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**R. Shankar Nair Wins 2007 T.R. Higgins Award****October 12, 2006 From American Institute of Steel Construction, Inc.**

R. Shankar Nair, a principal and senior vice president with Teng & Associates, Inc. in Chicago, is the recipient of the prestigious 2007 T.R. Higgins Lectureship Award. Nair is being honored for his paper on "Stability and Analysis Provisions of the 2005 AISC Specification for Steel Buildings."

The Higgins Award is presented annually by the American Institute of Steel Construction, Inc. and recognizes an outstanding lecturer and author whose technical paper(s) are considered an outstanding contribution to the engineering literature on fabricated structural steel. The award, which includes a \$10,000 prize, will be presented at the 2007 NASCC: The Steel Conference in New Orleans from April 18-21.

Recent recipients include Ronald O. Hamburger of Simpson Gumpertz & Heger, Jerome F. Hajjar and Robert J. Dexter of the University of Minnesota, and Lawrence A. Kloiber of LeJeune Steel Co.

"[Shankar Nair's] paper brings to the structural engineering community a clear and concise presentation of the options available for dealing with stability and second order analysis as found in the 2005 AISC Specification for Structural Steel Buildings," explained Louis F. Geschwindner, vice president of engineering and research at AISC. "It highlights the relationship between the two simplified methods available in the body of the Specification and the detailed Direct Analysis Method presented in the Specification Appendix. The paper shows the logical progression of methods from the one applicable to the most general structure to those that are applicable to the more typical building structures and provides an introduction to these approaches."

Nair joined Teng & Associates in 1995 after serving as a principal with other architecture and engineering design firms in Chicago and Baltimore. He received his Ph.D. from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign in 1969 and is licensed to practice engineering in 40 states.

In a career that has focused on structural engineering for large architectural and civil engineering projects, Nair has designed many major bridges, including structures for Interstate highways over the Mississippi River, and the structural systems of many skyscrapers. The quality of engineering in this work has been recognized by numerous awards, including four American Institute of Steel Construction "Prize Bridge" awards and six of the Structural Engineers Association of Illinois' annual "Most Innovative Structure" awards.

His building projects include the Harborside Hyatt Conference Center and Hotel in Boston, an early example of low floor-to-floor height steel construction and 900 North Michigan in Chicago, where the lower 30 levels are framed in steel and the upper 40 levels in concrete. His bridge designs included the longest tied arch in the world and the longest-span steel stringer structure in America. Active as a researcher and lecturer, Nair has published numerous technical papers and has held positions of leadership in many professional societies and committees, including the chairmanship of the Council on Tall Buildings and Urban Habitat. He is a member of the AISC Specification Committee, National Academy of Engineering, and Chicago Committee on High-Rise Buildings. He has previously received the AISC Lifetime Achievement Award, the ASCE George Winter Award, and the SEAOI John F. Parmer Award.

"Shankar is a great choice for this award," added Scott Melnick, editor of Modern Steel Construction magazine. "His brilliant writing and speaking is widely applauded not just by those in the design and construction industry but also by a wider audience through his frequent commentary pieces in such publications as the Chicago Tribune." To view a few recent samples of his writing, visit [www.aisc.org/selectednair](http://www.aisc.org/selectednair).

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**American Institute of Steel Construction**

The American Institute of Steel Construction, headquartered in Chicago, is a not-for-profit technical institute and trade association established in 1921 to serve the structural steel design community and construction industry. AISC's mission is to make structural steel the material of choice by being the leader in structural steel-related technical and market-building activities, including: specification and code development, research, education, technical assistance, quality certification, standardization, and market development. AISC has a long tradition of service to the steel construction industry of providing timely and reliable information.

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