2026 AIST Leadership Conference

Strategic Plan Overview

Brian Bliss

Genera Manager – Technology

AIST

Premier Sponsor

Event Sponsors

AIST Strategic Plan Review



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 & 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

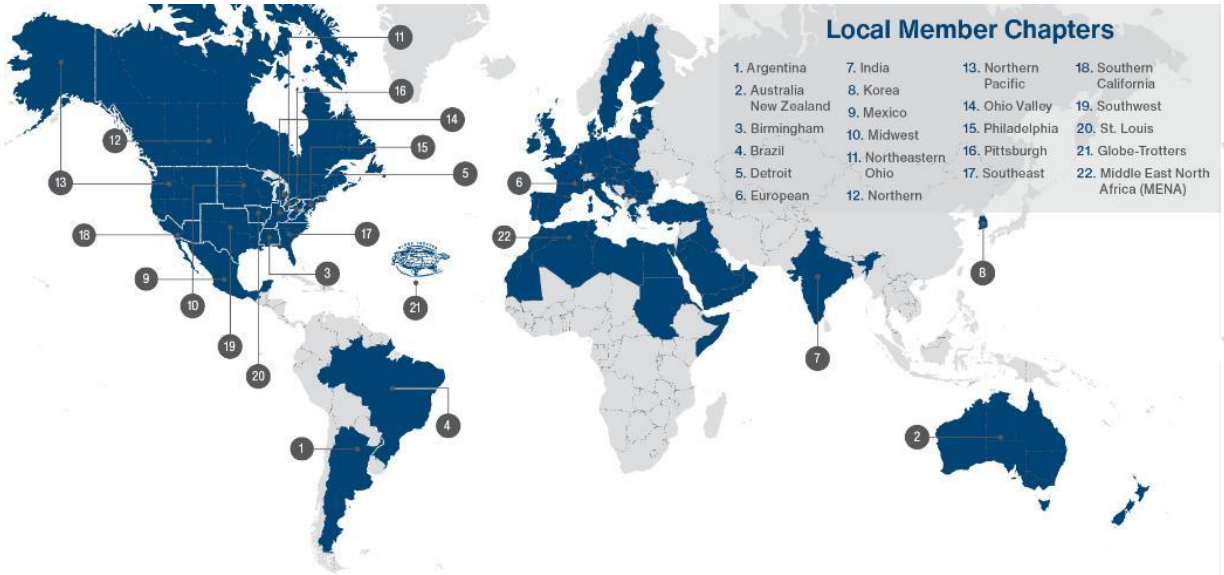


PROCESSING

Member Chapter & Technology Networks

Our Most Active Members Serving the Industry

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



Safety & Environment
- Safety & Health
- Environmental

Refining & Casting
- Ladle & Secondary Refining
- Continuous Casting

Energy, Control & Digitalization
- Energy & Utilities
- Electrical Applications
- Digitalization Applications

Cokemaking & Ironmaking
- Cokemaking
- Ironmaking
- Direct Reduced Iron

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

Steelmaking
- Electric Steelmaking
- Oxygen Steelmaking
- Specialty Alloy & Foundry

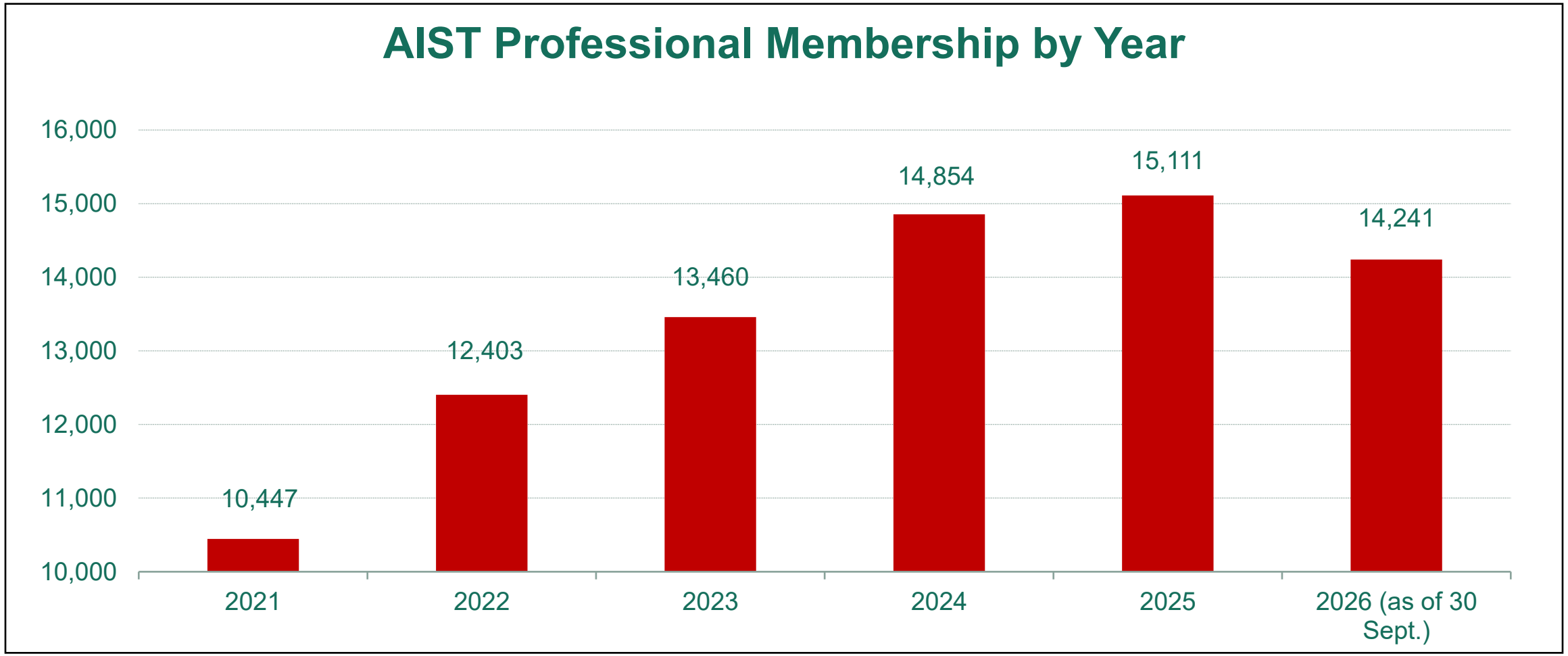
Metallurgy
- Metallurgy — Steelmaking & Casting
- Metallurgy — Processing, Products & Applications

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 2028



Initiative 1: Membership Retention & Growth

FY2027 Priorities

- Evolve program to improve public perception of steel
- ✓Women in Steel – expand programming
- Young Professional Program – Expand programming; add award
- 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
- Launch Mid South Member Chapter
- Expand Europe and MENA Member Chapters
- ✓Evolve trade school outreach

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STEEL INDUSTRY PERCEPTION CAMPAIGN

STEEL SHAPES OUR WORLD.

TOGETHER, WE SHAPE WHAT'S NEXT.

Co-branded campaign showcasing the **people, technology,** and **innovation** behind modern steel – and it's impact on the world.



Images generated by AI

COMMITTED LEADERS. SHARED PURPOSE.

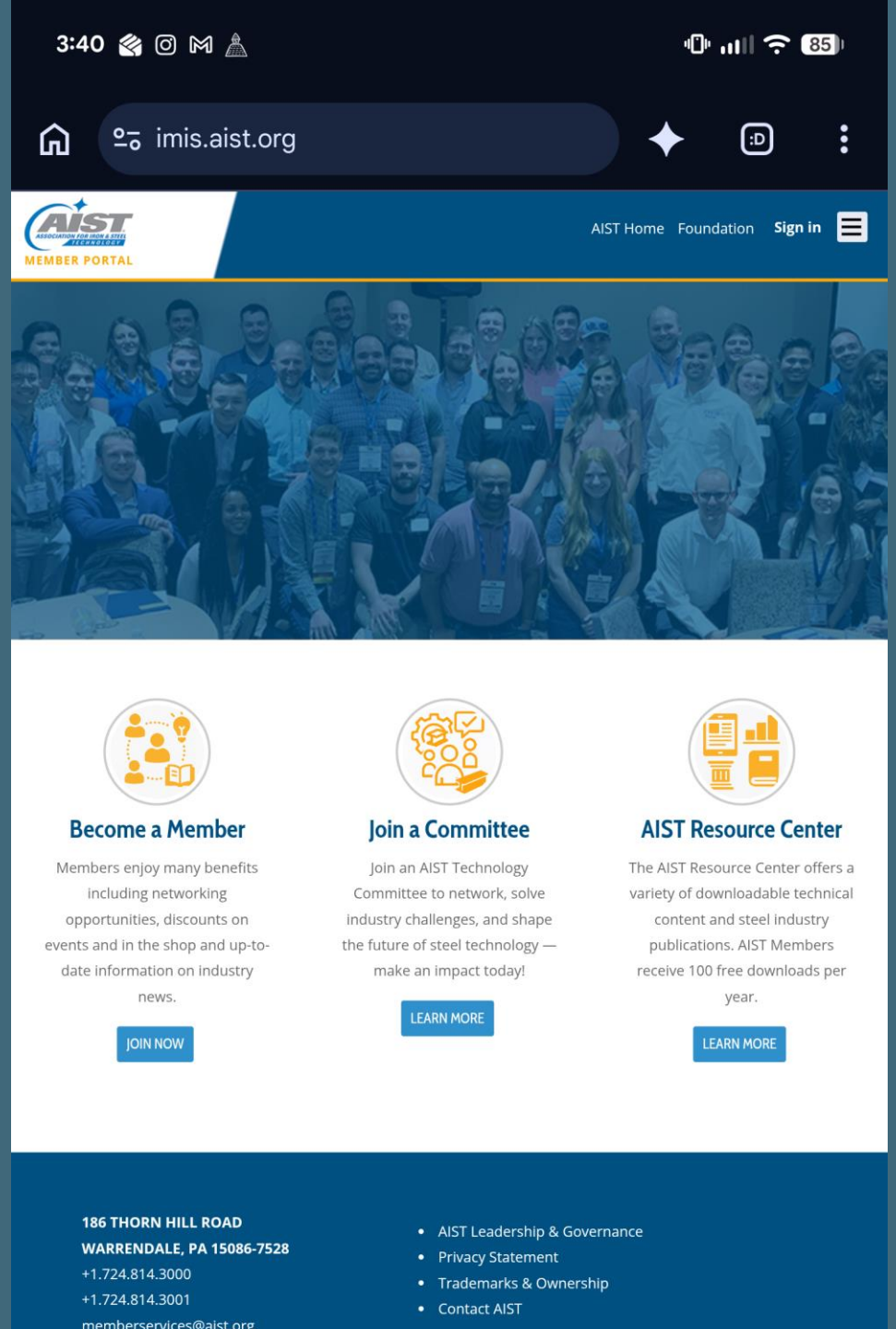
ArcelorMittal · CLIFFS · CMC · GERDAU · METALLUS

NUCOR · SSAB · SDI Steel Dynamics, Inc. · THE SYSTEMS GROUP · U. S. Steel

TOGETHER, WE WILL:

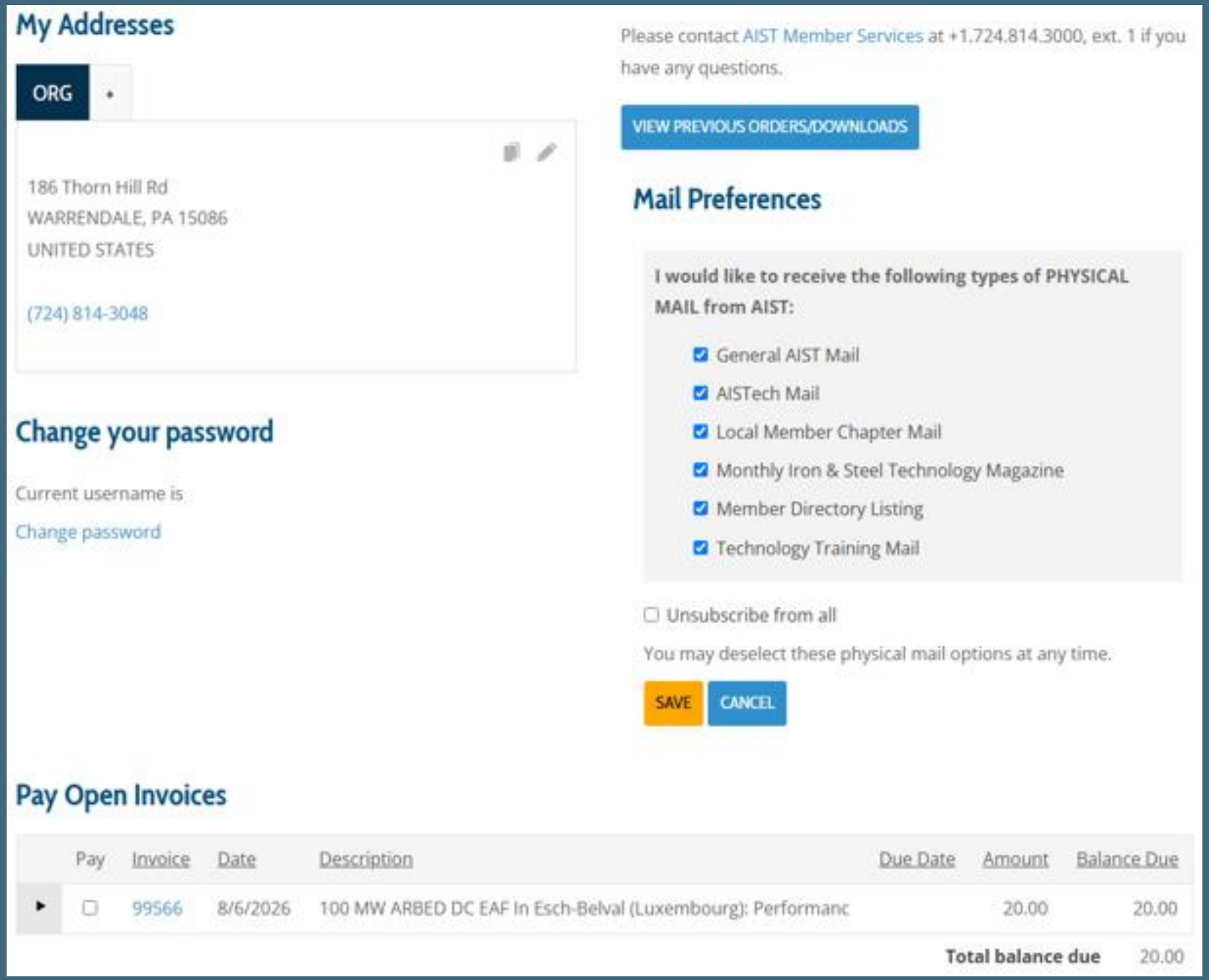
- Shift steel's perception
- Appeal to next-gen talent
- Humanize the industry
- Spotlight clean-energy impact

STEEL BUILDS. | STEEL POWERS. | STEEL CONNECTS.



Website Redesign

Mobile-friendly Website
Secured in the Cloud
Built to Grow



Website Redesign

Your Profile is a Self-Service Center

Home | Schedule | Registration Details | Registration | Housing | Sponsors | Attending Companies

Share this page

Maintenance Solutions



This workshop-based training seminar will provide attendees with hands-on instruction, tools, and the best available technologies for mechanical, electrical, lubrication, hydraulics, management system maintenance and reliability solutions. In addition, maintenance and outage planning, system design, and maintenance troubleshooting and techniques will all be covered. Manufacturing reliability is an integral part of sustainability in the metals industry. Improvement in reliability is essential to assuring manufacturing results at the lowest cost. Both operations and maintenance personnel must understand the direction their organizations need to take with respect to improving and managing their equipment maintenance programs.

Please scroll to the end to review additional program items.

When 11/9/2026 - 11/11/2026

Where The Broadmoor
1 Lake Avenue
COLORADO SPRINGS, CO
80906
UNITED STATES

Website Redesign

Improved Event Registration

Product Downloads

Document	Product Code	Author	Format	Publish Date	
100 Percent Pellet Burden Trial on Gary Works No. 13 Blast Furnace	PR-007-029	S. E. Yaniga, A. L. Mead and P. W. Francis	PDF	4/27/2003	DOWNLOAD
A Diagnostic Method for Predicting Maintenance Requirements in Rotating Equipment	PR-PM1206-4	Kevin Hunt, James Stulen and Bill Lindsay	PDF	12/1/2006	DOWNLOAD
April 2012 Iron & Steel Technology, Full Issue	MAGAPR12		PDF	4/1/2012	DOWNLOAD
20 Economical Ways to Improve the Performance of a Baghouse Dust Collector	PR-PM0516-2	M. Allen	PDF	5/1/2016	DOWNLOAD
Behavioral-Based Safety -- The Final Step Toward Safe Operation	PR-SF0717-1	A. Haferkorn, P. Hansert	PDF	7/1/2017	DOWNLOAD
August 2022 Iron & Steel Technology, Full Issue	MAGAUG22		PDF	8/1/2022	DOWNLOAD
New Approach to Coil Sagging Control at ArcelorMittal Hot Strip Mills	PR-389-140	Gleyson Barbosa, Evgueni Poliak, Joe Xiao, Henry Williams, Kenneth Norris, Ronan Jacolot	PDF	5/5/2025	DOWNLOAD
HRB Export Price: Stuck in a "Death Spiral"	PR-WSD0126-1	Philipp Englin, Adam Green, John Villa	PDF	1/1/2026	DOWNLOAD
February 2026 Iron & Steel Technology, Full Issue	MAGFEB26		PDF	2/1/2026	DOWNLOAD
June 2026 Iron & Steel Technology, Full Issue	MAGJUN26		PDF	6/1/2026	DOWNLOAD
July 2026 Iron & Steel Technology, Full Issue	MAGJUL26		PDF	7/1/2026	DOWNLOAD

Website Redesign

Your Downloads All in One Location

AIST Mid South Member Chapter

9 Mills - 14 mm tons/year Melt Cap.

Formal Business Plan Created

Seeking 25 Member Endorsements

Requesting Board Approval May 2027



AIST Mid South Member Chapter

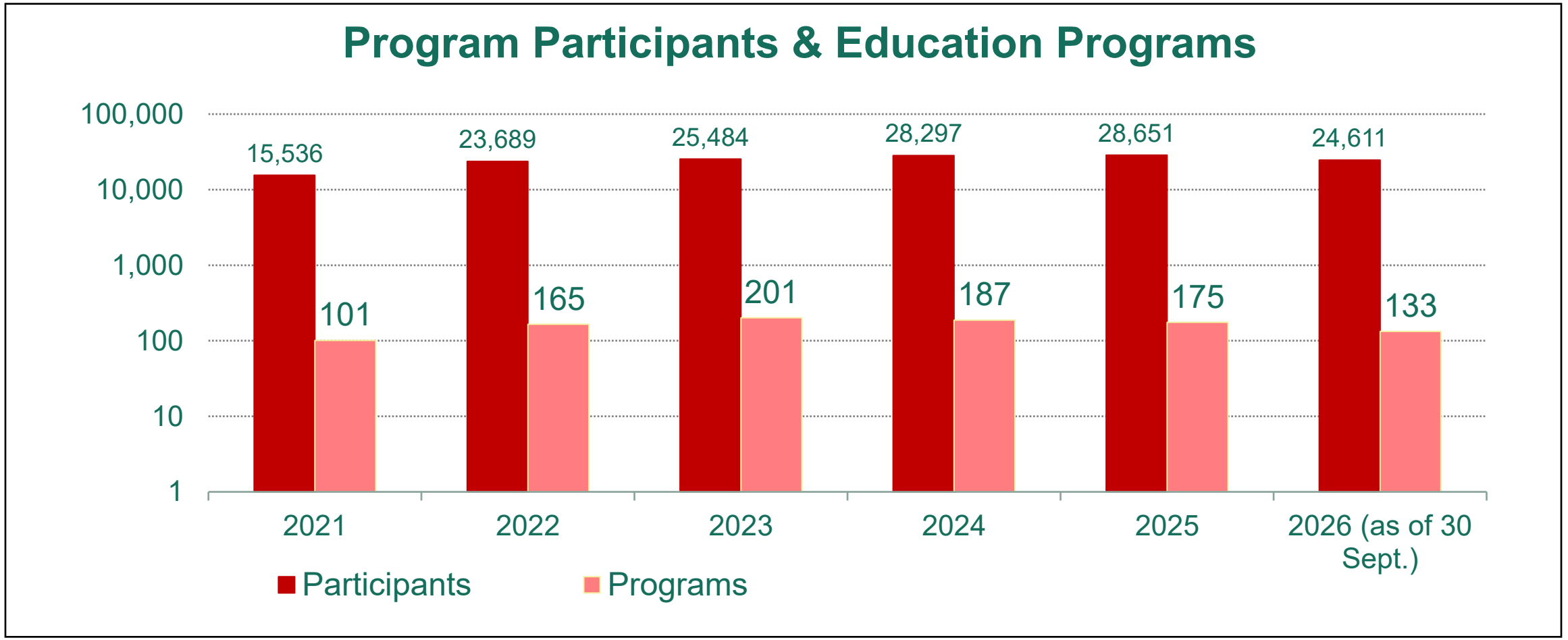
Strong industry engagement - Two sold-out trap shoots in Jonesboro, Arkansas





Initiative 2: Technology Training & Education

29,000 annual program participants and 200 education program by 2028



Initiative 2: Technology Training & Education

FY2027 Priorities

- ✓ Disseminate roadmap to industry
- Evolve roadmap technology and workforce readiness levels
- Advance Artificial Intelligence in steel manufacturing (AI Subcommittee)
- Promote advancements of Long & Forged Products
- Manufacturing Summer Camps (Sparkforce)
- ✓ Promote advancements of Climate Neutral Steel (SSAI 2026, Energy Conf 2026, Environmental Solutions 2026)
- Study Tours: CC (Brazil), LP (Italy), Galv. (Europe), Spec. Alloy (Germany), EAF (Turkey)
- ✓ Improve online Visibility of Research & Academic Papers
- Organize Intl. Conferences: Galvatech (Monterrey 2026), IAS Crane Symp (Argentina 2027), DRI Training (Austria 2027)
- ✓ Expand International Tech Comm mtgs (Galv & Oxygen Steelmaking)
- ✓ USA Capacity Data Collection for OECD GFSEC

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DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION FORUM FOR THE STEEL INDUSTRY

13–14 October 2026

Sheraton Pittsburgh Hotel
at Station Square

Pittsburgh, Pa., USA



AI Subcommittee Key Objectives

- Identify and share proven AI use cases
- Develop best practices for safe, reliable, and ethical AI implementation.
- Facilitate training and education programs
- Foster cross-committee collaboration for AI applications

SPARK FORCE™
THE FMA FOUNDATION

2026 SparkForce Manufacturing Camps

(as of 7/10/26)

AIST ASSOCIATION FOR IRON & STEEL TECHNOLOGY

5,500+
Camp Participants

336
Summer Manufacturing Camps

30
U.S States

1
Canadian Province

12 ★
Inclusive Manufacturing Camps

7 📍
Building Giants Manufacturing Camps

For a complete list visit
sparkforce.org/camps



SCRAP SUPPLEMENTS & ALTERNATIVE IRONMAKING 10

9–11 March 2026

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



ENERGY AND ITS EFFICIENT USE IN THE STEEL INDUSTRY

6–8 October 2026

Drury Plaza Hotel Cleveland Downtown
Cleveland, Ohio, USA

Tour: Rockwell Automation



ENVIRONMENTAL SOLUTIONS: AIR & WATER

27–29 October 2026

Embassy Suites Los Angeles Glendale
Glendale, Calif., USA

Tour: Pacific Steel Group



AIST
ASSOCIATION FOR IRON & STEEL TECHNOLOGY

AIST
ASSOCIATION FOR IRON & STEEL TECHNOLOGY

GALVATECH 2026

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





PLANT TOUR / **TERNIUM MEXICO**

REGISTER NOW

11–15 OCTOBER 2026

AIRÓ EVENTS CENTER, MONTERREY, MEXICO



Argentina Crane Symposium 2027
September 2027

AIST
ASSOCIATION FOR IRON & STEEL TECHNOLOGY

IAS
INSTITUTO ARGENTINO DE SIDERURGIA



European DRI Training Conference
11 October 2027

AIST
ASSOCIATION FOR IRON & STEEL TECHNOLOGY



Save the Date

AISTech® 2027

3–5 May 2027

Music City Center | Nashville, Tenn., USA

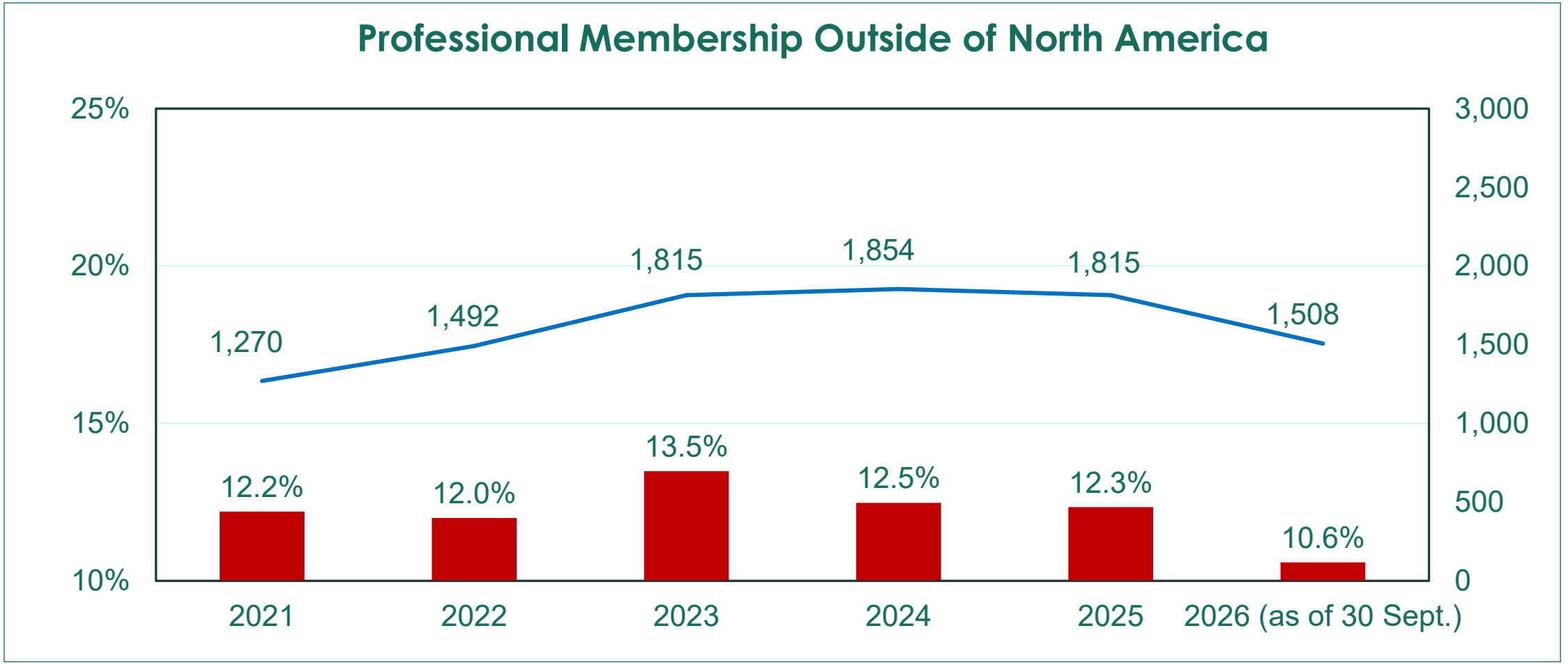
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ASSOCIATION FOR IRON & STEEL TECHNOLOGY

Premier Sponsor
THE SYSTEMS GROUP

Global Sponsors
SUPER BOOTH
MORGAN
TMEIC
We drive industry

Initiative 3: Globalization of Networks & Programs

15% professional membership outside North America by end of 2028



Initiative 3: Globalization of Networks & Programs

FY2027 Priorities

- Europe — ESF 2026 (Italy), METEC 2027 (Germany), GTC mtg (Germany), OSTC mtg & tour (Germany)
- Middle East — MENA SF 2027, Webinars, TTC's
- Study Tours: CC (Brazil), LP (Italy), Galv. (Hungary/Belgium), Spec. Alloy (Germany), EAF (Turkey)
- Mexico — ExpoAcero 2026 & 2027, CSRTC/GTC joint meeting, Galvatech 2026
- GSDF International CEO Participation
- Turkey – Expand Regional Programming
- Conduct Galvatech (Monterrey 2026), IAS Crane Symp (Argentina 2027), DRI Training (Austria 2027)
- SEASI — WSD Breakthrough Technology Conference 2025
- Australia/New Zealand — Steelmaking Symposium 2026, OSTC BBSC Qrtly Meetings
- Expand TC platform into Europe and Mexico
- Virtual Tech Comm Meetings and Webinars
- Pilot Mexico Foundation

Initiative 3: Globalization of Networks & Programs

FY2027 Priorities

- Europe — ESF 2026 (Italy), METEC 2027 (Germany), GTC mtg (Germany), OSTC mtg & tour (Germany)
- Middle East — MENA SF 2027, Webinars, TTC's
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Register Now!

ESF26

EUROPEAN STEEL FORUM

27–29 October 2026

→ Udine, Italy



→ Organized by

AIST ASSOCIATION FOR IRON & STEEL TECHNOLOGY EUROPEAN

→ Host Company

DANIELI

ESF27

EUROPEAN STEEL FORUM

12–14 OCTOBER 2027

LEOBEN, AUSTRIA



Organized by AIST Association for Iron & Steel Technology EUROPEAN

Host Company INTECO

The Bright World of Metals

2027 21–25 June
Düsseldorf / Germany



EXPLORE THE POWER OF FOUR.

GIFA | METEC | THERM PROCESS | NEWCAST

Messe Düsseldorf

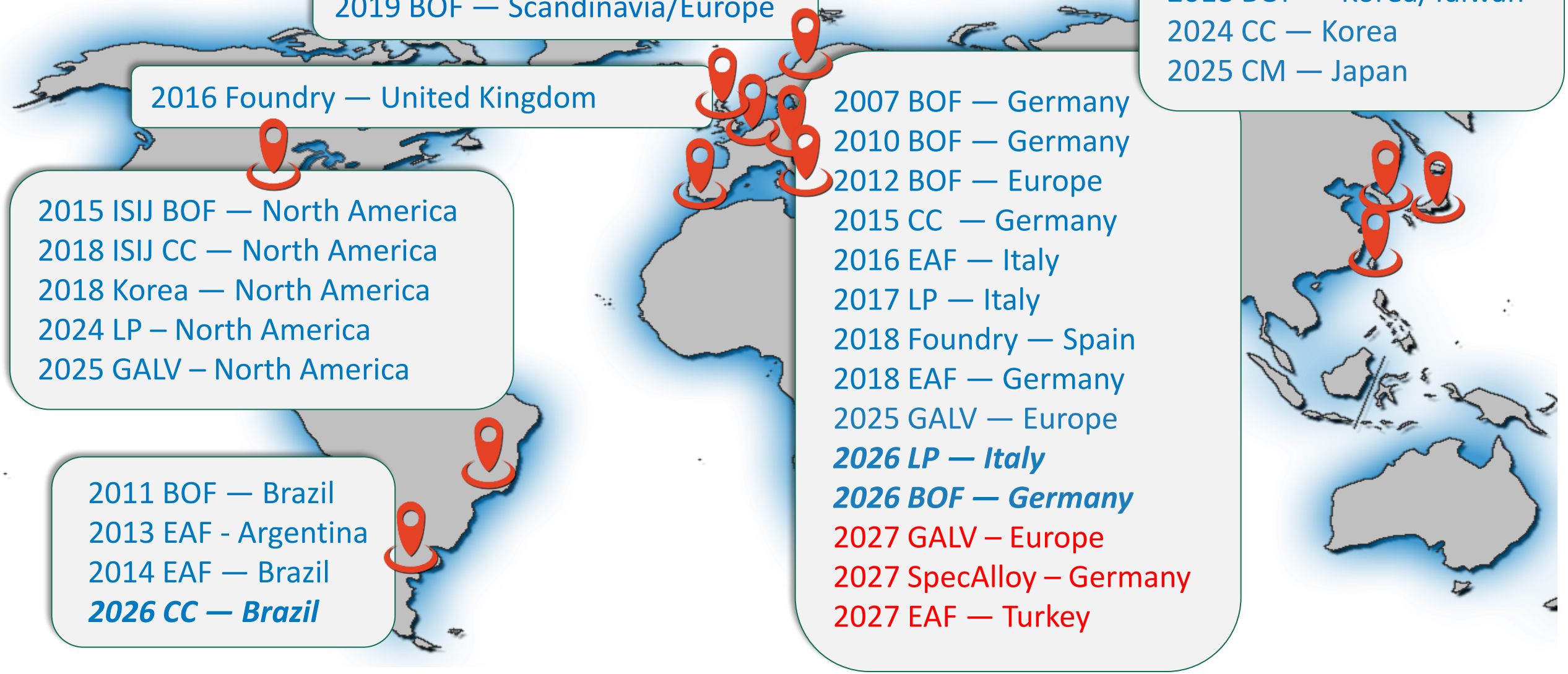
European Galvanizing Subcommittee



Oxygen Steelmaking Technology Committee



Collaborative Networking and Technical Exchange



2019 LP — Scandinavia
2019 BOF — Scandinavia/Europe

2016 Foundry — United Kingdom

2015 ISIJ BOF — North America
2018 ISIJ CC — North America
2018 Korea — North America
2024 LP – North America
2025 GALV – North America

2011 BOF — Brazil
2013 EAF - Argentina
2014 EAF — Brazil
2026 CC — Brazil

2007 BOF — Germany
2010 BOF — Germany
2012 BOF — Europe
2015 CC — Germany
2016 EAF — Italy
2017 LP — Italy
2018 Foundry — Spain
2018 EAF — Germany
2025 GALV — Europe
2026 LP — Italy
2026 BOF — Germany
2027 GALV – Europe
2027 SpecAlloy – Germany
2027 EAF — Turkey

2014 BOF — Japan
2017 CC — Japan
2018 BOF — Korea/Taiwan
2024 CC — Korea
2025 CM — Japan

Save the Date

GLOBAL STEEL DYNAMICS FORUM

22–23 June 2027

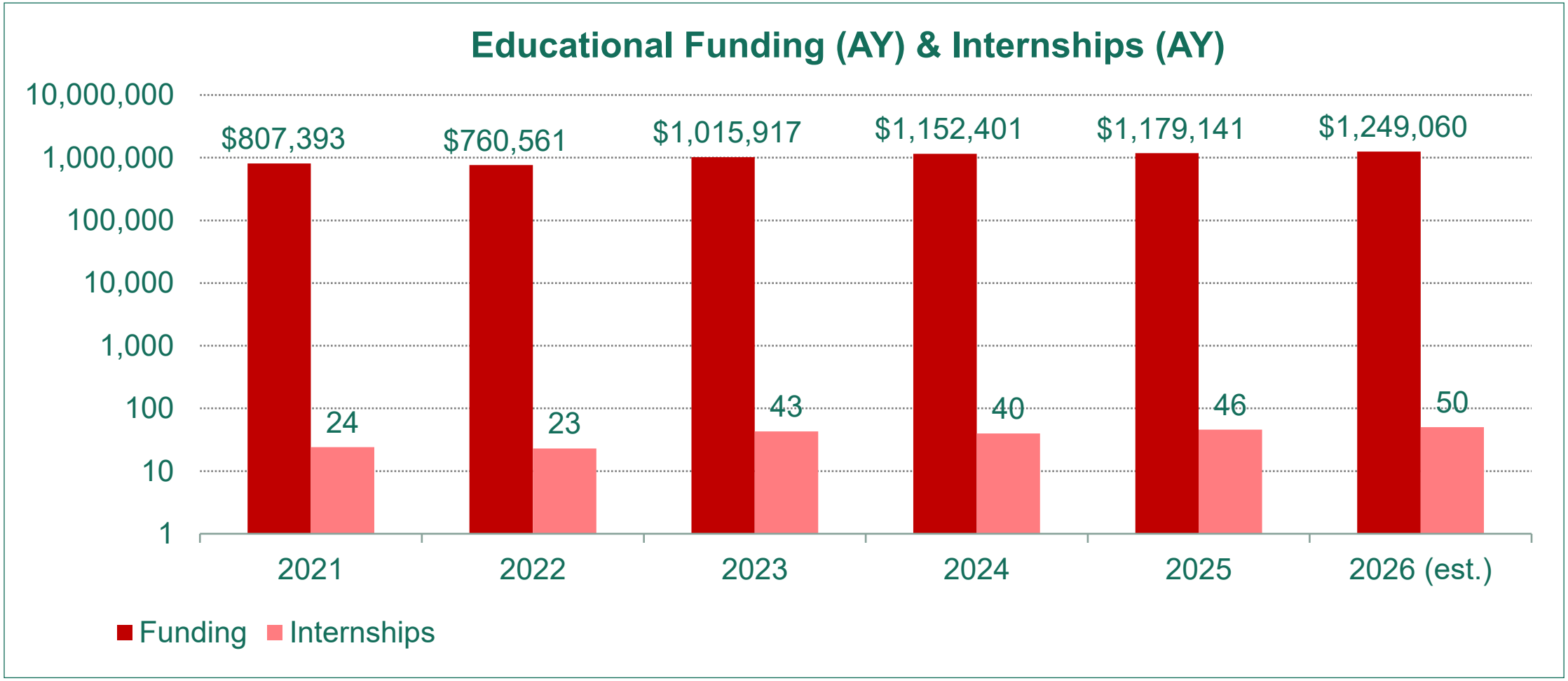
New York Marriott Marquis, New York, N.Y., USA

Organized by AIST Association for Iron & Steel Technology

WSD World Steel Dynamics®

Initiative 4: Next Generation Workforce Dev.

Award Education Funding of $1.3M/year w/55 internships by end of 2028



Initiative 4: Next Generation Workforce Dev.

FY2027 Priorities

- Improve Foundation website and database
- Deploy Scholarship/Grant Administration Systems
- Increase number of interns to 60 per year
- Evolve semi-annual journal of peer-reviewed research
- Enhance marketing for Foundation programs
- Implement Steel to Students: Trade School Outreach program via DOE grant
- Launch campaign to improve public perception of steel

✓Conduct regular HR Committee meetings

✓Virtual University and workforce development visits

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AIST Foundation: **Steel Intern Scholars**



- **60 Steel Intern Scholarships**
- **US$7,500 Scholarship**
- **Paid Summer Internship**

The Steel Industry's Next Generation

2025: $1,217,090

2024: $1,152,401

2023: $1,015,917

2022: $760,561

2021: $807,393

2020: $679,808

2019: $723,176



The AIST Foundation has awarded more than US$9.8 million in since 2006.

US$200,000+ Pledge Club

ArcelorMittal

CLIFFS
CLEVELAND-CLIFFS INC.

CMC

CV ENGINEERING

NUCOR®

SDI Steel Dynamics, Inc.®

THE SYSTEMS GROUP

USS U. S. Steel

US$100,000+ Pledge Club

ABC

BRACKEN

CVE
CACHE VALLEY ELECTRIC
A TRADITION OF EXCELLENCE SINCE 1915

Quality D Safety
DELTA FABRICATION & MACHINE, INC.

DRC INDUSTRIES

HATCH

Lexicon

MORGAN®

North Star BlueScope

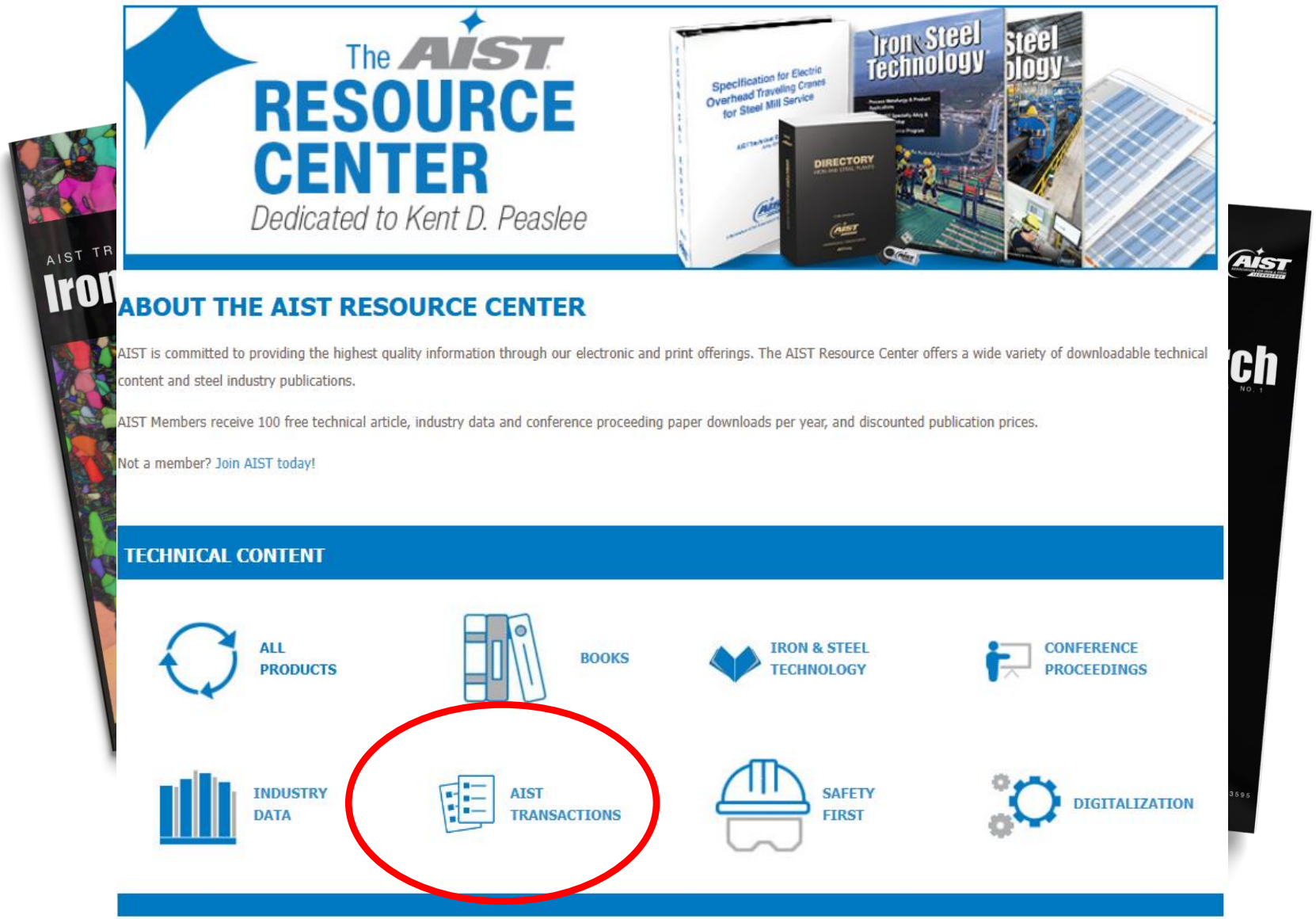
orbital ENGINEERING, INC.

ORION STEEL

SSAB

Thompson

AIST Transactions of Iron & Steel Research



AIST
ASSOCIATION FOR IRON & STEEL TECHNOLOGY

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



2026 AIST Leadership Conference



Thank you!!

Premier Sponsor

TMEIC
We drive industry

Event Sponsors

BAC

SUPERBOOTH