

Awards for each winning project were presented to the project team members involved in the design and construction of the structural framing system, including the architect, structural engineer of record, general contractor, detailer, fabricator, erector, and owner.

New buildings, as well as renovation, retrofit, or expansion projects, were eligible. The projects also had to display, at a minimum, the following characteristics:

- A significant portion of the framing system must be wideflange or hollow structural steel sections;
- Projects must have been completed between January 1, 2005 and December 31, 2007;
- ➔ Projects must be located in North America;
- Previous AISC IDEAS² or EAE award-winning projects were not eligible.

A panel of design and construction industry professionals judged the entries in three categories, according to their constructed values in U.S. dollars:

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

from both an architectural and structural engineering perspective, with an emphasis on: → Creative solutions to the project's program requirements;

The judges considered each project's use of structural steel

Applications of innovative design approaches in areas such as thenestions, introduced the Attraction of speciality contractors such as steel fabricators; alternative methods of project delivery; or other productivity enhancers.

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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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, **Z**, chairman and CEO, CMC Holding Corp., Chicago

🍠 👝 🖌 Lucien Lagrange Architects, Chicago

Hamilton Founding principal, Thornton Tomasetti, and chairman, Charles H. Thornton and Co., LLC, Easton, Md.

A AISC Treasurer and president of Indiana Steel Fabricating, Indianapolis

his nine-story mid-rise tower explores the steel and glass language of the "second Chicago school" of architecture, which was defined by the work of Mies van der Rohe and early SOM designs. Expressed through simple and elegant detailing within a minimalist aesthetic, the building is meant to invest an image of structural architecture, conveying a sense of economy, efficiency, discipline, and order.

Located in the River North neighborhood of central Chicago, the project occupies a tight 45-ft by 100-ft mid-block site bounded by alleys on the west and north and an historic stone townhouse on the east. A lobby and tenant parking occupy the ground floor, with eight levels of housing above. The structural frame becomes a visible system that lends scale and identity to the building.

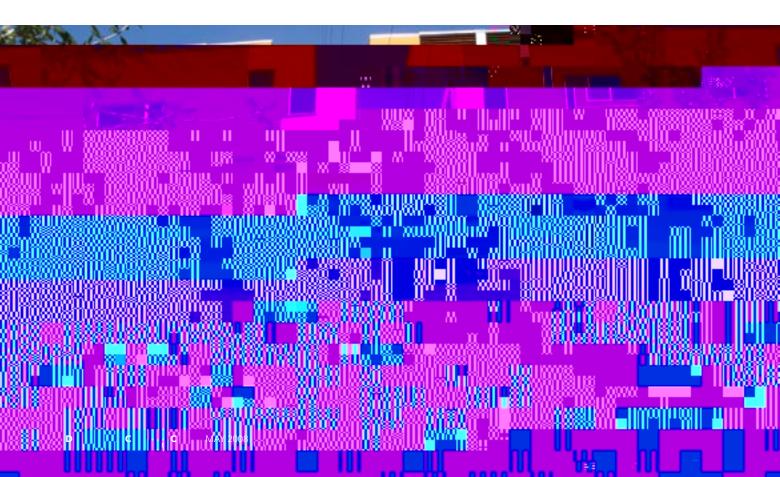
To articulate the building mass, a steel-framed structural bay, fully enclosed in glass, occupies the center portion of the south and north elevations. By expressing these elevations as a series of two-story frames with steel X-braces, the building seems taller than its 120-ft height and is able to hold its own in a dense area of tall buildings. The steel frames support cantilevered decks, enclosed with stainless steel railings, for 717Dc(with)-gs, cFt5-581s, decks,156 e15teme ess

$| D E A S^2$ awards

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A lot of design expertise went into transforming a former taxi cab maintenance facility in Denver into an 18-acre masterplanned, mixed-use development. In fact, the developers deliberately brought together four different architects to create an intentional "crashing together" of minds, styles, and aesthetics.

The building—TAXI²—is the second building in a series that will redevelop a Denver brownfield site into a forward-think-



$| D E A S^2$ awards

\$15 \$75

he new National Museum of the Marine Corps illustrates a unique combination of architecture, symbolism, and geometry.

To successfully represent the honor, courage, and spirit of the Marine Corps, the designers drew inspiration from an enduring symbol of the Corps: the historic film footage (later immortalized in a statue) of a small group of Marines planting and raising the U.S. flag on Iwo Jima in 1945. The design uses the exact triangular geometry of that famous image.

Steel made the project possible, from the 150-ft-diameter skylight to the exposed, battleship-gray-painted steel observation structure and balconies in the museum's Central Gallery. The centerpiece, from a structural and symbolic standpoint, is the 210-ft.-long stainless steel-clad structural box beam that projects beyond the skylight at 60°, representing the flag pole. The piece tapers in section from about 15 ft by 17 ft at the base to 4 ft by 3.5 ft at the top.

For more on this project, see "What's Cool in Steel" in our August 2007 issue at

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he Visitor Center at the Las Vegas Springs Preserve is an interactive environment drawing upon the history of the site and surrounding Mojave Desert context.

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The extensive use of exposed structure required a higher level of detailing than most projects with architectural finishes. The structural steel, interior screens, exterior shade structures, stairways, and awnings all required details that were sculptural in quality. The 72-ft diameter rotunda also featured a richly detailed, long-span roof system.

Nearly all of the elevated floor and roof framing in both buildings is architecturally exposed. Framing was organized and designed to create a handsome and efficient layout that is respectful of headroom requirements, particularly for architectural elements suspended from the roof.

An elliptical steel awning, measuring 33 ft from front to back and cantilevering more than 27 ft past its forward supports, forms the centerpiece of the main entry to the exhibit building. With a structure formed entirely of steel plates, the awning consists of three elliptical plates and a circular plate each with a different center point along the front to back axis of symmetry—and a series of radial plates that create the appearance of a rising sun.



Naval Facilities Engineering Command, Quantico, Va.

A. . Fentress Architects, Denver

Balfour Beatty, Fairfax, Va.

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A. . . Tate Snýder Kimsey Architects, Henderson, Nev.

Las Vegas Valley Water District, Las Vegas

Leslié E. Robertson Associates, R.L.L.P., New York Weidlinger Associates, Inc., Washington , D.C.

Banker Steel Company, Lynchburg, Va. (AISC Member)

Southwest Steel (a division of SME Industries), Henderson (AISC Member)

J.A. Tiberti/Whiting Turner (a joint venture), Las Vegas



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he Oratory at Ave Maria University is the focal element of a new town and university development on 4,000 acres of former agricultural land in southern Florida.

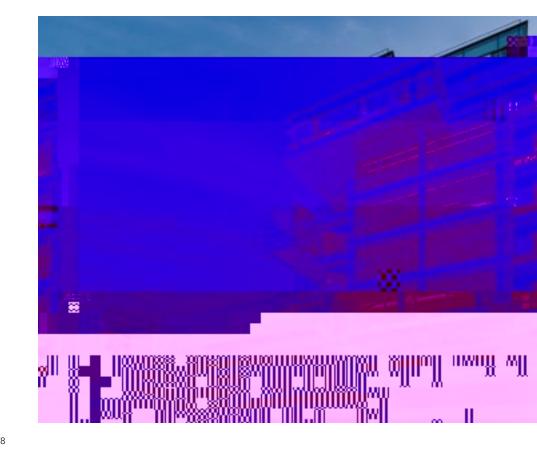
The Oratory's design was based on a traditional basilica form, built with modern methods and materials. The detail, structure, and finishes combine together to balance tradition and modernity. As one first sees the profile of the 120-ft-tall structure on the horizon, images and thoughts of a traditional cathedral are evoked. Moving

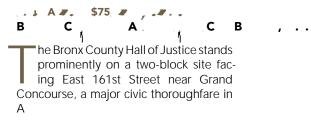
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closer to the Oratory, the clear distinction of a contemporary structure of glass, steel, and stone is revealed in greater detail. En-



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