



Strategic Plan Overview

Brian Bliss

General Manager — Technology, AIST

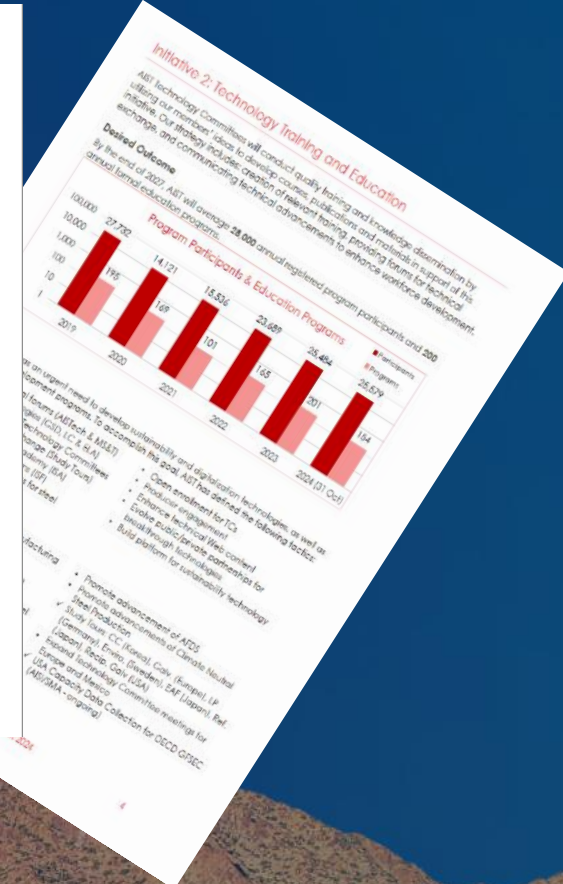
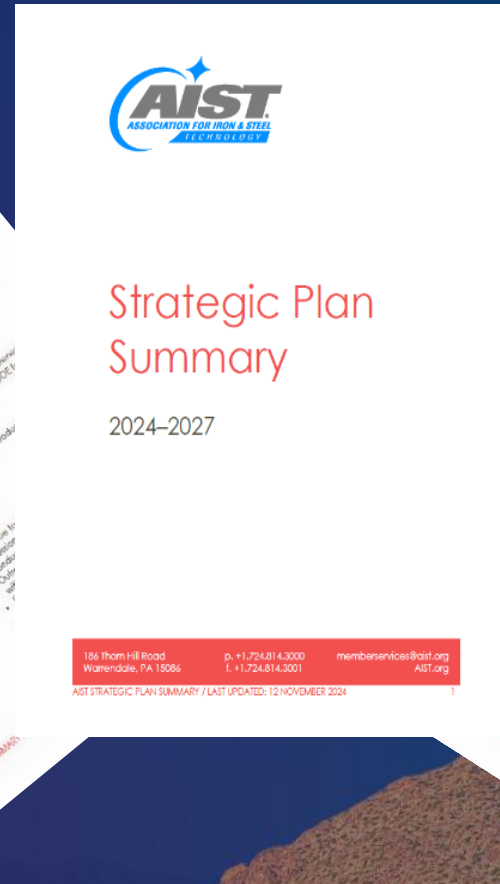
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↑ Scan here for full conference materials



AIST Strategic Plan Review

Initiatives

- Initiative 1: Membership Retention & Growth
- Initiative 2: Technology Training & Education
- Initiative 3: Globalization of Networks & Programs
- Initiative 4: Next Generation Workforce Development

Mission

To advance the **technical** development, production, processing and application of iron and steel.

Vision

To be a global leader in networking, education and sustainability programs for advancing iron and steel **technology**.



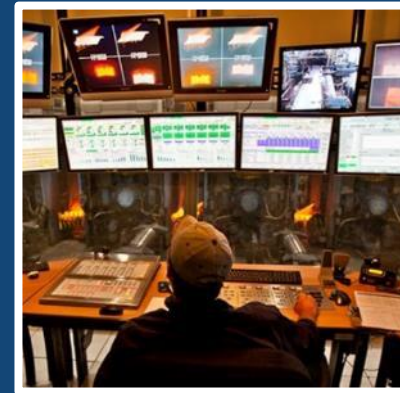
IRONMAKING



STEELMAKING



CASTING



ROLLING



PROCESSING

Technology & Member Chapter Networks

Our Most Active Members Serving the Industry

- 22 Regional Member Chapters on 6 Continents
- 29 Technology Committees in 9 Divisions



Technology Networks

9 Divisions, 29 Technology Committees

World's Largest Network for Steel Manufacturing Expertise



Safety & Environment

- Safety & Health
- Environmental



Cokemaking & Ironmaking

- Cokemaking
- Ironmaking
- Direct Reduced Iron



Steelmaking

- Electric Steelmaking
- Oxygen Steelmaking
- Specialty Alloy & Foundry



Refining & Casting

- Ladle & Secondary Refining
- Continuous Casting



Rolling & Processing

- Hot Sheet Rolling
- Cold Sheet Rolling
- Galvanizing
- Tinplate Mill Products
- Plate Rolling
- Long Products
- Pipe & Tube
- Rolls



Metallurgy

- Metallurgy – Steelmaking & Casting
- Metallurgy – Processing, Products & Applications



Energy, Control & Digitalization

- Energy & Utilities
- Electrical Applications
- Digitalization Applications



Plant Services & Reliability

- Project & Construction Management
- Maintenance & Reliability
- Refractory Systems



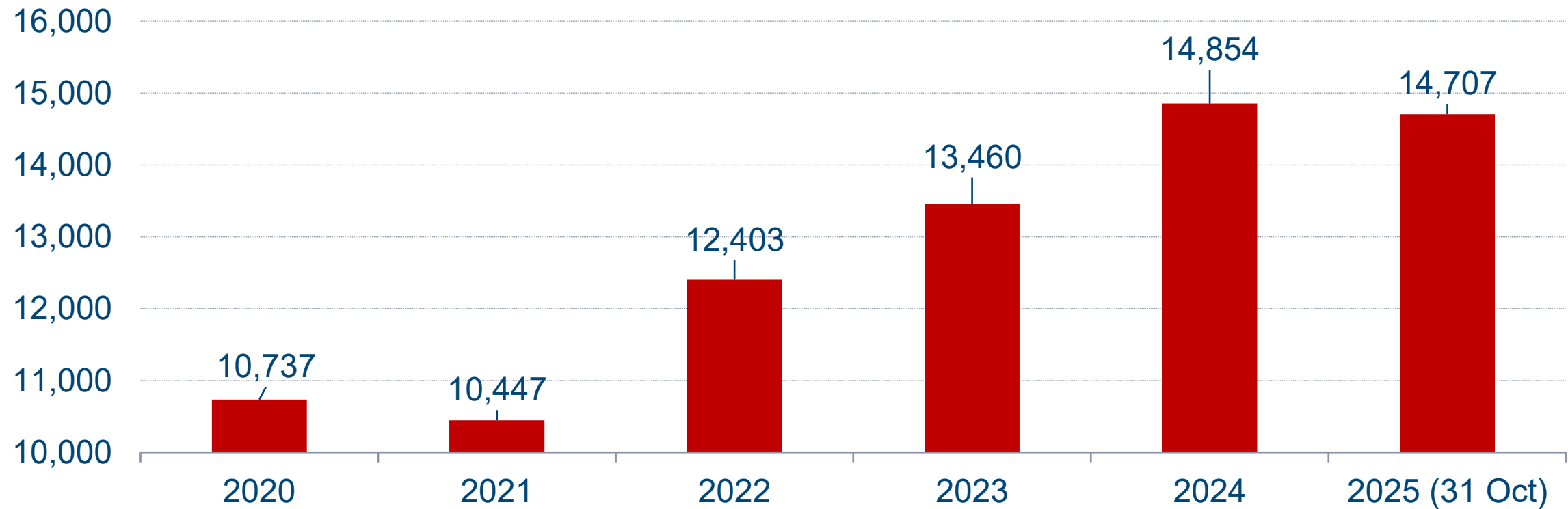
Material Movement & Transportation

- Material Handling
- Cranes
- Transportation & Logistics

Initiative 1: Membership Retention & Growth

16,000 AIST professional memberships by the end of 2027

AIST Membership by Year



Initiative 1: Membership & Growth

FY2026 Priorities

- ✓ Women in Steel Program – Evolve stand-alone conference; add award
- Young Professional Program – Expand programming; add award
- Create trade school outreach
- Evolve program to improve public perception of steel
- ✓ Develop formal committees for WIS and YP
- Website redesign for user experience
- ✓ Corporate Enrollment Program growth
- ✓ Integrate Young Professionals into Leadership process for TC and MC
- Build networks between Professional, Student Member Chapters, and Trade Schools
- Outreach to CEOs and affiliated sectors with GSDF
- Expand international outreach (Europe, MENA, SE Asia)

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AIST *Women in Steel Conference*

21-23 SEPTEMBER 2026

Huntington Convention Center of Cleveland
Cleveland, Ohio, USA





AIST MaryEmily Slate
TRAILBLAZER AWARD
[NOMINATIONS DUE 31 JANUARY]





Young Professionals Get Involved and Get Ahead!

Get your first year of AIST membership free!



Check out **[AIST.org/YoungProfessionals](https://www.aist.org/YoungProfessionals)** for details.

Initiative 1: Membership & Growth

Young Professional Rising Star Award PROPOSAL

- To recognize an emerging leader who demonstrates exceptional promise and dedication to the iron and steel industry
- Honoring individuals of their career who are making a significant membership potential, active engagement in the community, and technical aptitude
- Distinguishes those who inspire their peers and embody the energy and vision of AIST that will help drive the iron and steel industry forward for years to come.

TO BE PROPOSED TO THE
AIST BOARD 20 Nov 2025

Initiative 1: Membership & Growth

Young Professional Rising Star Award PROPOSED CRITERIA

- Must be 35 years of age or younger (by the close of Nominations)
- Must actively engage with and promote young professionals in the iron and steel industry
- Should exemplify the role of an ambassador in advocating for the education, development, and retention of young professionals to help ensure the iron and steel industry of tomorrow will have a sufficient number of qualified professionals.
- Must demonstrate authentic leadership qualities that transcend titles or positions and a commitment to excellence in their field of expertise.



U.S. DEPARTMENT
of ENERGY

AIST Steel to Students Trade School Outreach

Connecting trade schools and community colleges with the steel industry.

Support from the **U.S. Department of Energy**.

**Contact AIST
to get involved**





Improving the Public Perception of the Steel Industry

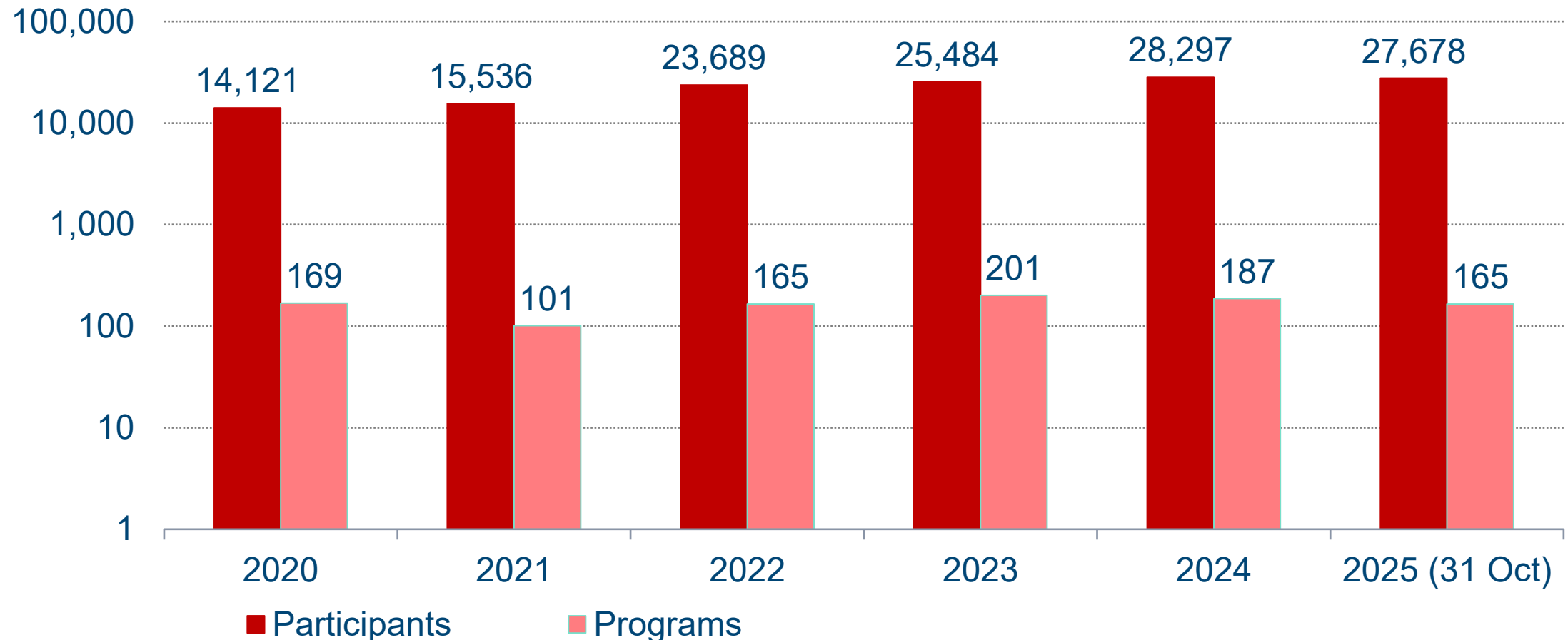
Telling the story of how steel
improves the quality of life.



Initiative 2: Technology Training & Education

29,000 Annual Registered Program Participants & **200** Annual Formal Education Programs by **2027**

Program Participants & Education Programs



Initiative 2: Technology Training & Education

FY2026 Priorities

- ✓ Conclude Sustainable Steel Manufacturing Roadmap publication
- ✓ Disseminate roadmap to industry
- Evolve roadmap technology and workforce readiness levels
- Promote advancements of Climate Neutral Steel Production (Scrap Sub & Alt. Iron 10)
- Advance Artificial Intelligence in steel manufacturing
- ✓ Promote advancements of Microalloy Steel
- Study Tours: Galv. (Canada/USA), LP (Spain), CC (Brazil), EAF (Japan or Korea), BOF (India)
- Improve online Visibility of Research & Academic Papers
- ✓ Organize Intl. Conferences: AutoSteel (2025), IRC (2025), Galvatech (2026)
- ✓ Expand Technology Committee meetings for Europe and Mexico (Cold Sheet/Galv TC)
- ✓ USA Capacity Data Collection for OECD GFSEC (AISI/SMA - ongoing)

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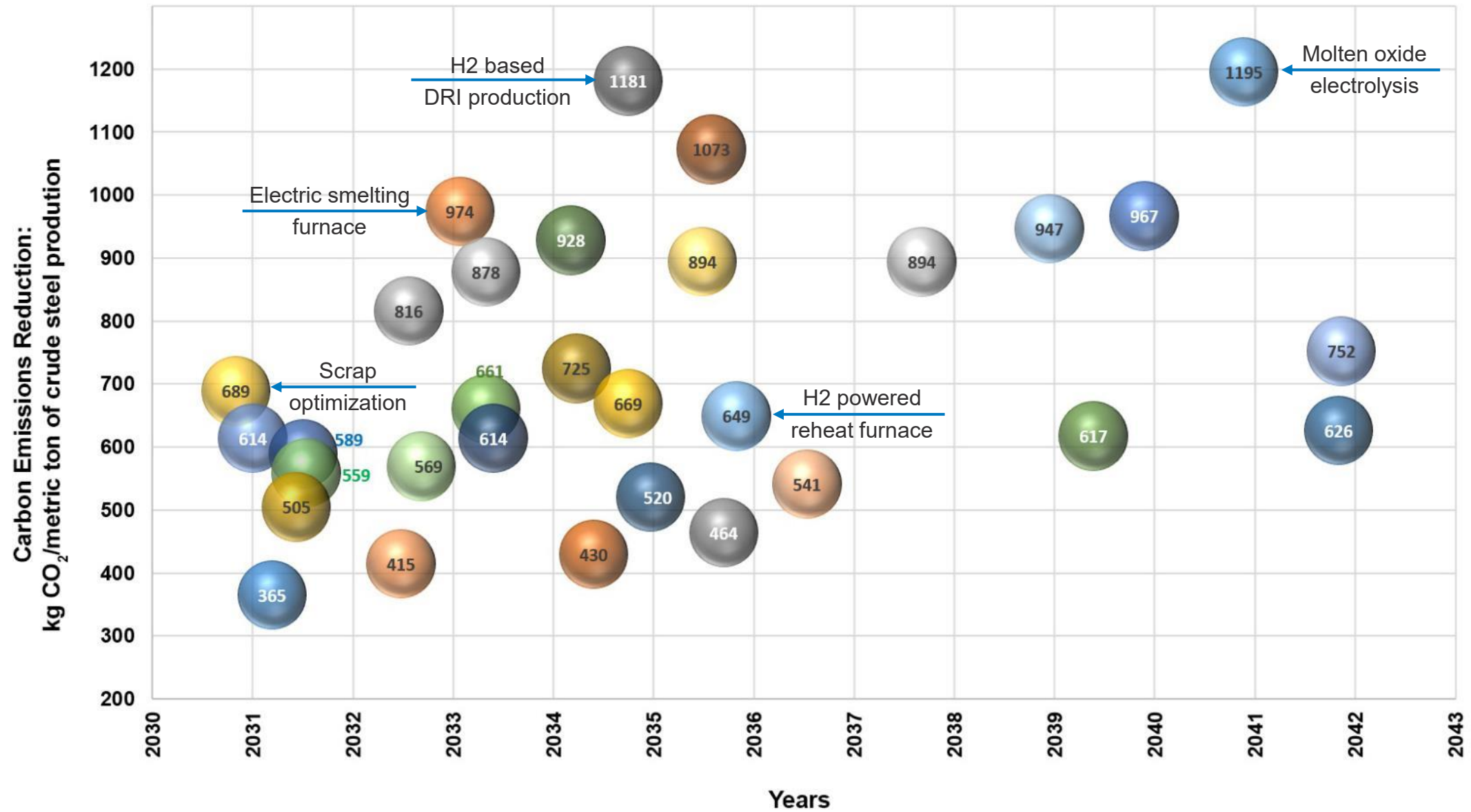
NIST
National Institute of
Standards and Technology

- Defined **baseline** for U.S. steel sector relative to global technical processes
- Identified **technical pathways** and timeline to ensure long-term competitiveness
- Created **workforce initiatives** to foster innovation and recruitment

Multi-year effort: 2022 – 2024; published in **Q1 2025**



AIST Roadmap: U.S. Perspective



Workforce Development

AIST is giving steel professionals the tools they need to succeed.



Professional



Student



Young
Professional



Academia



Trades

Spring 2026 Technology Training Conferences



Core Steelmaking Processes

Modern Electric Furnace Steelmaking – A Practical Training Seminar

2–6 February 2026, Las Vegas, Nev., USA

Long Products Rolling – A Practical Training Seminar

23–26 February 2026, Memphis, Tenn., USA

The Making, Shaping and Treating of Steel: 101

3–4 March 2026, Fort Worth, Texas, USA

Cold Rolling Fundamentals – A Practical Training Seminar

8–12 March 2026, Indianapolis, Ind., USA

Advanced Cold Rolling Training: 201

12–13 March 2026, Indianapolis, Ind., USA



Essential Support Systems

Project Management: 101

26–28 January 2026, Orlando, Fla., USA

Project Management: 201

28–30 January 2026, Orlando, Fla., USA

32nd AIST Crane Symposium

7–10 June 2026, Pittsburgh, Pa., USA



Product & Technology Development

Scrap Supplements and Alternative Ironmaking 10

9–11 March 2026, Orlando, Fla., USA

AIST is committed to presenting superior conferences, expositions and technical training to better serve those involved in the iron and steel community, including steel manufacturers, suppliers, consumers and academics.

Register today at [AIST.org](https://www.aist.org)

Initiative 2: Technology Training & Education

Advanced Symposia



CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

3RD AUTOMOTIVE STEEL INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

9–12 March 2025

Hilton Orlando Lake Buena Vista – Disney Springs® Area
Orlando, Fla., USA

We are seeking presentations for the 3rd Automotive Steel International Conference. Interested speakers should submit abstracts of 300 words or less by **1 July 2024**.

Final manuscripts due **1 October 2024**.

Submit your abstract at AIST.org/ASIC



CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

**MICROALLOYING '25:
INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM
ON MICROALLOYING**

2–5 JUNE 2025

The Hythe Vail
Vail, Colo., USA

MicroAlloying '25

AIST is seeking presentations for the International Symposium on Microalloying. Interested speakers should submit abstracts of 150 words or less by **1 December 2024**.

Final manuscripts due **1 March 2025**.

Submit your abstract at
AIST.org/conferences-expositions/microalloying-conference/call-for-abstracts



CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

INTERNATIONAL ROLLING CONFERENCE

15–18 September 2025

Hyatt Regency DFW International Airport
Dallas, Texas, USA

Abstracts due: **13 January 2025**

Manuscripts due: **5 May 2025**

Submit your abstract at AIST.org/IRC

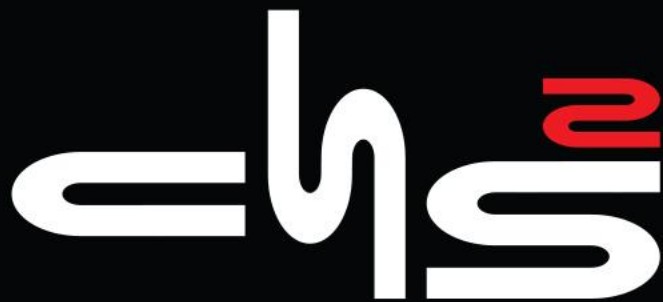


SCRAP SUPPLEMENTS & ALTERNATIVE IRONMAKING 10

9–11 March 2026

Drury Plaza Hotel Orlando Lake Buena Vista
Orlando, Fla., USA





10th International Conference on
**HOT SHEET METAL FORMING
OF HIGH-PERFORMANCE
STEEL**

1–3 June 2026
Plzen, Czech Republic

Organized by





GALVATECH **2026**

14TH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON
ZINC & ZINC ALLOY COATED STEEL SHEET



11-15 OCTOBER 2026

AIRÓ EVENTS CENTER
MONTERREY, MEXICO



PLANT TOUR / **TERNIUM MEXICO**

ABSTRACT SUBMISSIONS OPEN / 1 MAY 2025

DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION FORUM FOR THE STEEL INDUSTRY

13–14 October 2026

Sheraton Pittsburgh Hotel
at Station Square

Pittsburgh, Pa., USA

- Autonomous AI.
- Generative AI.
- Techniques for forming digital twins.
- Cybersecurity challenges and best practices.
- Novel use case of robotics in the steel industry.
- IIoT and novel use cases.
- Advanced visual aid technologies and novel use cases.
- Vision systems (cameras) in safety and operations.
- Virtual training using augmented reality/virtual reality.



**Submit Your Abstract
TODAY**

SAVE THE DATE

AISTech[®] 2026

< 4–6 May 2026 >

David L. Lawrence Convention Center
Pittsburgh, Pa., USA

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 SUPERBOOTH

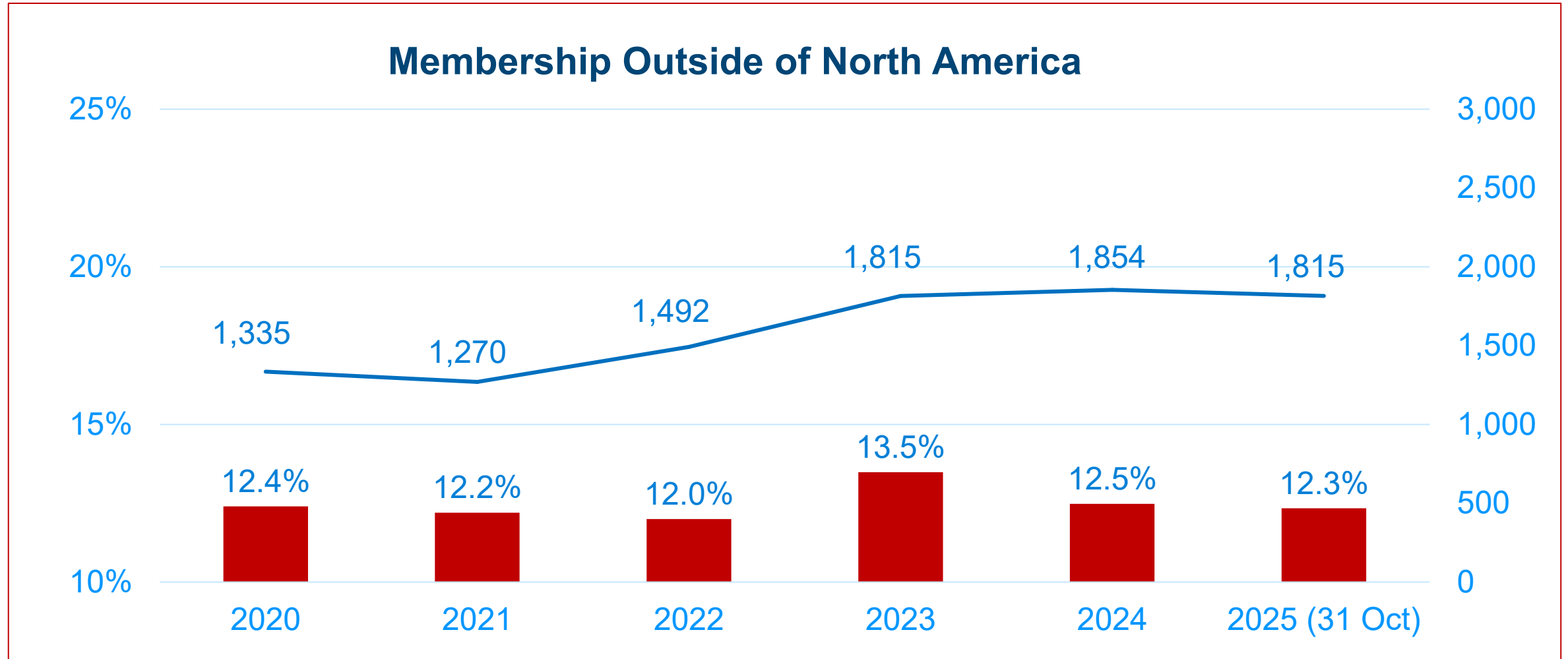


TMEiC
We drive industry



Initiative 3: Globalization of Networks & Programs

15% of Membership from Outside of North America by end of 2027



Initiative 3: Globalization of Networks & Programs

FY2026 Priorities

- Turkey – Expand Regional Programming
- Expand TC platform into Europe and Mexico
- Study Tours: Galv. (Canada/USA), LP (Spain), CC (Brazil), EAF (Japan or Korea), BOF (India)
- Europe — ESF 2025 (Bilbao, Spain), METEC 2027 (Dusseldorf, Germany), Recip. Galv ST 2025 (USA/Canada)
- Mexico — ExpoAcero 2026, CSRTC/GTC joint meeting
- Middle East — MENA SF 2025, Webinars, TTC's
- Conduct AutoSteel (Orlando 2025), IRC (Fort Worth 2025), Galvatech (Monterrey 2026)
- SEASI — WSD Breakthrough Technology Conference 2025
- Australia/New Zealand — Steelmaking Symposium 2026, OSTC BBSC Qrtly Meetings
- Virtual Tech Comm Meetings and Webinars
- Create international Foundation opportunities

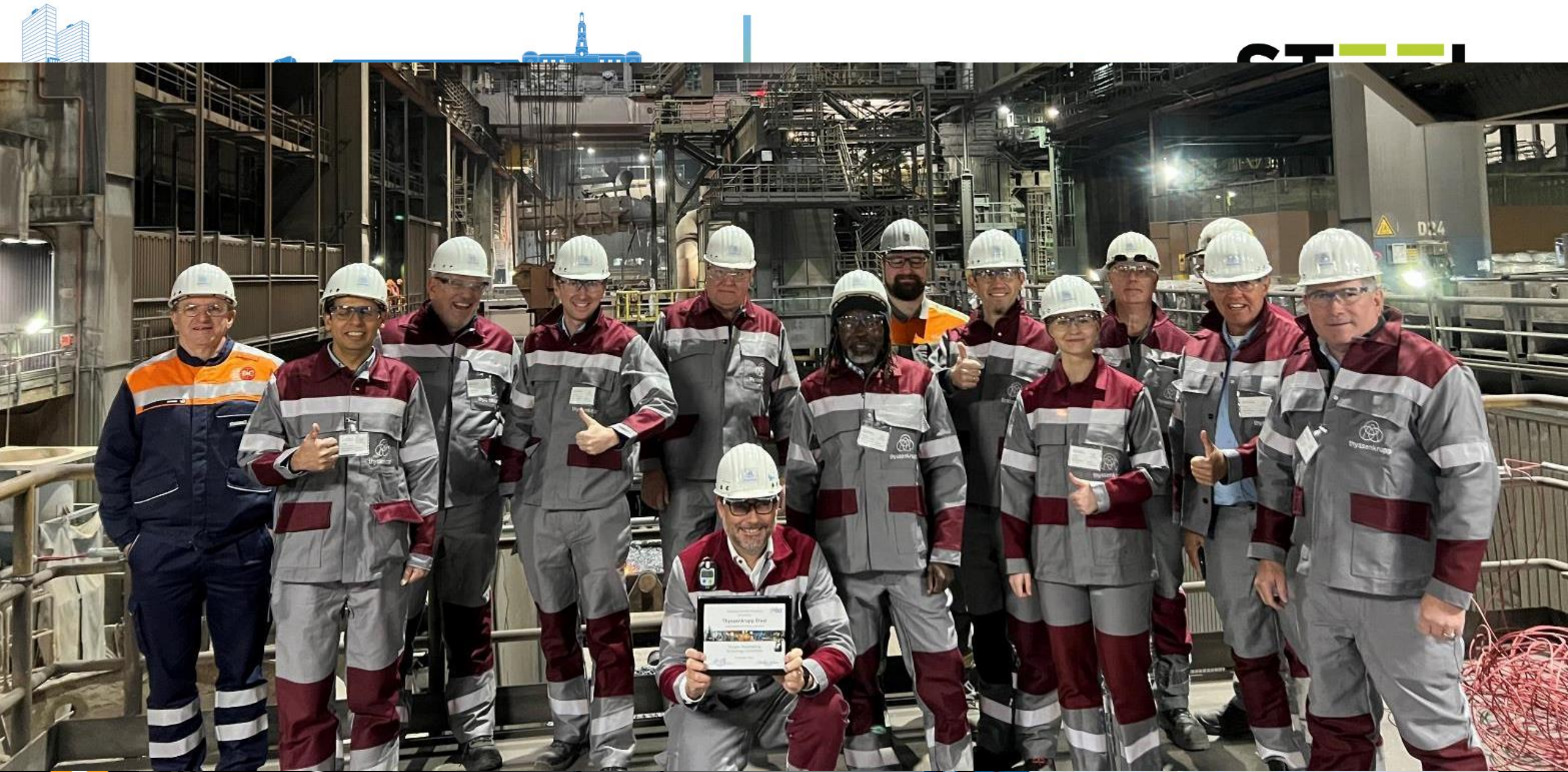
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2025 MENA Steel Forum

7–9 April 2025
Marriott Mena House
Cairo, Egypt



CT



Bilbao, Spain

IDOM



Ternium



International Study Tours

2019 LP — Scandinavia
2019 BOF — Scand/Europe
2024 Enviro — Sweden

2016 Foundry — United Kingdom

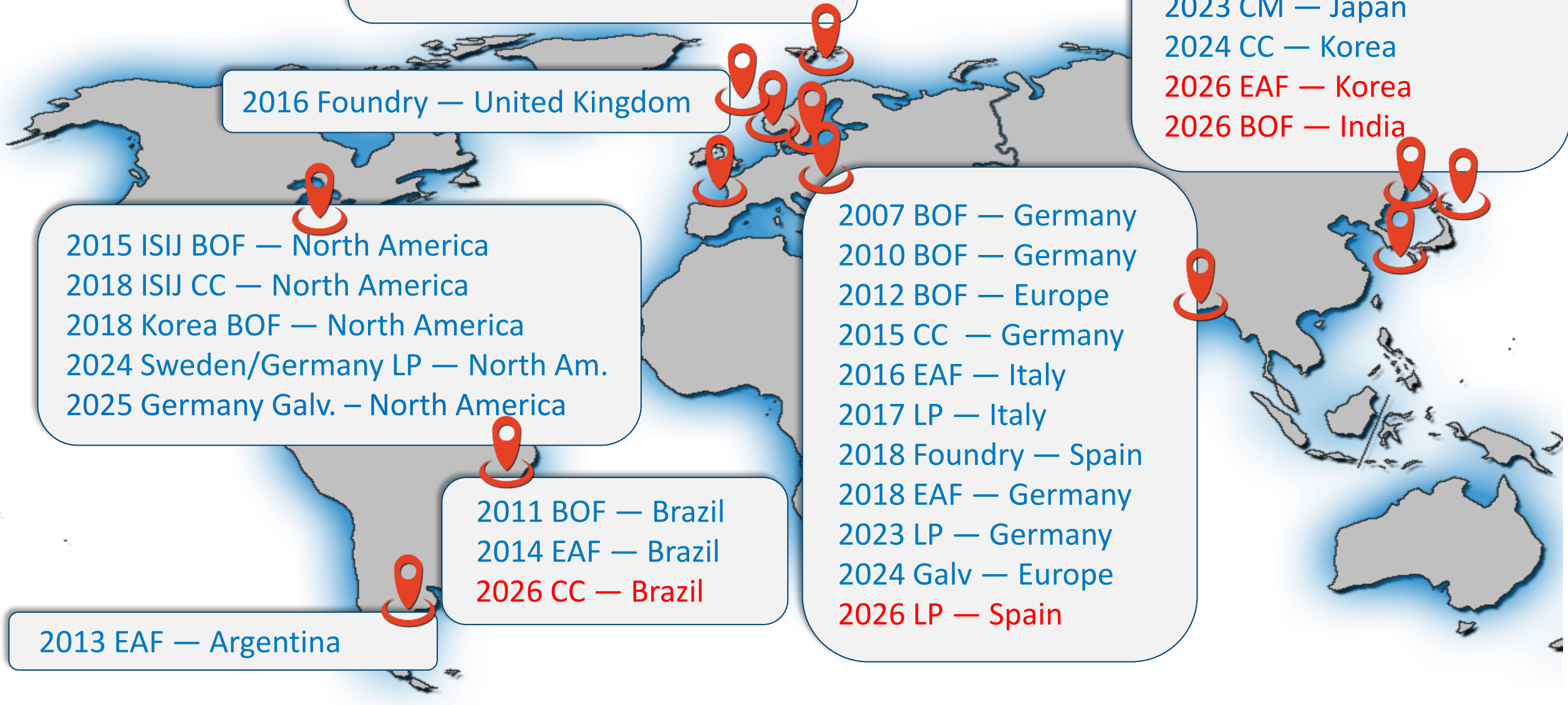
2015 ISIJ BOF — North America
2018 ISIJ CC — North America
2018 Korea BOF — North America
2024 Sweden/Germany LP — North Am.
2025 Germany Galv. — North America

2011 BOF — Brazil
2014 EAF — Brazil
2026 CC — Brazil

2013 EAF — Argentina

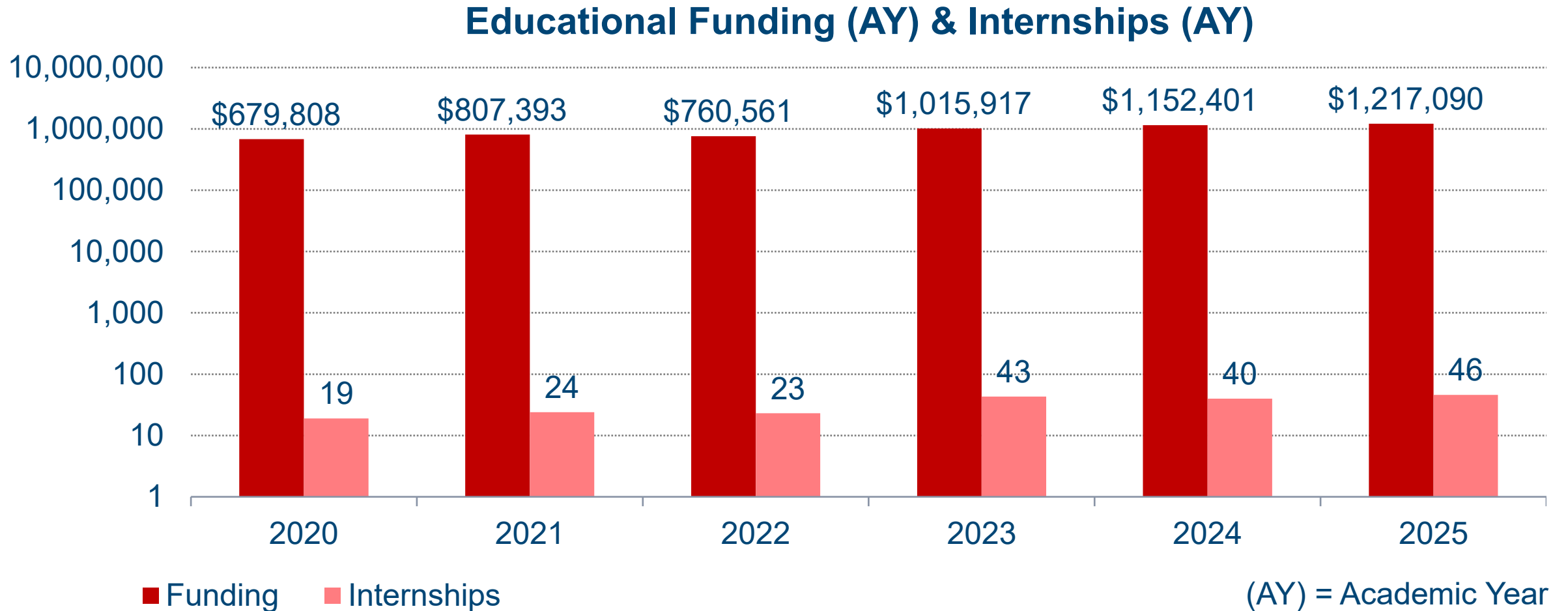
2007 BOF — Germany
2010 BOF — Germany
2012 BOF — Europe
2015 CC — Germany
2016 EAF — Italy
2017 LP — Italy
2018 Foundry — Spain
2018 EAF — Germany
2023 LP — Germany
2024 Galv — Europe
2026 LP — Spain

2014 BOF — Japan
2017 CC — Japan
2018 BOF — Korea/Taiwan
2023 CM — Japan
2024 CC — Korea
2026 EAF — Korea
2026 BOF — India



Initiative 4: Next Generation Workforce Development

US\$1,300,000/year Education Funding and 50 Steel Internships by end of 2027



Initiative 4: Next Generation Workforce Development

FY2026 Priorities

- Increase number of Foundation interns to 50 per year
- Implement Steel to Students: Trade School Outreach program via DOE grant
- Evolve semi-annual journal of peer-reviewed research
- Evolve campaign to improve public perception of steel
- Enhance marketing for Foundation programs
- Evaluate Scholarship/Grant Administration Systems
- ✓ Continue to evolve best practices for industry recruitment: HR Committee development
- ✓ Challenge KDP Grant Recipients to encourage student intern applications
- ✓ Virtual University and workforce development visits

Initiative 4: Next Generation Workforce Development

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- 50 Steel Intern Scholarships
- US\$7,500 Scholarship
- Paid Summer Internship



AIST Foundation

US\$200,000+ Pledge Club



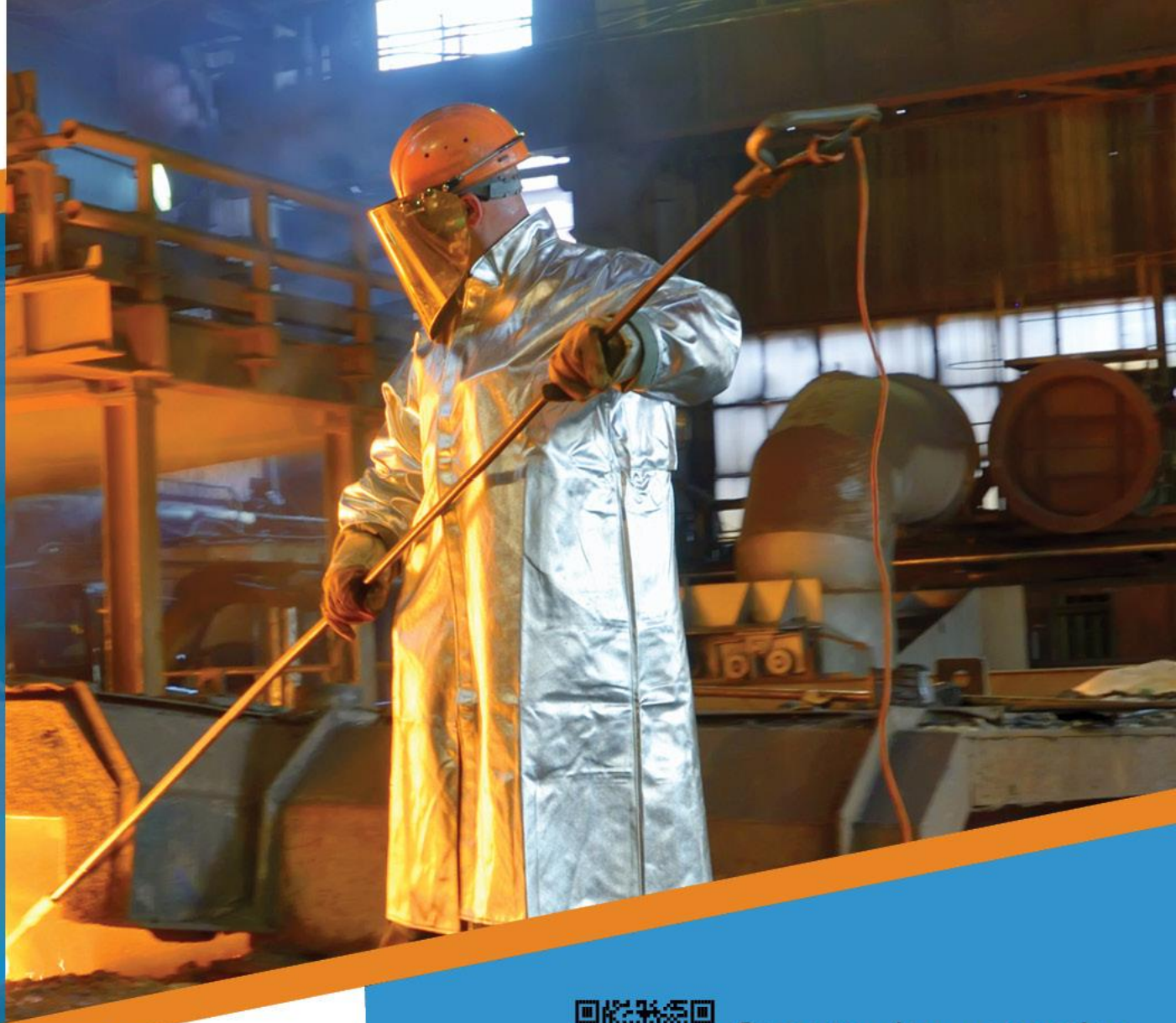
US\$100,000+ Pledge Club





Start Your Path in Steel with AIST's Technology Training Conferences

Trade School Students are eligible for free registration and up to US\$600 in travel reimbursement.



Scan to view upcoming conferences and apply for funding.

Initiative 4: Next Generation Workforce Development

Evolve Semi-annual Journal of Peer-reviewed Research

- **GOAL:**
 - To disseminate high-quality technical knowledge that advances the iron and steel industry by capturing, preserving, and promoting innovation across production, processing, and application.
 - To be a leading source of trusted technical content and products for the global iron and steel community—bridging industry and academia, enhancing visibility and impact, and fostering a sustainable future through knowledge sharing and innovation.
- Implement OpenWater on-line review platform to improve AIST Transactions Board Member experience
- Migrate AIST Technical Proceedings to OnePetro platform to improve visibility and discoverability of academia and research papers

Thank You!!

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