



ADVANCING THE TECHNICAL DEVELOPMENT, PRODUCTION, PROCESSING AND APPLICATION OF IRON AND STEEL.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

AIST PRESENTS THE 2010 RELIABILITY ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

Pittsburgh, Pa., USA, 1 Feb 2011 — AIST proudly presented the 2010 Gold, Silver and Bronze Reliability Achievement Awards at a joint meeting of the Maintenance and Reliability, Hot Sheet Rolling and Rolls Technology Committees in Mobile, Ala., USA, on 26 Jan 2011.

The AIST Reliability Achievement Award was established in 1998 by the AIST Maintenance and Reliability Technology Committee to recognize iron and steel producing companies for reliability improvements and achievements that can be demonstrated as unique or first in the industry. This award recognizes organizations and the individuals within them that have developed, applied and proved a new practice, policy or procedure that significantly improves iron and steelmaking reliability in North America. The award is given on three levels — gold, silver and bronze. Reliability improvements or achievements must be documented using an acceptable form of measurement. Award finalists will be invited to present papers on their achievements at an AIST conference.

The 2010 AIST Reliability Achievement Gold Award recipient is USS-POSCO Industries, Pittsburg, Calif., USA, for their implementation of a combustion reliability program within the framework of an established reliability-based improvement model. This program resulted in improvements to overall process stability, the ability to achieve temperature setpoints, longer asset life cycles, and throughput increases up to 13% on heat-limited heavy-gauge products within the first five months. This was submitted by Jeff Kroner - team leader – applied reliability and central shops.

The 2010 AIST Reliability Achievement Silver Award recipient is ArcelorMittal Burns Harbor, Burns Harbor, Ind., USA, for the implementation of the World-Class Equipment Reliability Program (WCER) on the finishing stands of the hot strip mill. This program resulted in reducing delay rates by 30%. This was submitted by Scott Piech, WCER manager/asset coach – hot strip mill.

The 2010 AIST Reliability Achievement Bronze Award recipient is USS-POSCO Industries, Pittsburg, Calif., USA, for their implementation of a spares consolidation process and facility modifications that, in a three-year time frame, resulted in the capture of more than \$12 million in spare parts. This program resulted in a benefit of more than \$2.1 million from consumption of excess inventory, review of purchase orders and recovery of scrap. Submitted by Tim Kuzmicky, division manager — reliability, and Mikal Brevig, department manager — MRO spares.

In addition to the awards listed above, the recipients of the AIST Association-Level Awards, AIST Technology Division–Level Awards, AIST Member Chapter Awards and AIME Awards will be announced at the President's Award Breakfast during AISTech 2011 — The Iron & Steel Technology Conference and Exposition on Tuesday, 3 May 2011 at the Indiana Convention Center in Indianapolis, Ind., USA. Tickets to this event can be purchased at AISTech.org.

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AIST is an international technical association of more than 13,700 professional and student members, representing iron and steel producers, their allied suppliers and related academia. The association is dedicated to advancing the technical development, production, processing and application of iron and steel.

For more information, call +1.724.814.3000, ext. 1 or visit AIST.org.

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