FROM FORM TO FUNCTION
Metal building systems are growing in popularity and 2022 provided the proof, as metal building manufacturers raced to handle growth. In fact, that growth translated to numbers that were, for some, truly record-setting. Amidst product availability and labor issues that both remain particularly challenging for the greater construction industry, our members are keeping pace with consistently exceptional demand. Strong existing markets and a few emerging markets keep us focused as we look to the future.
The Explosion of the Digital Marketplace … in America and the World

The need for fulfillment centers for commercial and industrial markets is spawning massive regional hubs for the likes of Amazon, Target, Walmart and many others. Warehouse stores like Costco and Sam’s Club also remain strong. While the economy has taken a bite due to inflation and supply chain challenges, metal buildings remain in high demand in this building sector. Not only has a transition to restocking household needs using e-commerce been expanded during the pandemic, but the need to store all the transactional information also created high demand for environmentally controlled data centers using metal building systems. We may see a softening in 2023 as global issues continue to impact the U.S. economy; but that doesn’t negate the consistent demand our members are experiencing. For MBMA's Building Systems members (building manufacturers), this category has been the biggest slice of the metal building pie for the last six years.

Infrastructure Growth Increases Demand for Metal Buildings

While many people think of infrastructure in terms of transportation modes (highways, airports, bridges, railways), the term encompasses the totality of physical and organizational structures and facilities needed for the operation of a society. Metal buildings are used for water treatment facilities, oil and gas support buildings, airport hangars, transit management systems, storage, warehousing, maintenance, manufacturing and more. Think about where solar panels and wind turbines come from. They’re produced in factory environments, typically requiring massive metal building complexes. Metal buildings are foundational to providing the structures that support and protect the systems and processes so needed to keep America’s infrastructure growing and strong.

Beyond the Rearview Mirror

A good friend in the industry likes to point out that in every vehicle you drive, you’ll always see one thing that never changes—the rearview mirror is only a fraction of the size of the windshield. That analogy reminds us that we need to remember what’s behind us, but that our focus clearly needs to be on what is in front of us, on the bigger picture—and plan strategically to deal with whatever is ahead. Speaking on behalf of the MBMA Board of Directors, we encourage all MBMA member firms to plan ahead, to learn from each other, to proactively use MBMA tools and resources to help your firms achieve a competitive advantage and build positive opportunities for the future.
What can I say about 2022? After two years of limited travel, MBMA hit the road in full force. And what better way to look at what we accomplished in 2022, than to look at the places visited by MBMA staff along the way?

In March, Vince headed to Washington state for a whole-building air leakage test—our ninth test in the past four years. Lee represented MBMA at a RICOWI meeting in Orlando, while I went to Dallas to speak to architects and building owners about the use of metal buildings for retail applications at the SPECS trade show.

In April, Lee and Vince had a successful trip to Rochester, New York, for the ICC code hearings. For more on that, see Dustin Cole’s Technical Committee report. Later that month, the entire MBMA staff traveled to Tucson for the MBMA/MBCEA spring
meeting where a record number of attendees were inspired and entertained by keynote speaker and former Navy Seal, Chad Williams.

In May, I headed to D.C. for the AISI Steel in Washington conference. Then, in June, it felt like we moved the MBMA HQ to Chicago! Lee and Vince attended multiple AISC meetings. Vince and I led the MBMA Fire & Insurance Committee meeting, and I represented MBMA members at both the AIA Conference on Architecture and the ASSP Annual Safety Conference and trade show.

In July, we invited MBMA members to visit us in Cleveland where we hosted the MBMA Design Seminar and Technical Committee meeting. In August, Lee and I headed to Nashville for our third annual Architectural Faculty Workshop, and Vince represented MBMA at the FM Global Roofing Coalition meeting in Massachusetts. We also hosted the MBMA board in Cleveland and even found time for a Guardians game.

In September, Vince headed to Louisville for more ICC code hearings. Lee stopped by an MBMA member’s facility to observe an IAS accreditation audit and then gave a lecture to architecture students at Kent State University. Later that month, Lee, Vince and I went to Kansas City for the MBMA Energy & Sustainability Committee meeting.

October ended up being our busiest month. I traveled to Houston for the MBMA Safety Workshop, then to Cincinnati for The Manufacturing Institute’s Workforce Summit. Lee and Vince represented MBMA at the AISI Code Forum in Washington, D.C., and at another RICOWI meeting in Cincinnati. Lee also made his way back to Chicago for the AISC Research Committee and then the entire MBMA staff traveled to Indianapolis for METALCON.

In November, I was scouting opportunities for MBMA at the DBIA Design-Build Conference and Expo in Las Vegas. Meanwhile, Lee and Vince headed, where else, but back to Chicago to participate in an AISC Specification Committee meeting. Lee enjoyed it so much he stuck around for the NCSEA Structural Engineering Summit.

On an alternative timeline, December saw me fly to the other side of the world—to Qatar—for the FIFA World Cup! Alas, the work of MBMA is never done, and instead our entire staff convened with our membership at the MBMA Annual Meeting in Fort Myers where you are probably reading this column.

If you’ve enjoyed this MBMA travel log, I encourage you to follow MBMA and our staff members individually on LinkedIn, where you can track our travels in real time.

Happy New Year, everyone!
In an online ceremony in February 2022, MBMA announced the winners of its inaugural Student Design Competition. My students from the University of New Mexico received first and second place, so you can imagine how we celebrated together that night!

Being involved in the competition was a great learning experience, not just for the two winners but for all of my students. It provided them with multiple opportunities:
1. to compete at a national level with other design students;
2. to really delve into metal building design—a building construction type that is prevalent here in the state of New Mexico; and
3. to be able to study and think further and think deeply on the design of a specific type of building. The competition required the design of an elementary school—a structure to which all students could relate.

The competition was handled very professionally and the students appreciated the opportunity to compete and shine! What was so fulfilling was that the students were not only creating design content for my class but they were using that same content to build entries for the national competition. It allowed the students to not only do well in class, but then to see how their designs would hold up against a field of 64 entrants from a variety of colleges and universities.

Exploring Systems
Importantly, the competition became a great modeling device to help my students think holistically about the essential components of buildings. And, it revealed the additive process and the pieces and parts that make up a very complex thing called architecture. It allowed the students to examine the structural system versus the planning system versus the foundation system as well as issues such as lateral bracing and slab conditions. It helped them to think about components of the design process independently and then very quickly bring them together as a whole.

We also gained from the input of many practicing design professionals. More than 20 of them dropped into our studio to critique the students’ work and sometimes coach them one-on-one. These were intense sessions that really helped students to explore how building systems become innovative—not in the way that we need to radicalize the innovation, but how do we push it and nudge it forward to do something that hasn’t really been done to date or doesn’t get done all the time. So, it was wonderful to have professionals constantly asking the students questions and requiring them to defend their designs.

Overall, I am grateful to MBMA for providing the competition, the website resources, the videos, the educational folios and the hands-on encouragement to make the design competition truly valuable for faculty and students alike.

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Kristina Yu is an architect with McClain + Yu Architecture & Design and an associate professor (School of Architecture + Planning) and an associate dean at University College at the University of New Mexico. She holds a master’s degree in architecture from Harvard University and a bachelor’s degree in architecture from the Illinois Institute of Technology.
MBMA First Annual Student Design Competition

MBMA’s inaugural competition for undergraduate and graduate architecture students involved creating an innovative metal building design for a one- or two-story elementary school that would serve approximately 200 students. Judges for the contest were Eric F. Pros, AIA, Director of Design for DE Architecture, Cleveland, Ohio; Terri Meyer Boake, LEED AP, Professor, School of Architecture, University of Waterloo, Cambridge, Ontario; Lauren Gwaltney, AIA, Senior Associate with Williams Blackstock Architects, Birmingham, Ala.; John Underwood, Behlen Manufacturing Company, Columbus, Neb.; and Robert Tiffin with Silvercote in Greenville, S.C.

Award Winners

**First Place**  
*Brittany Sawyer*  
Brittney Sawyer of the University of New Mexico (UNM) earned the first-place prize of $5,000. She was advised by Professor Kristina Yu of the School of Architecture + Planning at UNM.

**Second Place**  
*Jade Altheide*  
Second place, with a prize of $3,000, was awarded to Jade Altheide, also a student at UNM and advised by Professor Yu.

**Third Place**  
*Quinton Frederick*  
The third-place honor and $1,500 prize went to Quinton Frederick, a student at the University of North Carolina – Charlotte. His faculty advisor was Josie Holden-Bulla of the College of Arts + Architecture.

"Our goal with this competition was to introduce architecture students to metal building systems. But we at MBMA were introduced to how creative, knowledgeable and enthusiastic all of the students were with their designs."

-Lee Shoemaker, Ph.D., PE  
MBMA Director of Research and Engineering

**Contest Entries**
MBMA Volunteers Make Us Strong

Craig Abney
Matthew Ackley
Gener Acompanado
Jeff Adams
Jacob Adkisson
Jeremy Albert
Edward Aller
Jon Amann
Ron Amбросiус
Morrie Anderson
Anne Anderson
Mike Anderson
Nabil Andrade
Greg Andrews
Curtis Archibald
Ed Arner
Leann Arnold
Steve Ashton
Jonathon Auduss
Roland Augspurger
Kevin Babcock
Kevin Bahnmiller
Michael Bailey
Dustin Baker
Kathryn Baker
Robert Baker
David Balistreri
Danette Ball
Craig Ball
Vanessa Banks
Chandler Barden
Mike Barnes
Scott Barrett
Joshua Bartlett
Robin Bartlett
Chris Barton
Bill Beals
Spencer Becker
Jim Beckham
Shawn Beears
Kyle Beebe
Kevin Beishline
Richard Beldykh

Darrin Bell
Oliver Bell
Amanda Bennett
Ronald Bennett
Russell Benton
David Bergholz
Keith Bidwell
Cole Bigbee
Chris Biguenet
Christopher Bingham
Brian Birch
Austin Black
Eric Blanscett
Kimberly Blanton
Tom Boal
Andrew Bonde
John Booth
Jorge Borphes
Bruce Bortree
Lawrence Bower
Dylan Boyle
Pat Bradshaw
Don Bratcher
Marc Brower
Steve Browning
Matt Brusshaber
Dalila Bryan
Al Busboom
Steve Butler
Fred Campana
Alfred Campbell
Mark Carlisle
Todd Carlson
Jeff Carmean
Andrew Carpenter
Curts Carpenter
Stephan Carr
Jake Carrigan
Gil Casey
Michael Casey
Chris Caza
Jeremy Childs
Andrew Christensen
Douglas Clark
Delmar J. Clark, Jr.
Roy Clay
Kyle Cobbley
Peter Cobucci
Dustin Cole
James Cole
Don Conrad
Arnold Corbin
Roger Cox
Ryan Crist
Gary Cummings
Brandon Cunningham
Steve Curry
Brad Curtis
Chris Curtis
Joseph Dachowicz
Jodi Datema
Tim Davis
Jessica Davlin
Luke Dawson
Nanette Dean
Paul Deffenbaugh
Gardardo DeLeon
Ozer Dereli
Dan Determan
Mark Dewtler
Patti DeWalt
Edward Di Cesare
Dylan DiGregorio
Maria Dolz
Scott Douglas
Bill Downes
Jeff Doyle
Chad Draxler
Michael Dubayeh
Andrea Duckworth
Robyn Edmonds
Craig Edwards
Greg Effland
Jason Ehlers
Jon Ekstrom
Chad Elliott
Keith Elliott
Christopher Ellison
Justin Elper
Bob Elsasser
Tyler Embrey
Carey Ewanik
Josh Fairchild
Chris Falin
Jon Faltys
James Fanning
Shawn Farneman
Bonnie Fater
Mahmoud Faytarouni
Jeff Feaster
Will Feland
Bob Fisette
Paula Fisette
Ken Fisher
Stacey Fisher
Cynthia Fonte
Oliver Foote
Terry Ford
Jim Foster
Shaunda Fowler
Ron Fox
Adam Franzluebbers
Jason Freidenberger
Nathan Fries
Robert Fryar
Rick Fulton
Christen Funk
Pavan Gadicherla
Darin Gardner
Jerry Gaston
Kenneth Gaul
John Gelms
Mike George
Mark Gies
Heather Gillbanks
Benjamin Glassner
Mark Goble
Andrew Goldberg
Claudia Gomez
Matthew Gomez
Michael Gong
Danny Gonzalez

Scott Gosselin
Shawn Goulard
Joel Grace
Theresa Grape
Matt Graupen
Don Green
Wayne Gregory
Jim Grimm
Larry Gumpert
Ralph Gutierrez
Chuck Haba
Jessica Haddock
Rob Haddock
Dustin Haddock
Tom Hall
Rahim Hakimi
Amit Halder
Najib Halimi
Brett Hamilton
Joe Hanson
Bob Hedges
Frank Hogan
Ron Holder
Heather Hollis
Rodney Holmes
Karl D. Houser
Mike Houston
Ana Hovivian

Eric Haugen
Matthew Havens
Amy Hawkins
Cindy Hayden
Patrick Hearne
Brad Heffelfine
Trey Herren
Mike Herrin
Ben Hicks
Doug Hicks
Roger Hiesterman
Alec Highham
DJ Highnote
Ryan Hill
Trevor Hill
Brian Hills
David Hirtre
Donna Hise
Robert Hodges
Frank Hogan
Ron Holder
Heather Hollis
Rodney Holmes
Karl D. Houser
Mike Houston
Ana Hovivian

Paul Howell
Mike Howser
Jim Hruby
Rich Huber
Leila Hurd
Scott Hutchings
Jesus Ibanez
Elysse Inglese
Doug Irbe
Ryan Jackson
Jay Jacoby
Andy Jaworski
Rhonda Jensen
Beau Johnson
Dave Johnson
Kevin Johnson
Tori Johnson
Jane Johnston
Jason Johnston
Brian Jones
Cathy Jones
Dean T. Jorgenson
Craig Joss
Thomas Jung
Dennis Kaczmarek
Russell Karnis
Lindsay Kasiska
Otto Kasten
Zachary Kates
Troy Kaylor
Lisa Keegan
Bart Kelley
Jonathan Kenowitz
Neil Kerr
Don Key
Dan Kile
Brandon King
Daniel King
Jeff King
Ryan King
Scott Kirkman
MBMA Annual Report
MBMA’s 20-person Accreditation Committee oversees activities related to member accreditation through the International Accreditation Service (IAS). This role also requires us to be knowledgeable about all IAS accreditations that impact the metal building industry. Here they are:

**472** All MBMA Building Systems members are required to maintain AC472 accreditation as a requisite to membership. Accreditation criteria AC472 conforms to the standards of the International Building
Code® and related standards. It requires audits of the integrity of the design engineering and manufacturing processes of metal building system manufacturers.

478 MBMA Building Systems members encourage their builders to achieve AC478 certification. It provides the criteria for accrediting metal building system assemblers. It is a seal of approval for companies that perform the on-site building erection.

172 This year, our Accreditation Committee investigated adding AISC Fabricator Certification along with IAS AC172 accreditation when it comes to subcontracting primary-frame production and the associated requirements. This has been submitted to IAS for consideration.

473 Another topic of discussion is when sourcing products from an IAS AC473-accredited supplier, there is still a need to receive material test reports (MTRs). Walter Mershon of IAS recently spoke with our committee to explain this further, and he said the current AC472 program does not exempt AC473 suppliers from supplying MTRs, but that could be something for MBMA/IAS to explore in how this is audited in the program. This could also apply to sourcing from IAS AC172 suppliers.

We on the MBMA Accreditation Committee actively promote the benefits of IAS accreditation programs that impact the metal building systems industry and share our knowledge freely through published articles, virtual presentations to companies and industry groups, and virtual meetings. We recognize that accreditation adds value for the end customer and differentiates the metal building systems industry from other forms of construction.
The Architect Committee’s mission is to positively impact the metal building industry through effective understanding, comprehensive education, and engagement of architects, both at the national and local levels.

We participated in The American Institute of Architects (AIA) Annual Conference as it migrated back from a virtual to an in-person event. We gathered strategic intel that will be the foundation to our strategy for the 2023 AIA conference. Stay tuned!
Collaboration with the MBMA Education Committee delivered a third annual Architectural Faculty Workshop. Professors from the U.S. and one from Guatemala joined us in Nashville in August for an introduction to metal building systems technology.

The workshop participants valued the interactivity and diversity of the speakers (from academia and also practicing architects). The attendees gained working knowledge and access to MBMA’s free publications and resources related to design and education. Check out MBMA’s education website at www.mbmaeducation.org and share it with design professionals in your network.

At METALCON 2022, MBMA’s Tony Bouquot and I spoke on the topic of Metal Building Systems: A Creative Design Approach—a fun and interactive session!

The key to our continued success is to entice/garner/invite architects to envision metal building systems as a design alternative for their low-rise building projects. We are seeing the trend grow … our efforts are making a difference!

Speaking of efforts, here are some ways you can help:

- Join our committee. Send a request to mbma@mbma.com today!
- Introduce us to architects in your sphere of influence.
- Recommend us as speakers for your local/regional/state AIA events.
- Share our LinkedIn posts and YouTube videos with architects in your area.

Thank you for your time, your industry passion, and before you go, accept this challenge: Reach out to one architect every day and share how creative and unique a metal building system can be!
College architecture and engineering students are learning that metal buildings can be edgy, innovative and an opportunity for creative designers to achieve unique building solutions. This is happening, in part, because of the ongoing efforts of MBMA’s Education Committee.

First, we “train the trainers,” educating architecture and engineering faculty from colleges and universities nationwide about the creative and sustainable benefits of metal buildings. We held
our third annual Architecture Faculty Workshop in August. Presentations were given by professors for professors. The attendees were very excited about all they learned about metal buildings from their peers. They went back to their schools armed with a new palette of ideas for educating their students in architectural and structural design.

Another educational tool we created was the MBMA Student Design Competition. 2022 marked the second year for our competition, which garnered 64 entries during its inaugural year. The inaugural contest was a great success and financial awards were presented to four of the nine finalists. The 2022 competition winners will be announced in the first quarter of 2023. If you know people who might want to participate in future competitions, they can download details at our education website, www.mbmaeducation.org.

Our third major achievement involves the ongoing creation of metal building folios for use in higher education courses aimed at architects and engineers. Each document is about 20 pages long and focuses on one unique building project. These folios provide insights from design professionals involved in the projects. The folios guide students from the project planning and design processes through construction. We’ve completed three folios so far: Alamo Beer Company in San Antonio, the Michelle and Barack Obama Sports Complex in Los Angeles and the Boston Sports Institute in Wellesley, Mass. These are available for free download on our education website. If you know anyone who could benefit from these resources—students, new hires, architects—please share with them.
At the beginning of 2022, MBMA merged the Energy Committee and the Sustainability Committee into one team. That move makes a lot of sense. Since the two groups had similar missions and goals, it was logical to pool our resources. In fact, our efforts are more efficient and effective by having the members of both committees now working together.
Some of our activities are managed by subcommittees. Currently, we have five groups working on specific objectives. Below, you’ll see some of the work we are performing.

We are wrapping up our air leakage testing, which has been ongoing since 2019. That research is the foundation for a new air leakage testing best practices guide that will help firms design and construct metal buildings to meet or exceed the International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) and ASHRAE 90.1 energy code requirements. The guide will benefit MBMA members, architects, contractors, builders and building owners.

As a result of our air leakage research, we were invited to speak to various groups across the country. These presentations culminated in a comprehensive program presented this year at METALCON, the largest international event in the metal construction industry. The speakers were two of our longtime committee members, Dave Tomchak and Robert Tiffin, along with Vince Sagan, MBMA senior staff engineer.

In addition, we continue to develop fact sheets, courses and training materials to educate and inform people across the spectrum of our industry regarding the energy/sustainability attributes of metal buildings. We will continue to perform life cycle assessments and provide up-to-date environmental product declarations (EPDs) for primary rigid framing, secondary framing and metal cladding for roofs and walls. We will also develop additional AIA courses for architects and keep speaking to groups of all audiences nationwide.
MBMA’s Fire & Insurance Committee provides resources to promote safe, code-compliant and insurable metal building systems. It has been my honor to chair this committee for nearly eight years. As I now prepare to pass on this leadership responsibility, I look back on what’s been accomplished and where we’ve been.
In my tenure as committee chair, I've seen the committee become far more proactive and forward-thinking. We now engage regularly with code officials and have increased contacts in the insurance industry. Today, we are actively involved in the code development process, particularly as it relates to fire safety. As a result, the American Iron and Steel Institute asked us to participate with them in fire safety research related to cold-formed steel.

One of our successes is in expanding fire protection assembly options in the UL database. We’ve also been thinking about constructability and how to make metal building components more attractive to the market by adding product flexibility and improving the contractor experience.

On the insurance side, we’ve worked on raising member awareness about how metal building systems are viewed by the insurance industry. We also completely overhauled MBMA’s 10 insurance bulletins to enhance relevancy from a user’s perspective. The bulletins provide building owners, designers and builders with information on rating systems and on hazards and conditions that can impact insurance costs. These are available for free download at www.mbma.com/Insurance.html.

Fire and insurance issues aren’t generally seen as the most stimulating topics to explore, but they’re actually pretty cool. I encourage you to get involved with the committee. You don’t have to be a technical wizard—just a person who likes to get things done. Join us! I’ll continue to be involved and I hope to see you there!
What does MBMA’s Marketing Committee do? We advocate and educate. We help people understand metal building systems. Through our efforts we aid code officials in making their decisions about the ways they approve aspects of metal building construction. We educate building owners so they can make choices about which type of building they would like for their next facility. We guide architecture students so that they can realize and recognize that metal building systems are a viable design alternative. Yes, our work impacts a broad spectrum of society.
Some of our most meaningful work comes through promoting the efforts of other MBMA committees. For example, we developed the marketing campaigns for the Architectural Faculty Workshop, the Student Design Competition and the architectural student folio program on behalf of the Education and the Architect committees. We’re also updating and modernizing the design of MBMA’s popular *Fire Resistance Design Guide for Metal Building Systems* on behalf of the Fire & Insurance Committee. In addition, we share news about committee achievements through our consistent press release campaign.

If you’re reading this report, you are likely a supporter of the metal building industry or have a role in keeping the industry strong. So, please help us spread the word by following us on LinkedIn and Twitter and sharing our posts with your cohorts. Also, do share your favorite videos from our YouTube channel, MBMAmmedia. There are more than 50 programs available on topics ranging from metal building manufacturing to end-product facility case studies. We offer webinars and technical programs as well.

For 2023, we are looking forward to developing new videos, expanding our reach to university professors, building new relationships with architects and exploring cutting-edge strategies for marketing the MBMA story. We’re looking ahead to a very productive year!
MBMA’s Membership Committee is proud to announce that the association had a record year for new member recruitment, largely due to the committee’s work in 2020 and 2021 to educate and inform potential members. We feel these efforts have been instrumental in positioning MBMA as “the place to be” for anyone interested in the metal building industry. Here is a list of our recent additions:
Building Systems Members

Baker Industrial Fabrication
*Frederick, Colo.*

Sunward Steel Buildings
*Denver, Colo.*

Terry Building Company
*Oklahoma City, Okla.*

Associate Members

Building Envelope Consultants
*Building envelope design, inspection and testing company*

Donovan Group
*Manufacturer of the DonoBrace steel rod bracing system*

IDEAS CONNX
*Design, analysis and engineering software supplier*

Intertape Polymer Group
*Manufacturer of vapor barriers and retarders*

Nucor Sheet Mill Group
*Flat-rolled steel producer*

Our Barndominium Life
*Barndominium designer using metal building system technology*

Pacific Insulated Panel
*Manufacturer of R-Seal insulation system*

RunToSolve
*Engineering modeling and simulation company*

Simpson Strong-Tie Company
*Global supplier of structural building products*

These successes energize the committee to exceed our 2022 new member recruitment activities and we are excited to continue a robust outreach effort. Any employee of an MBMA member firm is welcome to join our committee and help us increase our activities. And, if you know of any firm that serves the metal building industry and is not a current member, please send a note to Tony Bouquot at mbma@mbma.com and he’ll work with us to reach out and engage with the appropriate company leaders.
Employee retention has become an overarching aspect of our industry during these trying times, and this means that a robust safety program has become an even more important part of holding onto our most precious resource, our experienced employees.

The primary goal of the MBMA Safety Committee is to provide an important service to the MBMA member firms. We reach out and educate their employees in manufacturing plants, product warehouses and
company offices so they will keep safety top of mind and do their part to assure safe behaviors in their workspaces. The way that we help them most effectively is to provide safety webinars that they can view individually or in group settings. Most often, the webinars are played in a break room or conference room where people can listen and learn together. After they watch each webinar, we ask them to discuss how to implement what they’ve learned and analyze how to adapt those lessons in their specific environments.

Some of the subjects we’ve covered in webinars include:

- Distracted Driving
- Crane & Rigging Safety
- Safety Zone and No Touch Solutions
- Safety Culture
- Safety Best Practices
- Incident Evaluation

The MBMA Safety Committee recognizes that a company can’t have a solid safety culture without a good safety education program—and an action plan for implementation. Any time you see a committed safety culture, if you dig deep, you’ll find there’s a good education program at its core. So, when our Safety Committee meets, we focus on continually improving the educational programs we create.

In the year ahead, we will explore more ideas and alternatives to keep employees and families out of harm’s way. It’s our mission and our job.
The MBMA Statistics Committee is focused on providing timely and relevant data about the metal building industry to assist member companies in making sound and informed business decisions. We were excited to hold our biennial meeting in September 2022. It was also my first official meeting as the chair of this committee. Many thanks to Donna Hise who previously led the Statistics Committee and who has been instrumental in its success. We had several new MBMA member firm representatives join the committee this year, bringing fresh ideas and new perspectives.
A survey of the Statistics Committee conducted this past spring found that a discussion of potential new reports and surveys was the second-most selected topic of interest. With that in mind, the biennial meeting included a discussion of potential new reports and surveys and we brainstormed ideas for additional new research. Our intent is to ensure that the reports continue to align with the data-driven needs of member companies. Just to be clear, we look at the MBMA statistical reports every year to make sure they remain relevant; but we also work to ensure consistency of reports over time. We keep an eye on the past and one on the future to make sure we can always, as they say, compare apples to apples. I’m proud to report that we will continue the work of providing the quality and depth of industry-specific data not found anywhere but here, at MBMA.

An important task we completed this year was to add new categories to the Federal Information Processing Series (FIPS) codes. The FIPS reports compile sales data by county and provide a universal system to uniquely identify geographic areas. They add value by allowing MBMA members to map metal building sales activity in sectors across the U.S.
While the Technical Committee oversees many valuable industry research projects, our overarching goal is to make sure that metal building systems are addressed fairly in codes and standards.

Considering that goal, I am pleased to report that we were successful in having a definition of metal building systems added to Chapter 2, a section in Chapter 17 (“Special Inspections”) and a section in Chapter 22 (“Steel”) of the 2024 edition of the International Building Code (IBC). The IBC will provide a clear explanation of what constitutes a metal
building system, what the design requirements are, and what to address when special inspections are performed. This will remove confusion and speculation and help architects and engineers to differentiate clearly between metal buildings and conventional steel construction. It also brings attention to metal building systems as an accepted structural solution, comparable to other types of buildings that are constructed using wood, concrete, etc.

Our work with the IBC also laid the groundwork for incorporating results from our seismic research into codes and standards. The committee has been overseeing MBMA’s seismic research projects for more than 10 years and has affirmed that the potential exists to recommend changes to current code limits for metal building systems. Design limitations are present in the code based on overall historical performance across all types of construction in areas of high-seismic activity. Our research will allow limits on roof weight, heavy walls and building height to be expanded. This will enlarge our market and increase metal building use in high-seismic regions.

The IBC and ASCE 7 (American Society of Civil Engineers Standard No. 7) define minimum load requirements for buildings in order to produce safe structures. MBMA continued its success of codes/standards treating metal buildings fairly by overcoming a movement to increase conservatism (safer design at higher cost) with a significant simplification of Allowable Strength Design (ASD), or the outright removal of this approach when it is used in metal buildings, wood framing and other materials.

All in all, it’s been a very good year and we look forward to further successes in 2023.
Helping Architects Succeed

“Because many architects spend much of their time in non-metal building construction, there’s a good deal of mystery about what services the metal building manufacturers provide and how the design and engineering process for these buildings differs from more familiar building types.”

- Tim Wybenga is principal at Portland, Ore.-based TVA Architects, as quoted in Metal Architecture magazine, June 2022

Metal building experts welcome opportunities to help architects explore design options in the preliminary design phase of a project—or even before! Since most architects don’t work with metal structures daily, they often appreciate input and ideas from those who are most familiar with the latest and greatest metal building design concepts.

The graphic to your right shows some of the typical ways that metal building professionals provide input to architects every day.

For answers to any of these questions, architects can contact MBMA directly or reach out to any of the AC472-accredited building manufacturers listed on pages 39-40.
How do you make a metal building meet local fire-resistance requirements?

If you appreciate the aesthetic of exterior metal panels, do you know how many options there are?

Did you know that fire-rated assemblies can lower insurance rates on metal buildings?

What metal building elements provide the best defense against climate change?

Did you know metal building experts can provide drawings and details for building supports, bracing, etc.?
Educational & Technical Resources

TECHNICAL MANUALS & GUIDEBOOKS
Download previews and full documents or order print versions at www.techstreet.com/mbma.

2018 Metal Building Systems Manual
Metal Roofing Systems Design Manual - Second Edition
Fire Resistance Design Guide for Metal Building Systems
Seismic Design Guide for Metal Building Systems
Guide for Inspecting Metal Building Systems, Second Printing

CONTINUING EDUCATION FOR AIA CREDITS
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The Metal Building Manufacturers Association (MBMA)
• Founded in 1956
• Serves metal building manufacturers and suppliers
• Works to promote the metal building systems industry
• Provides a wealth of useful information on its website, MBMA.com
• Creates resources including technical materials, research reports and design guides

MBMA's members supply high-quality buildings and building products for use in commercial, retail, office, industrial, institutional and other end uses.

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