July 25, 2003

To: ASCE-SEI TAC Metals

Re: ASCE-SEI Committee on Cold-Formed Members
Annual Report

The committee’s focus over the past year has been publication of our article on accommodating building deflections in secondary cold-formed steel systems in STRUCTURE magazine, and organization and presentation of our session at the 2003 Structures Congress.

Meeting
Members of the committee (11 members and guests) met for a funded meeting in February 2003 at the semi-annual AISI Committee on Specifications in Orlando. Members of the committee (9 members and guests) met for an un-funded meeting in July 2003 at the semi-annual AISI Committee on Specifications in Myrtle Beach. In addition, the members of the committee are in regular contact through email, web-based surveys, and a small home page dedicated to the committee (linked at www.ce.jhu.edu/bschafer). The committee will next meet, in person, in a funded meeting in February 2003.

Publications
In April of 2003 the committee’s article “Accommodating Building Deflections: What every EOR should know about accommodating building deflections in secondary cold-formed steel systems.” was published in STRUCTURE magazine.

The committee went through an exercise in 2002/2003 to prioritize research needs in cold-formed steel. A brief article describing these needs will be written up. The committee has suggested sending the article to Structural Engineering magazine.

Technical Sessions
The committee’s held a session at the 2003 Structures Congress “Recent Advances in Design of Cold-Formed Steel Structures”. Committee members: C. Rogers, and B. Schafer and friends of the committee R. Tremblay, and R. LaBoube (past-chair) participated. The session was well attended by practicing engineers, with approximately 40 total attendees. Also, B. Schafer’s presentation tied for best presentation at the Structures Congress.

We have not been able to determine the status of our proposal for the 2004 session. T. Sputo and friend of the committee P. Green have taken the lead on a cold-formed steel session for the 2004 Structures Congress and have submitted a proposal for “Practical Advances in the Design of Low-Rise Metal Buildings Subjected to Environmental Loadings.” They have lined up two papers so far for this session. The committee fully supports their efforts.

The committee is preparing a session proposal for the 2005 Structures Congress. The committee is focusing on practical guidance for the use of load bearing cold-formed steel studs. Our focus will be on meeting the needs of NYC practicing engineers. We have identified 5 potential speakers.
Other Activities
The committee proposed a special project on “Development of Report on Best Current Practice and State-of-the Art for Bracing of Cold-Formed Steel Structural Elements and Systems.” with committee member Tom Sputo taking the lead on this work and other members willing to support the effort. We will update and re-submit this special project in 2004.

Members also participated in the review of articles for ASCE Journal of Structural Engineering, although this role appears to be largely informal at this point. We would be happy to have the committee take a more formal role in reviewing cold-formed steel articles for JSE.

The AISI has adopted a new design method for cold-formed steel: The Direct Strength Method. Four members of the committee have agreed to review design examples for this new method.

SSRC has begun the process of updating the Guide to the Stability of Metal Structures. Committee members agreed to help provide comments on the current guide to the appropriate SSRC committee (SSRC TG 13) on cold-formed steel who will be formally revising this work.

The members of the committee continue to participate and lead in other organizations related to cold-formed steel including the American Iron and Steel Institute (AISI) – Committee on Specifications, AISI – Committee on Framing Standards, the Light Gauge Steel Engineer’s Association (LGSEA), the Steel Stud Manufacturing Association, the Structural Stability Research Council and other organizations.

Future activities
- 2004 and 2005 Structures Congress sessions
- Development of an article on “Research Needs in Cold-Formed Steel”
- Development of special project for 2005 submission on seismic application and cold-formed steel
- Review of design examples for the cold-formed steel Direct Strength Method
- Review of SSRC Guide chapter on cold-formed steel

Membership
The committee (as of summer 2003) consists of 14 members: 8 practitioners and 6 academics. Six members cycled off the committee this year; including several who were long-term members with large contributions to the committee: Rob Madsen, Tom Miller, Dean Peyton, and Steve Walker. The committee added four new members: Sam Easterling, Jay Larson, Nabil Rahman, and Reynaud Serette.

Chair’s note
I would like to thank the EXCOM, who recently agreed to relax the criteria for our Canadian non-ASCE-SEI members who contribute extensively to our activities. It was an important change for our little committee. The Chair sends his regrets that he was not able to attend the TAC on Metals committee chair’s meeting this year.

Sincerely,

Ben Schafer