

GRANTS

FastFloor Awarded Grant For Next Phase

An AISC-sponsored research project focused on speed has secured a grant to support its next steps.

The Charles Pankow Foundation awarded a \$400,000 grant to the FastFloor research project, a modular floor framing and diaphragm system for commercial building structures. FastFloor is a primary steel panelized system that

is fabricated mostly offsite and can be erected 30% to 50% faster than a traditional concrete-on-metal-deck floor system. It was launched as part of AISC's 2019 Need for Speed initiative, which aimed to design and construct steel buildings 50% faster by 2025 (a goal the industry achieved ahead of schedule).

Phase 1 of the FastFloor project investigated the design's viability using computational simulation and experimental testing. Phase 2 conducted a wide range of prototype structural analyses, including gravity loading, vibration, and acoustics tests, and assessment of the new flooring's interaction with the rest of a building's structural systems. Those phases were completed in late 2024, supported by an earlier Pankow Foundation grant.

Phase 3 will continue FastFloor's

development to include archetype structural design, archetype structure analysis, vibration and acoustic tests, gravity strength assessment, and in-plane diaphragm strength assessment.

AISC is supporting and sponsoring the project, along with the Magnusson Klemencic Associates Foundation, Herick Steel, and AISC full members Nucor, Schuff Steel, Cives Steel, Atlas Tube, and Metals Fab.

The project's principal investigators are Jerome F. Hajjar, PE, PhD (Northeastern University); Benjamin W. Schafer, PE, PhD (Johns Hopkins University); Matthew Eatherton, SE, PE, PhD (Virginia Tech); Onur Avci, PE, PhD (West Virginia University); and W. Samuel Easterling, PE, PhD (Iowa State University).



STANDARDS

AISC Releases New Version of Nuclear Specification

The latest version of the *Specification for Safety-Related Steel Structures for Nuclear Facilities* (ANSI/AISC N690-24) is now available at aisc.org/standards.

This version supersedes the 2018 edition and is derived from the 2022 *Specification for Structural Steel Buildings*. Like all past versions, it addresses the design, fabrication, and erection of safety-related steel structures for nuclear facilities.

"This edition marks 40 years from the standard's first publication," said James Malley, chair of the AISC Committee on Specifications. "Decades of constant evolution have made this the go-to standard for safety-related steel structures in nuclear facilities. I am grateful to the work of the committee as well as

Task Committee 11—Nuclear Facilities and the leadership of TC 11 Chair Ron Janowiak."

The latest revision includes significant updates to the requirements for steel-plate composite structural elements incorporating the latest research, a new appendix containing special design provisions for impactive and impulsive loading, and modifications to the nondestructive testing provisions for ultrasonic and radiographic testing.

The 2024 edition can be downloaded at aisc.org/standards. This specification, and all current AISC specifications and codes, are free downloads at the same link. AISC members have access to our complete library of past specifications and codes at aisc.org/historicstandards.

