Over the course of a week, the AIST Road Show visited two U. S. Steel mills, setting high standards with a total of 1,200 personnel in attendance. AIST and its seven sponsors were pleased to meet with eager employees at U. S. Steel – Gary Works on 31 May 2017 and U. S. Steel – Great Lakes Works the following week. These visits brought the total number of AIST Road Shows to 15 since the program’s inception in July 2015.

Gary Works, U. S. Steel’s largest manufacturing plant, is comprised of both steelmaking and finishing facilities with an annual raw steelmaking capacity of 7.5 million net tons. Hot-rolled, cold-rolled and galvanized sheet products are manufactured at Gary Works and are produced for customers in the automotive, metal building components, home construction and appliance markets.

Approximately 830 mill personnel enjoyed breakfast and lunch while discussing the importance of participating in AIST events and networking opportunities.

Mark Tabler, vice president — global quality and manufacturing processes, U. S. Steel – Gary Works, said, “Our employees had a chance to interact with AIST, some of whom will undoubtedly join the organization and broaden their entire spectrum and understanding of the steel industry beyond the context of Gary Works. It’s really going to help them out in their careers.”

“We’re an engineering service provider with several active projects here at U. S. Steel – Gary Works, and an active supporter of AIST,” said David Mysko, director steelmaking, Hatch Associates. “It was important for Hatch to communicate not only with the people we work with on a day-to-day basis, but also the people who may see us at the plant, about who we are and what we do.”

On 6 June 2017, the Road Show floated up the Detroit River to U. S. Steel – Great Lakes Works, where the automotive industry reigns supreme. Great Lakes Works has an annual raw steelmaking capacity of approximately 3.8 million net tons.

The cloudy morning skies were no match for the Road Show crew and sponsors. Nearly 375 employees spent parts of their mornings and afternoons talking about membership with AIST and products and services with sponsors Berry Metal Co., Hatch Associates Inc., Hyson, Primetals Technologies, Spraying Systems Co., Thermo Fisher Scientific and Yates Industries.

Chris Burnett, technical product manager flat sheet gauging, Thermo Fisher Scientific, spoke of Thermo Fisher's first time sponsoring the Road Show, “We got the opportunity to see everybody in the steel plant from the hourly workers who are working on cranes to the middle managers and up through project managers as well as the leadership here. We have some equipment here, but it’s always good to have exposure to the larger organization, and get that opportunity to maybe reach out to the steel workers who maybe haven’t heard of our equipment or had the opportunity to be involved.”

The AIST Road Show gives AIST the opportunity to accomplish its mission of advancing the technical development, production, processing and application of iron and steel by visiting facilities and interacting with and providing support to the people who make up the industry and our association.

If your company is interested in hosting the AIST Road Show, or would like to become a sponsor at an upcoming visit, please visit AIST.org/RoadShow. We hope to see you soon!