



CFSEI
COLD-FORMED STEEL
ENGINEERS INSTITUTE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**CFSEI ANNOUNCES PROGRAM FOR 2026 EXPO
EVENT WILL BE HELD MAY 18-20 IN LONG BEACH, CA**

FALLS CHURCH, VA – The Cold-Formed Steel Engineers Institute (CFSEI) has announced the program for the 2026 CFSEI Annual Expo, which will be held May 18-20, 2026, at the Westin Long Beach Hotel in Long Beach, California. This event is designed for engineers, architects and builders/contractors with an educational program geared towards both skilled cold-formed steel (CFS) professionals as well as newcomers.

This year's Expo features CFS Tool Time Hands-On, the Young Member Group Mixer and Emerging Technologies, which returns for its second year.

The Expo includes several Continuing Education Sessions available PDHs/AIA Credit Units and a trade show featuring the latest technologies in cold-formed steel framing. The technical sessions include:

- "Hindsight on Training Gaps and Improvements" - Alyssa Pease, P.E., raSmith, Kamryn Miller, Simpson Strong-Tie Company, Inc., Elizabeth (Ellie) Viox, McClure, Daniel Church, Excel Engineering, Inc., Lia Zhu, MTE Consultants Inc.
- "A Sticky Subject: Adhesives for Steel-to-Steel Connection" - Kara Peterman, Ph.D., University of Massachusetts-Amherst

- More -

- "Gable End Framing" - Jacob Thompson, P.E., S.E., TrusSteel
- "Design Firm Risk Management Landscape" - Robert Graham, Shipley & Associates Inc.
- "Design Loads on Cold-Formed Steel Structures During Construction" - Jesse Barnes, P.E., S.E., McClure
- "Improving Thermal Transmittance Estimation Accuracy in CFS Residential Envelopes using Response Surface Methodology: A Numerical-Based Approach" - Nader Elhajj, P.E., FRAMECAD America
- "Playing Nice with CLT" - Clifton Melcher, P.E., S.E., Simpson Strong-Tie Company, Inc., Hien Nguyen, M.S., P.E., Simpson Strong-Tie Company, Inc.
- "Navigating Ethics, Liability, and Contracts in Cold-Formed Steel Delegated Design" - Michael Castleman, McClure
- "A Step-by-Step Methodology for Designing Mid-Rise Cold-Formed Steel Structures in North America" - Sarah Majlesi, Canadian Institute of Steel Construction
- "Building for the 21st century: Noncombustible Construction with Cold-Formed Steel" - Carl Welty, The Banning Land Trust, W. Donald Wheeler, Wheeler Steel Framing Supply
- "Designing for Cold-Formed Steel Manufacturing and Assembly" - Grant Doherty, Martin/Martin Inc.
- "Cold-Formed Steel Framing and Building Seismic Drift – What Happens to Our Framing When Buildings Move?" - Kirsten Zeydel, S.E., Nevell Group, Inc.
- "What's Hot on the Hotline?" - Patrick M. Hainault, P.E., R.A. Smith, Inc., Andrew Newland, P.E., ADTEK Engineers, Inc.

The keynote session, titled “Advancing Cold-Formed Steel in Mid-Rise Building Systems in High Seismic Zones: Accomplishments of the CFS-NHERI and CFS10 Capstone Programs,” will be presented by Tara Hutchinson, Ph.D., from the University of California, San Diego, and Benjamin Schafer, Ph.D., P.E., F.SEI, from Johns Hopkins University.

- More -

The Emerging Technologies session returns for its second year with a lineup of exciting topics and expert speakers:

- "Enabling Seismic Performance-Based Design Pathways for Cold-Formed Steel Framed Buildings" - Benjamin Schafer, Ph.D., P.E., F. SEI, Johns Hopkins University, Kevin Aswegan, P.E., S.E., Magnusson Klemencic Associates, Tara Hutchinson, PhD., P.E., University of California, San Diego
- "From Artificial Hearts to Steel Skeletons: Algorithmic Assurance in Cold-Formed Steel Housing" - Rodger Ford, FrameUpNow
- "A Web-Based App for Cold-Formed Steel Member Structural Calculations Built with Open-Source Software" - Cristopher Moen, RunToSolve, LLC
- "SIN Floor: Advancing Cold-Formed Steel in Composite Floor Systems" - Phil Reinders, Steelcon, Inc.

CFSEI Expo sponsorship opportunities are still available at the Diamond, Platinum, Gold, Silver and Bronze. CFSEI wishes to thank the current sponsors:

- Diamond: ClarkDietrich Building Systems, SFIA, SSMA, USG
- Platinum: CEMCO
- Gold: Hilti, hsbcad, Intermat, Scottsdale
- Silver: Aerosmith, Argos, ASC Steel Deck, BECK, Grabber Construction Products, Integra, MAX, New Millennium, NEXGEN Building Products, SDI, Simpson Strong-Tie, Stockton Products
- Bronze: MarinoWare
- Welcome Reception: ClarkDietrich Building Systems, SSMA
- WiFi Sponsor: USG

A special conference rate for hotel reservations at the Westin Long Beach Hotel is available through April 27, 2026. Early registration and hotel room reservations are encouraged. For more information on registration, sponsorship opportunities and awards, visit www.cfsei.org.

The Cold-Formed Steel Engineers Institute (CFSEI) comprises hundreds of structural engineers and other design professionals who are finding a better way to produce safe and efficient designs for commercial and residential structures with cold-formed steel. CFSEI members work together to develop and evolve industry standards and design methods, produce and issue technical bulletins, and provide seminars and online training to improve the knowledge and skills base of engineers and design professionals. For more information, visit <https://www.cfsei.org> and <https://buildsteel.org/>.