



## STEEL RESEARCH & APPLICATIONS GRANT (SRAG)

### INSTRUCTIONS AND APPLICATION: 2015 ACADEMIC YEAR

**Objective and Intent** – This grant was originally created as the FeMET Design Grant in 2005, then changed to the AIST Foundation Steel Research & Applications Grant in 2015, is to challenge North American university teams (students and professors) to submit proposals for grant funding to provide research to the benefit of the steel industry through basic and applied research. The grant will provide funding to increase:

- a. the number of students studying engineering in North America;
- b. the number of students and professors interested in the steel industry;
- c. student and professor involvement and steel plant interaction;
- d. and the number of students electing to pursue careers in the iron and steel industry upon graduation.

**Award and Outcome:** It is the intent to give one award every year to a qualified professor and team of students. The number of awards granted depends on fund availability, the number of proposals received, and the quality of proposals received; at the discretion of the selection committee. The maximum grant per award will be US\$50,000 for a maximum allowable time of one year beginning in September. At the completion of the research project, a final report shall be submitted to the AIST Foundation defining the effective outcome of the team effort, which will be included in the AIST magazine, *Iron & Steel Technology*. The professor and student team will be encouraged to present the results upon completion at an AIST event.

**Eligibility Criteria:** The program allows participation by faculty of all technical engineering disciplines, and may include both undergraduate and graduate students. Universities may submit more than one proposal; however each must be an entirely separate submission and will be evaluated independently.

**Mentor:** To assist the applicants in forging steel industry networks (access, connections, and relationships), a steel industry representative currently employed with a steel producing company must be identified in the proposal. The mentor should be in the appropriate area of expertise for the recipient candidate and from a conveniently located steel producing company willing to support the research. AIST will assist in identifying mentors if needed.

**Call for Proposals and Topic:** The teams must self-declare a challenge theme relevant to the North American steel industry through direct interaction, and should quantify the benefits arising out of the proposed technique(s) and the study. The proposal should indicate how the team will approach the subject, including budget and schedule requirements. The maximum allowable time for the project is one year beginning in the fall of 2015.

**Proposal Content:** Please follow the instructions carefully for submitting proposals. The information is also available on the AIST home page at [AISTFoundation.org](http://AISTFoundation.org). Proposals should be no more than 10 pages in length and contain the following sections:

1. Name of Proposing University
2. Descriptive Project Title
3. Team Leader Contact Information (including name, title, department, address, e-mail address, phone and CIV)
4. Team Members (including names, year, and majors)
5. Steel Company (include name, address, and any previous association)
6. Steel Company Contact (include name, title, e-mail address, and phone)
7. Proposal Summary Page (include clearly defined proposed plan and how it fits the research topic, including budget and duration)
8. Detailed Project Description (include any project deliverables such as potential models)
9. Project Schedule (include a list of anticipated project tasks and milestones)
10. Estimated Project Cost (include distribution and total project cost)
11. Student Involvement (include details on how students will be involved)
12. Project Benefits (describe anticipated benefits to the university, students, and the industry)
13. Presentations (include plans to present research findings at AISTech)
14. Final Report (must be submitted by 15 Aug for inclusion in *Iron & Steel Technology*)

**Evaluation Criteria:** It is the responsibility of the submitter to assure that sufficient information is contained in the proposal for reviewers to evaluate the proposal according to the following criteria:

1. Technical Approach/Relation to the Topic (35 points) – The proposal will be evaluated on the quality of the technical approach, its fit to the project topic, and the deliverables and overall quality of communication in the proposal. This will be based on the clarity, completeness and adequacy of the statement of work.
2. Probability of Success/Benefit Potential (35 Points) – The methodology used to approach the topic will be evaluated. This will also include its widespread applicability in the steel industry and the thoroughness of the evaluation made by the submitting team.
3. Qualifications (30 Points) – The expertise and capabilities of the team to bring the project to a meaningful on-time completion will be evaluated. Other factors considered under this criterion are project schedule including milestones, decision points and overall cost.

**YOUR COMPLETED PROPOSAL SHOULD BE SUBMITTED ELECTRONICALLY IN PDF FORM TO [LORI WHARREY \(lwharrey@aist.org\)](mailto:lwharrey@aist.org) ON OR BEFORE 30 June 2015.**

**AWARDEE/S WILL BE ANNOUNCED 31 JULY 2015 FOR THE 2015-2016 ACADEMIC YEAR.**

Questions about the grant program and/or proposal process should be directed to [Lori Wharrey](mailto:Lori.Wharrey) at +1.724.814.3044.



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### APPLICATION: 2015 ACADEMIC YEAR

*(use additional sheets as needed)*

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Signature of Professor and Date  
*Enter your name (your e-mail will suffice as a signature)*

*It is the responsibility of the submitters to assure that sufficient information is contained in the proposal for reviewers to evaluate the proposal according to the evaluation criteria.*

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