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- A significant portion of the framing system must be wide-flange or hollow structural steel sections;
- Projects must have been completed between January 1, 2004 and December 31, 2006;
- Projects must be located in North America;
- Previous AISC IDEAS or EAE award-winning projects were not eligible.

structed values in U.S. dollars:

- Less than \$15 million
- \$15 million to \$75 million
- Greater than \$75 million

The judges considered each project's use of structural steel from both an architectural and structural engineering perspective, with an emphasis on:

- Creative solutions to the project's program requirements;
- Applications of innovative design approaches in areas such as connections, gravity systems, lateral load resisting systems, fire protection, and blast;
- The aesthetic and visual impact of the project, particularly in the coordination of structural steel elements with other materials;
- Innovative uses of architecturally exposed structural steel;
- Advances in the use of structural steel, either technically or in the architectural expression;
- The use of innovative design and construction methods such as 3D building models, interoperability, early integration of specialty contractors such as steel fabricators, alternative methods of project delivery, or other productivity enhancers.

Both national and merit honors were awarded. The jury also selected two projects for the Presidential Award of Excellence in recognition of distinguished structural engineering.

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Merit Award—Less than \$15M

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The coastal town of Gulf Breeze, Florida, while tiny, is home to an impressive example of modern glass-and-steel architecture. The Transparent House—so called because of its glass exterior walls—is a 20,000-sq.-ft residence consisting of a three-story main house, a 2,700-sq.-ft three-story guest house, and a pool and deck structure. The project uses metal deck composite slabs supported by a structural steel frame, which in turn is supported by stainless steel tubes dubbed “the sprouts.”

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The new headquarters for the Hearst Corporation mixes old with new, with a modern skyscraper rising out of a six-story landmark art deco building. The new 46-story glass and steel Hearst Tower stands at 600 ft tall and comprises 856,000 sq ft of floor space.

Preserving the existing landmark façade was a must. The original building footprint was 200 ft by 200 ft, but the design for the new tower called for a 120-ft by 160-ft footprint. In addition, the new tower would be supported by new foundations behind the original façade.

For the upper tower, a diagrid structure system was employed, creating a highly efficient tube structure composed of a network of triangulated trusses that interconnect all four faces of the tower. The nodes for the diagrid were set on a 40-ft module and placed at four floors apart. The diagonal elements were braced at the floor level between nodal levels, necessitating a secondary lateral system connected to the common diaphragm floors. The system is inherently highly redundant by providing a structural network that allows multiple load paths, as well as inherent lateral stiffness and strength.

Besides being an effective structural system, the diagrid is also highly efficient and was constructed with 20% less steel than an equivalent moment



