

April 12, 2001

MEMORANDUM TO: David Terao, Chief
Component and Containment Reliability Section
Mechanical & Civil Engineering Branch
Division of Engineering

FROM: Hans Ashar, Sr. Structural Engineer */RA/*
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SUBJECT: MEETING NOTES: ANSI/AISC N690 (TASK COMMITTEE 14)
MEETING ON NUCLEAR SAFETY RELATED STEEL
STRUCTURES, HELD IN CHICAGO, IL. ON APRIL 6, 2001

Background: The first Edition of ANSI/AISC N690 (Standard), "Nuclear Facilities - Steel Safety-Related Structures for Design, Fabrication and Erection," was published in 1984. The NRC staff accepted its use for design of steel structures in advanced reactor applications ABWR, CE 80+, and AP 600 with certain modifications and additional provisions proposed by the NRC staff. The second edition of the standard, published in 1994, incorporated a few of these provisions. Also, there were a number of comments from the public (mainly the nuclear industry and associated consultants) on the second (1994) Edition of the Standard. In order to incorporate NRC positions and make certain clarifying correction, TC 14 developed a Supplement (Supplement 1) to the 1994 Edition of the Specification. Moreover, American Institute of Steel Construction (AISC) has changed the basic methodology for design of the steel structures from the allowable stress design (ASD) method to the load resistance factor design (LRFD) method. Based on its survey, AISC determined that the future Editions of the Standard should be based on the LRFD method.

In August 1997, I was appointed as the chairman of the AISC Task Committee (TC 14) having the responsibility for keeping the Standard current. I accepted the chairmanship on the condition that secretarial help will be available from the AISC staff. In this role, I set two basic goals for the TC: (1) to develop a supplement to the 1994 Edition of the Standard (based on ASD) to incorporate the comments and to keep it current to reflect the safety significant changes in the parent Standard (AISC Building Specification-used for non-nuclear applications), and (2) to develop the next Edition of the Standard using the LRFD methodology.

The basic objective of this meeting was to discuss the comments provided by the members of the Committee on Specifications (the parent Committee of all the TCs) be incorporated in Supplement 1 to the 1994 Edition of the Standard. The comments were quite extensive, and mainly related to the 2000 Edition of the AWS Welding Code, and certain inconsistencies. Some of the comments were related to the use of the recently published American Society of

Civil Engineer (ASCE) Standard, ASCE 7-98, "Minimum Design Loads for Buildings and Other Standards." To expedite the discussion of comments, I had sent the proposed resolution of these comments to all the members prior to the meeting. During the discussion of the comments and their resolution, one of the members got sick and had to be taken to the airport medical center for tests and observations. He was hospitalized for one day for tests and observations. The latest news indicates that he is at his home in Philadelphia and is in good health.

The TC members agreed on the resolution of the comments (essentially, the way I had proposed). The Secretary had compiled the AISC N690 LRFD Chapters. Due to time constraint the TC could not review all the Chapters. I requested the members to review their assigned Chapters to see if they are as per the TC's prior decision.

Based on the users' comments and extensive discussion in year 2000, on the problems with the use of AISC LRFD, the Board of Directors of the AISC, decided to publish the next Edition (i.e. 2005) of the Building Specification in a dual mode (LRFD and ASD). The nuclear specification also may follow a similar format.

Based on the progress of the work, the TC decided to meet in September 2001.

The agenda of the meeting is attached for your information. The detailed meeting notes prepared by the Task Committee 14 secretary will be available in Mid-May.

Attachment: As stated

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Based on the users' comments and extensive discussion on the AISC LRFD in year 2000, the Board of Directors of the AISC, decided to publish the next Edition (i.e. 2005) of the Building Specification in a dual mode (LRFD and ASD). The nuclear specification also may follow a similar format.

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