction or commissioning, testifying that the revolutionary Consteel idea continues to be the technology of the future.

The next morning, the Consteel Day guests were received by founder Giovanni Arvedi and his staff for a visit to the Cremona steel plant. The tour was a chance to see first-hand an EAF furnace using Consteel technology and Arvedi's cutting-edge casting and rolling lines. The afternoon was dedicated to the Consteel Users' Meeting in Milan, attended by customers who already own a Consteel plant. After the welcome from Mauro Bianchi Ferri, vice president of marketing and sales of Tenova Metal Making, the attendees heard a series of interesting presentations. ♦



