

# 2025 MENA Steel Forum

24–26 June 2025

Marriott Mena House, Cairo  
Cairo, Egypt

Organized by



Event Host



Event Sponsor



Event Contributors



## About the Program

Join regional and international steel industry experts as they discuss the latest innovations shaping the future of steel production. Through practical, technical solutions, the sessions will focus on how the industry is meeting both environmental and economic demands. Participants will explore key topics, including the production and sustainability of green steel, technological advancements in steel manufacturing, and the implementation of new technologies in steel plants.

Additionally, the forum will address the challenges and opportunities of foreign investment in the MENA region's steel projects, as well as the importance of engaging young professionals to ensure the next generation of industry leaders.

This event is designed to complement regional steel initiatives in the Middle East and North Africa, while supporting AIST's mission to advance steel technology through education and global networking within the industry.

## Registration

Registration includes the technical programs; morning/ afternoon breaks and lunches on Tuesday and Wednesday; and the Thursday plant tour of Ezz Steel, Sadat City (motorcoach transportation provided). Tour is limited to a maximum of 30 attendees.

**AIST Members** US\$200

**Non-Members** US\$250\*

\* Non-member registration includes AIST membership through 31 December 2025

Students may attend for free by registering via the AIST Foundation's Steel to Students Training and Travel Funds. Free student registrations are limited to the first 25 registrants.

## Hotel

A block of rooms is available at the Marriott Mena House, Cairo, the host hotel for the event. Located within walking distance of the Great Pyramid, the Marriott Mena House, Cairo brings hotel guests close to some of Egypt's most popular attractions. The resort is also near Cairo University, the Sphinx and the new Egyptian Grand Museum.

The hotel is located 25 miles (40 km) from Cairo International Airport.

**Visit [AIST.org](https://www.aist.org) to register today.**

## Schedule of Events

### Tuesday, 24 June 2025

- 08:00–09:00      Registration and Coffee
- 09:00–09:30      **Welcome and Introduction**  
*Karim Badr, AIST MENA Member Chapter Chair*
- 9:30–10:00      **Keynote Presentation: Building the Future: Advancements in Steel Rebar for Egypt's Infrastructure**  
*Gamil Iskander, Head of Projects Division – Board Member, Ezz Steel*
- 10:00–12:00      **Industry Leader Panel**  
Steel demand in the MENA region continues to navigate significant challenges, including global overcapacity, geopolitical uncertainty, inflationary pressures, and fluctuating energy costs. Despite these hurdles, regional producers are advancing strategic investments to enhance sustainability and align with global climate objectives. In this session, industry leaders from the MENA region and the U.S. will share insights on the evolving landscape, exploring both the challenges and opportunities that will shape the future of the steel sector  
*Moderator: Ronald Ashburn, Executive Director, Association for Iron & Steel Technology.*
- 12:00–13:00      Lunch
- 13:00–15:00      **Technological Advancements and Innovation in Steel Manufacturing**  
*Moderator: Ashraf Hanna, MelTTEch Solutions Inc.*  
*Panelists:*  
*Mostafa Khamis, Key Account Manager, Danieli & C. Officine Meccaniche SpA*  
*Enea Paquali, Key Account Manager Egypt, SMS group*  
*Paolo Stagnoli, Director, Marketing and Sales, EAF & LF, Tenova S.p.A.*
- 15:00–15:30      Coffee Break
- 15:30–17:30      **Green Steel Production and Sustainability**  
As the MENA region prioritizes sustainable industrial development, green steel production plays a crucial role in reducing carbon emissions and meeting global climate commitments. This panel will explore cutting-edge technologies, including hydrogen-based direct reduction (HDR), electric arc furnaces (EAFs), and carbon capture solutions, that are transforming the steel industry. Experts will also examine strategies for aligning with COP28 goals and advancing sustainability in steel manufacturing.  
*Moderator: Karim Badr, Technical Director – Ironmaking, RHI Magnesita*  
*Panelists:*  
*Manal Al Badawi, ESG and Sustainability Manager, EMSTEEL Group*  
*Soroush Basirat, Energy Finance Analyst, Institute for Energy Economics and Financial Analysis*  
*Jorge Martínez, Commercial Director, Tenova HYL*  
*Robert Montgomery, Senior Manager, Plant Sales–Middle East, Midrex Technologies*

## Wednesday, 25 June 2025

09:00–10:00 Registration and Coffee

10:00–12:00 **Sustainability Endeavors in Iron Ore, Refractory and Graphite Electrodes**

This session will explore the vital role of sustainability in the metallurgical industry. It will examine innovative strategies and best practices focused on reducing environmental impact and improving resource efficiency in the production of iron ore, refractory materials, and graphite electrodes. By highlighting technological advancements, the session aims to offer valuable insights into building a more sustainable future in the steelmaking sector. It will also provide a unique opportunity for steel suppliers to showcase process improvements and demonstrate how they can support steel producers in reducing CO<sub>2</sub> emissions.

*Moderator: Mauro Bianchi Ferri, Managing Director, Acciarium Alliance*

12:00–13:00 Lunch

13:00–15:00 **Academia and Industry Shaping the Future of the Steel Industry**

This session unites academia, industry experts and young engineers to explore data-driven problem-solving in the steel industry. Through case studies and discussions, panelists will highlight sustainability initiatives, material performance, and advanced steel manufacturing. The session aims to equip professionals with critical thinking skills to drive innovation and industry growth.

*Moderator: Iman El-Mahallawi, Founder of the Centre for Renewable Energy and Leader of Sustainable Materials Research Group, The British University in Egypt*

*Presentations:*

**Boosting the Steel Industry Through Sustainability Actions: Circular Economy and Recycling**

*Dina Mahmoud, Metallurgical Research Engineer, Abu Zaabal Company for Specialized Industries; and Khadija Saad Tawfiq, Research and Lab Engineer, German University in Cairo*

**Effect of Aging Process and Tramp Elements on Mechanical Properties of Tempcore Reinforcement Steel Rebars**

*Mohamed Mahmoud Karroum, Senior Quality Engineer, Suez Steel*

**Sustainable Manufacturing of High-Strength Steel Grades: ASTM A706Gr 80**

*Assem Abd Elfatah, Rolling Section Manager, Suez Steel*

**Building Tomorrow: How EZZ Steel Is Shaping the Future Through Development and Innovation**

*Taher Salah Eldin, Projects Director, EZZ Steel*

**Developing Research Skills for Junior Professionals**

*Sara Hornby, President, Global Strategic Solutions Inc.*

15:00–15:30 Coffee Break

15:30–17:30 **Stepping Into the Future: Case Studies and Success Stories in Technology Adoption**

*Moderator: Karim Alshurafa, President, Vollmer America Inc.*

## Thursday, 26 June 2025

08:00–14:00 **Plant Tour: Ezz Steel, Sadat City**

\*All times are local to Cairo (GMT +2). All presentations will be in English.  
Schedule is subject to change and will be updated as additional details are confirmed.

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## Sponsorship Opportunities

### Event Sponsors US\$3,500 (3 2 available)

Will receive the following inclusion and company logo featured on:

- \ All event signage
- \ Event website and emails
- \ On-site AIST PowerPoint presentation
- \ Thirty-second company sponsored-video played at opening session
- \ On-site verbal recognition by chapter
- \ Three delegate registrations for the event
- \ Three AIST memberships through 31 December 2025
- \ Acknowledgment in post-conference email sent to all conference attendees
- \ Post-conference write-up in *Iron & Steel Technology*

### Tuesday, 24 June Sponsorships

All lunch and break sponsors will receive company logo on defined event signage. One delegate registration for the event.

**Morning Break — US\$2,500 (exclusive)**

**Afternoon Break — US\$2,500 (exclusive)**

### Wednesday, 25 June Sponsorships

All lunch and break sponsors will receive company logo on defined event signage. One delegate registration for the event.

**Morning Break — US\$2,500 (exclusive)**

**Lunch — US\$3,000 (exclusive)**

**Afternoon Break — US\$2,500 (exclusive)**

### Additional Sponsorships

#### Bag Sponsor — US\$2,000 (exclusive)

Bag sponsor will receive the following inclusion and company logo featured on:

- \ Sponsor-supplied bags
- \ Event website and emails
- \ One delegate registration for the event
- \ Post-conference write-up in *Iron & Steel Technology*

### Event Contributors

#### Steel Tier — US\$1,000 (unlimited)

- \ Company logo on signage displayed at the registration table and recognition in post-conference materials published. One delegate registration.

#### Iron Tier — US\$500 (unlimited)

- \ Company name on signage displayed at the registration table and recognition in post-conference materials published.

Visit [AIST.org](https://www.aist.org) for more information.