As 1991-1992 president of The Foundation of the Wall & Ceiling Industry I am proud to announce the availability of our new sourcebook on light gage steel framing. The book, entitled *Light Gage Steel Framing Primer: A Guide to Understanding and Application*, provides a solid introduction to this growing sector of the wall and ceiling industry.

The Primer is intended to familiarize the architecture and construction communities with design characteristics and installation methods available for light gage steel framing.

It is our hope that the primer will stimulate interest in light gage steel framing. We believe that, once someone uses steel framing, he’ll understand why its use has grown at such a phenomenal rate and continues to grow every year.

**Chapters include:**
- the growing steel framing market
- use of manufacturers’ literature from the contractor’s perspective
- residential applications
- estimating applications, with a special chapter on computerized estimating
- load-bearing construction
- non-load-bearing construction
- engineering considerations
- welding
- roof truss fabrication
- panelization, with a special chapter on panels utilizing exterior insulation finish systems
- revisions to the AISI Specification for Cold-Formed Steel Structural Members.

The appendices include ASTM C 645, ASTM C 754, the Metal Lath/Steel Framing Association’s *Lightweight Steel Framing Systems Manual* and product literature from seven steel framing manufacturers.

Of course, it would be impossible to cover every aspect of light gage steel framing in a single book, but the Foundation has endeavored to touch on the most important points. We’ve covered the very basics, and we went a step further by including a directory of information sources, organizations you can contact for further information about various facets of steel framing.

Naturally, one of the organizations listed in this directory is The Foundation of the Wall and Ceiling Industry, publisher of the primer. The Foundation maintains the John H. Hampshire Memorial Research & Reference Library, one of the most complete libraries of its kind in the U.S., covering nearly every subject related to walls and ceilings. In fact, the Hampshire Library collection includes volumes and reports not housed anywhere else in the world.

Should you need more information pertaining to any subject in this primer, you will likely be able to find additional reading material in the Foundation’s Hampshire Library. A bibliography listing titles of current books, reports, videos, audio cassettes, and published articles devoted to light gage steel framing is included in the primer.

**Contributors**

The chapters in the Primer were written by highly respected industry authorities based on their substantial technical knowledge and on-the-job experiences. In fact, the list of contributing authors reads like an industry “who’s who”! These authors represent a variety of construction professionals, including architects, structural engineers, marketing and technical staff of manufacturers, contractors, consultants and information specialists.


Special thanks are due to the talented members of the AWCI Tech-
Sponsors Helped Underwrite Development and Production Costs

We also acknowledge the generous support of manufacturers whose sponsorship contributions helped underwrite production of this primer. Without their support, publication of the primer might have been delayed indefinitely. And, in fact, because of their financial contributions to the project, the Foundation was able to substantially reduce the price of the publication to $10 per copy.

The seven primer sponsors are Alabama Metal Industries Corp. (AMICO), California Expanded Metal Products Company (CEMCO), Clark-Cincinnati, Dietrich Industries, Inc., Marino Industries, Inc., Steeler, Inc. and the Western Metal Lath Co.

About the Foundation

The Foundation of the Wall & Ceiling Industry is a non-profit research and educational organization formed in the late 1970s. The Foundation makes information about the wall and ceiling industry easily available to contractors, design professionals, building owners and the general public. Our programs include research and development of publications, audio and visual materials, operation of the John H. Hampshire Memorial Research & Reference library, and a scholarship program to aid the education of future construction professionals.

Foundation program and services are supported by voluntary contributions from individuals active in the wall and ceiling industry. The Foundation has been designated a non-profit organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the U.S. Tax Code. Donations to the Foundation are tax deductible as charitable contributions.