

Council Welcomes New Representatives

James Cowan of **Star Tubular Technologies, Inc.**, formerly North Star Steel Ohio, has been named the new co-chairman to the Council.

Cowan is among four new representatives Ohio Gov. Bob Taft named to the Council recently. The others are Jeffrey Armbruster of the **Ohio Senate**, Jeff Manning of the **Ohio House of Representatives** and Mark Morelli of **Wheeling-Pittsburgh Steel Corp.**, with Ohio operations in Steubenville, Mingo Junction, Yorkville and Martins Ferry.

James Cowan joined North Star Steel Ohio, now Star Tubular Technologies, Inc., in 1979 and served as a general manager in Arizona and Minnesota. Cowan holds a bachelor's degree in metallurgical engineering from Michigan Tech University.

Ohio Sen. Jeffrey Armbruster is serving his first term for the 13th District. He is chairman of the Highways and Transportation Committee and vice chairman of the Insurance, Commerce and Labor Committee. Armbruster also serves on the Economic Development, Technology and Aerospace Committee and the Agriculture Committee.

Ohio Rep. Jeff Manning is serving his first term for the 62nd District. He is vice chairman of the Transportation and Public Safety Committee and also serves on the Civil and Commercial Law Committee.

Mark Morelli is the vice president of operations of Wheeling Corrugating Co., a division of **Wheeling-Pittsburgh Steel Corp.** Morelli has been with Wheeling-Pittsburgh Steel Corp. since 1975. He holds a bachelor's degree in civil and environmental engineering from the University of Cincinnati.

In addition, the Council welcomes Jack

Goisse as the new representative for **Pittsburgh Logistics Systems, Inc.**, in Rochester, Pa., an associate member of the Council. Goisse was recently promoted to vice president of operations, having been with the company since 1993. He holds a bachelor's degree in marketing from Duquesne University.

Council Welcomes New Member Companies

The Ohio Steel Council welcomes two new member companies, **PRO-TEC Coating Company** in Leipsic and **Columbus Coatings Company** in Columbus, an associate member.

Appointed to the Council by Ohio Gov. Bob Taft is W. Paul Worstell, president of PRO-TEC Coating Company and a member of the Ohio Governor's Workforce Policy Board. Before joining PRO-TEC Coating Company in 1996, Worstell was a plant manager for U.S. Steel. He received his bachelor's degree from Mount Union College and his master's degree in business administration from the University of Findlay.

Representing Columbus Coatings Company is James B. Lawrence, human resources manager. He worked for **LTV Steel Company** as manager of industrial relations before joining Columbus Coatings Company in 1999. Lawrence holds a master's degree in labor and industrial relations from Michigan State University.

OHIOSTEEL REPORT

Pride & Progress

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Fall 2001

Federal and State Governments Initiate Support for Steel

The long-awaited Section 201 investigation got under way in Washington, D.C., the week of September 17.

The International Trade Commission (ITC) will also conduct an off-site hearing in accordance with recommendations from the **United Steelworkers of America** (USWA). It is scheduled for Oct. 5 in Merrillville, Ind.

Under Section 201, the ITC will determine if unfairly traded steel imports have caused serious injury to the U.S. steel industry. In the case of serious injury, the ITC can recommend remedies including tariffs, tariff-rate quotas, quantitative import restrictions or orderly marketing agreements. The ITC has

with Commission Chairman Stephen Koplak defecting.

The U.S. steel industry received additional support July 26 when the Senate Finance Committee filed a petition for a Section 201 investigation, seconding the Bush Administration's action. The Bush Administration called for the Section 201 investigation June 5.

Helping to bring about that decision was Gov. Bob Taft's detailed letter to President Bush, in which he proposed changes to trade policies and called for the Section 201 investigation. The letter was a result of a meeting Taft convened in February with Ohio Steel Council executives.

"We are very appreciative of both the meeting and the letter," said James Cowan of **Star Tubular Technologies, Inc.**, formerly North Star Steel Ohio, and co-chair of the Ohio Steel Council. "They demonstrated Taft's commitment to the steel industry at a crucial time and his grasp of the complex issues before us."



Gov. Bob Taft, second from left, gathers information from Ohio steel executives during a meeting he convened to discuss the state of the industry. Right of the governor is Tom Helinski of Wheeling-Pittsburgh Steel Corp., former co-chair of the Ohio Steel Council. To the governor's left are Ohio Senate President Richard Finan (R-Warren) and Ohio House Speaker Larry Householder (R-Glenford).

up to six months to conduct its investigation and make its recommendations. Then, the Bush Administration has up to 60 days to act on the recommendations.

Ohio's steel industry continues to feel the effects of unfairly traded steel imports, in addition to high energy costs, low steel pricing and a soft U.S. economy.

The most recent data from Ohio Steel Council members shows marked decreases, with production falling 16.5 percent and shipments 13.4 percent. (See chart inside for more.) In the last year, three Ohio Steel Council member companies have declared bankruptcy and a fourth has closed its doors.

The ITC's decision to conduct an off-site hearing followed a July 2 request from the USWA for such hearings. The six-member commission voted 5-1 in favor of the request,

ON THE
STEEL
FRONT
Front

Taft's Aid Gives Steel a Boost

Ohio steel companies are tapping into a special aid package that was unveiled by Gov. Bob Taft in February following a meeting with top Ohio steel executives. So far, allocations totaling \$27 million have gone toward pollution control technology, job training and capital improvements.

"Allocations are going to areas integral to the steel industry's growth and ability to compete, which is what the aid package was designed to do," said James Cowan of **Star Tubular Technologies, Inc.**, formerly North Star Steel Ohio, and Ohio Steel Council co-chair. "Ohio companies receiving the aid would have struggled to make the necessary improvements otherwise."

Taft made the aid available after meeting with Ohio Steel Council executives to discuss challenges faced by the industry, including trade laws, transportation issues, taxation and economic development.

The governor's aid plan consists of \$30 million to provide loans or loan guarantees for capital projects, \$60 million to help steel companies issue tax-exempt bonds for pollution-control equipment, \$5 million in grants for infrastructure improvements and \$15 million in job-training grants. The package is to be allocated over a three-year period.

Council Unveils Web Site Redesign; Record Traffic Reported

The Ohio Steel Council's Web site, www.ohiosteel.org, has a new look. Relaunched in June, the site features an impressive graphic display, along with new navigational tools.

Some of the navigational tools are especially designed for public officials (including legislators), educators and the news media.

The site's redesign follows a dramatic increase in traffic. "Hits" increased nearly 1000 percent between 1999 and 2001 - from 18,473 in the fourth quarter of 1999 to 162,982 in the second quarter of 2001. (A "hit" occurs any time a visitor looks at a page on the site.)

Put another way, visitors per day have more than doubled, with an average of 184 visits in 2001 versus 76 in 1999.

The Ohio Steel Council is attributing the increases, in large part, to educational initiatives targeted at secondary teachers and students. Most frequently visited elements of the site

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www.ohiosteel.org

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Legislative Lookout

New Law on Truck Weights Will Save Shipping Costs for Steel Companies

Ohio steel producers will benefit from recent legislation passed in the Ohio General Assembly that permits trucks to haul a third coil of steel for a total gross weight of 92,000 pounds.

Written by state Sen. Jeffrey Armbruster (R-North Ridgeville) as an amendment to the state transportation budget, the resulting law went into effect July 1. Armbruster serves as the **Senate's** representative on the Ohio Steel Council.

Prior to this action, trucks could carry steel coils at a total gross weight of 80,000 pounds. However, with a special permit from the Ohio Department of Transportation, the weight limit could be extended to 120,000 pounds, with the limitation that the number of coils does not exceed two.

While Ohio steel producers were receiving an increasing number of requests for smaller coils, transportation laws limited the number of coils per truck to two for gross weights between 80,000 and 120,000 pounds. Ohio steel producers pushed for the additional weight increase to reduce shipping costs.

"In addition to reducing the number of trucks on the already congested highways, this legislation will afford Ohio steel companies the opportunity to reduce operating costs and increase services," said Tim Roberts, manager of public affairs for **WCI Steel, Inc.**, in Warren. "Ohio steel producers invest millions of dollars each year to make better products, and this is an opportunity for us to provide better delivery options to customers."

Steel companies planning to ship three coils must first obtain a permit from ODOT. As part of the application process, companies must account for how they will monitor the increased weight.

Ohio steel producers are working with Americans for Safe and Efficient Transportation to secure support for similar legislation on a federal level, increasing allowable truckload limits. The organization's membership includes shippers, motor carriers, manufacturers and related state and national organizations.

The United States is virtually the only developed country that limits truckloads to 80,000 pounds without special permits. Canada allows loads up to 95,900 pounds gross weight, and Mexico allows up to 106,920 pounds. Most European countries permit loads up to 44 metric tons, or approximately 97,000 pounds.

Steelmakers Boost Charitable Contributions During Industry Downturn

In spite of the downturn in steel markets, Ohio steel producers continue to make charitable contributions in their communities – and in record amounts.

According to the Ohio Steel Council's year-end data report, charitable contributions from Ohio steel producers increased by 100 percent between 1999 and 2000, with contributions exceeding \$6 million in 2000. This marked increase occurred while export shipments dropped by 6.6 percent, according to the same report.

The charitable contributions report is available once a year through a partnership with the Ohio Steel Council and **Youngstown State University's** Urban Studies Department. All other data, such as shipments and production, are gathered and reported quarterly.

"We have no immediate explanation as to why corporate giving would go up while shipments are going down. However, even in tough times, the steel industry has always stood by its communities. We care deeply about good corporate citizenship, education and the quality of life in Ohio," said James Cowan of **Star Tubular Technologies, Inc.**, formerly North Star Steel Ohio, and co-chair of the Ohio Steel Council.

Some examples of this year's charitable giving are:

Wheeling-Pittsburgh Steel Corp., with Ohio operations in Steubenville, Mingo Junction, Yorkville and Martins Ferry, recently pledged \$2 million for an environmental education center at Oglebay Park. The Henry Stifel Schrader Environmental Education Center was built with environmentally sensitive products, including recyclable steel product beams, columns and roofing. The \$2 million contribution was part of an innovative settlement with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

AK Steel Corp., in Middletown, recently announced a four-year pledge of \$500,000 to Middletown Regional Hospital. The grant from the AK Steel Foundation will help fund the AK Steel Cardiac Evaluation Center, which will be part of the hospital's new 30,000-square-foot emergency department.

The Timken Company, in Canton, recently sponsored through its foundation the rebuilding of a family's home that was burned to the ground by an arsonist. The Timken Company is a past sponsor of dozens of new home-building projects through its involvement with Habitat for Humanity.

Web Site Redesign *continued from page 1*

include educational materials, the career pages, annual reports, newsletters and other news material.

Among the site's highlights and improvements are the following:

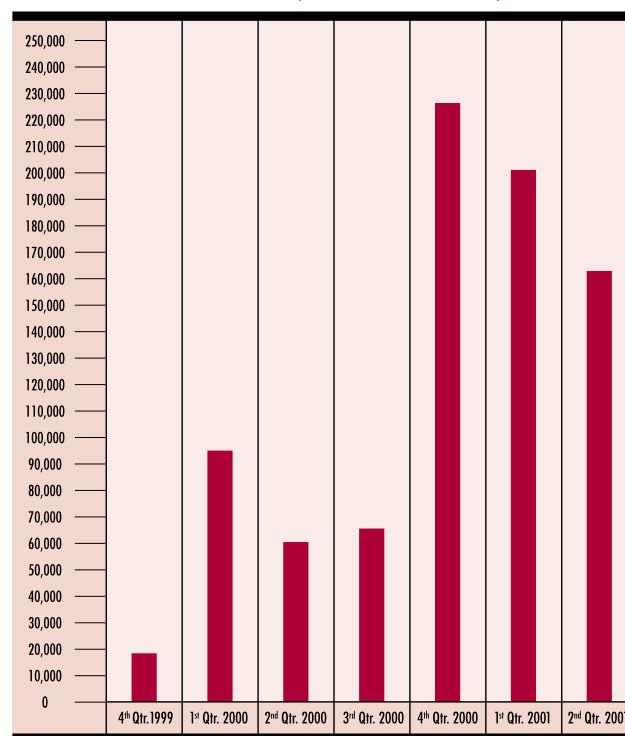
New buttons. On the home page, just click on one of the new special pathways buttons – "news media," "public officials" or "students/educators" – to quickly access information specific to the chosen audience.

"Careers in Steel." The career pages contain job postings, job descriptions, salary estimates, education and training requirements, tips on applying for a job, a career quiz and dazzling photographs.

"Virtual Classroom." Do you think a "baghouse" is where luggage is stored? Think again. Learn about interesting steel-related topics on the Web site's "Virtual Classroom." Do you like cars? In "Virtual Classroom," see step by step how a car engine works, or take a look at some of the oldest cars ever made.

News, news, news. Access industry news and quick steel facts. New or current stories are featured on the home page. Additional information is available in the form of data reports, annual reports, news releases and newsletters.

Ohio Steel Council Web Site Traffic
Hits and Visits Between 4th Quarter 1999 and 2nd Quarter 2001



total number of hits

www.ohiosteel.org

STEEL At Work:



A builder demonstrates easy techniques of joinery for residential steel framing, which is increasingly popular among builders and consumers.

Steel Penetrates Different Markets; Consumers Benefit

Steel producers are forging their way into a broad range of new markets with products stronger and more durable than those made with traditional materials.

Consumers are experiencing these product advantages in home construction, home decorations and gardening. Other products, including telephone and utility poles, are providing cost benefits to manufacturers in terms of product construction, maintenance and installation.

The following is a sample of the breadth and novelty of steel products in new markets:

Residential Construction. From 1997 to 1999, the number of homes built with steel increased over 100 percent. Homeowners have embraced the use of steel in housing markets because of its ability to withstand hurricanes, earthquakes, fires and other unfavorable conditions better than traditional lumber. In many cases, insurance costs are lower as a result.

Gardening Tools. Weeders made from heat-treated, spring-steel blades provide increased strength, flexibility and sharpness. Hand trowels with forged-steel blades will not bend or break under pressure like blades made out of other materials.

Utility Distribution Poles. Steel utility poles are on the rise in the replacement pole market. They can stand higher and bear a greater load and span than traditional wooden poles. Since they weigh 50 to 70 percent less than their wooden counterparts, they are easier to handle and install. Unlike wood poles that tend to warp, rot or become infested over time, steel structures retain their shape and strength, reducing maintenance costs.

Home Decorating. Lightweight sheet steel is being used for home decorative pieces and accents that are fresh and modern, not to mention sturdy and corrosion-resistant. Drawer, cabinet and door hardware, kitchen cabinets, table tops, mirrors, trash containers and sink backsplash areas are available in steel today.

Museum Expands to Include Steelmaking

In the summer of 2004, visitors to Cleveland's revitalized lakefront will be able to walk through a large-scale exhibit of a working steel mill at the new Frederick C. Crawford Museum of Transportation and Industry.

The steel exhibit – "Where Giants Tread" – will contain a large-scale model of the steel mills in Cleveland's Cuyahoga Valley. The drama of steelmaking will be captured in a 3-D theater showing the charging of a basic oxygen furnace. Visitors can also go through a replica locker room, where they will hear oral histories of steelworkers and perhaps meet actors representing steelworkers from different eras. The new exhibit will also have a children's playground that features a large interactive play area themed as a steel mill.

The museum is expected to attract about 450,000 visitors a year.

The Western Reserve Historical Society is undertaking to expand and relocate the current Crawford Auto-Aviation Museum, with the intent of making it more educational, interactive and entertaining. The building that presently houses the Crawford Museum will be integrated into the main Historical Society campus, which will remain on East Boulevard.

"The steel industry has a rich and storied history in northeast Ohio, having played a critical role in the development of the region as well as the entire state," said Chris Dawson, curator of industrial history at the Western Reserve Historical Society. "The new exhibit will focus on the vital relationship of steel to the transportation and industrial history of Cleveland and northeast Ohio."

An artist's rendition of the upcoming steel exhibit, "Where Giants Tread," illustrates how future visitors to the new Crawford Museum will be able to experience the steelmaking process.

