



ADVANCING THE TECHNICAL DEVELOPMENT, PRODUCTION, PROCESSING AND APPLICATION OF IRON AND STEEL

AIST Spring Meeting Notice / Agenda Refractory Systems Technology Committee

Date: 11-12 February 2026

Location: Las Vegas, NV

Tour: Nucor Steel Kingman

Hotel Arrangements

Residence Inn by Marriott Las Vegas Convention Center

3225 Paradise Road, Las Vegas, NV 89109

Reserve by 16 January for AIST Room Rate of US\$160

For reservations, book [online](#)

AIST technology committee members are asked to print out the latest revised meeting agenda from our website one week prior to this meeting.

Wednesday 11 February

1. **Breakfast** <07:00 a.m.>
2. **Chair's opening remarks – Angelo Cristante** <08:00 a.m.>
3. **Appoint minute-taker**
4. **Antitrust guidelines**
5. **Membership and attendance**
6. **Review minutes of previous meeting – [23 October 2025 Cincinnati, OH](#)**
7. **AIST Staff Announcements**
8. **AIST Steel Industry Fatalities**
9. **Main agenda items**
 - **Finalize AISTech sessions – Ashraf Hanna**
 - **Papers due to AIST (17 February)**
 - **Author Registration deadline (5 March)**
 - **Presentation Draft Due in to AIST (17 March)**
 - **Re-emphasize the role of Session Chair and Papers Chair**
 - **Paper Chair Role**—This position is a leadership role within a Technology Committee or Subcommittee tasked with the development of AISTech technical sessions and the management and oversight of the Technology Committee session chairs. The role of Papers Chair is to ensure authors are in compliance with AIST policies for paper and presentation submissions and to ensure that authors register. Many of these tasks are delegated to the Session Chairs but the Papers Chair is ultimately responsible for the development and execution of the Technology Committee's AISTech technical sessions. The Papers Chair may also be responsible in coordinating the selection of the Technology Committee's Best Paper Award winner (if applicable).

Association for Iron & Steel Technology

186 Thorn Hill Road, Warrendale, PA 15086-7528 USA

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- The Paper Chair role also includes membership on the Board of Director's Conference Planning Committee (CPC). The CPC meets four times throughout the year to plan and review details related to the AISTech conference. Participation in the CPC meetings is highly recommended as it provides insight to the development and execution of the world's largest annual iron and steel conference and exposition. Participation can be in person or by video conference.
- **Session Chair Role—** This position supports the Papers Chair of the respective technology committee by communicating to the authors on topic content as well as on missing or late submission of required information. The Session Chairs will review and evaluate the paper and presentation files for content as well as for publication and awards (an evaluation form will be provided). Your AIST staff engineer will provide staff support to ensure your success in fulfilling the duties of a Session Chair. Session chairs are also on site at the AISTech conference in their session room to facilitate the flow of the session including introducing speakers, moderating question and answer sessions, as well as handing out certificates.

- *Nominations for committee officers*
- *Technology Training conference – Steelmaking Refractories – A Practical Training Seminar, October 2026 – Jimmy Barrett & Karen Uffalussy*
- *Study Tour planning – Rakesh Dhaka*
- *Update from liaisons —*
 - *Digital Transformation Subcommittee – Karen Uffalussy*
 - *Decarbonization – Jamie Lash*
 - *Young Professionals – Tyler Richards*

10. Discussion items

- a. TBD

11. Next meeting – AISTech–Pittsburgh, PA, TBD

12. Lunch

<Noon>

13. Presentations

<01:00 p.m.>

- a. **Refractory Engineering** by Bill Porter, PRCO America Inc.
- b. **Ceramic Fiber: Use as a Complement to Steel Ladle Refractories** by Hasan Aqtash, Vince Pilotta, and Joao Trevisan, Alkegen

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14. Adjourn

<04:30 p.m.>

Thursday 12 February

15. Leave for Nucor Steel Kingman (approx. 2 hour drive)

<07:30 a.m.>

**Nucor Steel Kingman
3000 W. Old Hwy. 66, Kingman, AZ 86413**

16. Tour Nucor Steel Kingman

<09:30 a.m.>

Important PPE Requirements: Everyone must wear long pants that cover to the ankle, and long sleeve shirts that cover to the wrist without rips or tears. Attendees **MUST** bring and wear closed toed shoes. Attendees can bring PPE, but PPE is available on site.

17. Drive back to hotel (approx. 2 hour drive)

<Noon>

18. Chair conclusion – Angelo Cristante

19. Adjourn

<02:00 p.m.>



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Antitrust Compliance

Antitrust law prohibits agreements or understandings between two or more individuals or businesses to regulate prices or quantities of goods and services, to allocate customers or territories, to hinder or limit a competitor or potential competitor's operations, or otherwise unreasonably restrain business activity. Discriminatory pricing or servicing is also prohibited.

Every individual who participates in AIST meetings and activities should follow these guidelines:

- DON'T discuss with other members your own or competitors' prices, pricing procedures, or anything that might affect prices such as costs, discounts, terms of sale, or profit margins, or anticipated wage rates.
- DON'T make announcements or statements about your own prices or those of competitors.
- DON'T talk about what individual companies plan to do in particular markets or with particular customers.
- DON'T disclose to others any competitively sensitive information.
- DON'T propose or agree to any action intended to disadvantage or injure another company.
- DON'T stay at a meeting or activity where any such anti-competitive talk occurs.
- DO have an AIST staff person present at any meetings and insist on the agenda being followed and minutes kept.
- DO confer with AIST staff before making any statement with competitive ramifications.

It is incumbent upon all AIST members to adhere to these guidelines to avoid putting all parties and their respective companies at risk for antitrust law violation.

Anti-Harassment Policy

The Association for Iron and Steel Technology (AIST) is dedicated to providing harassment-free events for everyone, regardless of age, race, religion, disability, gender, gender identity or sexual orientation. We do not tolerate harassment in any form of anyone attending an AIST event.

Harassing behaviors include: offensive verbal comments related to age, race, religion, disability, gender, gender identity or sexual orientation; the use or display of sexual images, activities or commentary in public spaces; deliberate intimidation; stalking or following; harassing photography or recording; sustained disruption of events; or inappropriate physical contact.

Participants asked to stop any harassing behavior are expected to comply immediately. Participants violating this policy may be sanctioned or expelled from the event or the membership at the discretion of the AIST leadership.