Steel is recognized for its high potential in terms of strength, durability, design flexibility, adaptability, recyclability and reusability. Today’s steel structures allow the best adaptation to modern life and renovation of historical elements of our built environment, being in cities or countryside. Steel is also the perfect material for reaching a circular economy while leaving the necessary room for creativity in design.

The European Steel Design Awards are given by the European Convention for Constructional Steelwork (ECCS) every two years to encourage the creative and outstanding use of steel in architecture. The awards are dedicated to the owners, the architects, the engineers, the general contractors and the steelwork contractors.

ECCS is the European Association of Steelwork Contractors, the unique platform gathering steel producers, contractors, researchers and academics. ECCS is a federation of 18 national associations of steelwork contractors.

The Professional and International Jury meeting was held online on 3rd June 2021 and counted with:

Bernhard HAUKE, Germany, Chairman of Promotional Management Board of ECCS and Chairman of the Jury
Annamarie HAGOORT, The Netherlands, Chairwoman of AC4 Architectural Awards Committee
Christine LENOUY, France, Secretary General of Le Syndicat de la Construction Métallique de France
Jacques FERRIER, France, Architect, Ferrier Marchetti Studio, Paris
Mitsu EDWARDS, France, Engineer, Eckersley O’Callaghan design office, Paris
Aris CHATZIDAKIS, Greece, President of the European Council for Civil Engineers
Véronique DEHAN, Belgium, Secretary General of ECCS

The European Steel Design Awards 2021 have been selected out of 23 projects submitted in total by the ECCS member associations. The overall winner ESDA 2021 Laureate, a ESDA 2021 Special Bridge Award as well as the ESDA 2021 Public Award will be chosen out of those nominees and announced in early autumn 2021.

European Steel Design Awards 2021 and nominees for the ESDA 2021 Laureate are (by country alphabetical order):
Austria: KTM Motohall, Mattighofen

Circumferential, cantilevering metal bands and its visible steel sub-structure open the solid building to celebrate motorcycles. This pure and precise hot dip galvanized steel structure is an appropriate solution to this symbolic façade of lightness and transparency.

Owner:
Mattighofen Museums-Immobilien GmbH

Engineer:
Unger Stahlbau Ges.m.b.H.
Werkraum Ingenieure ZT GmbH

Architect:
Hofbauer Liebmann Wimmesberger Architekten
ZT GmbH
X ARCHITEKTEN ZT GmbH
Mag. arch. Peter Wimmesberger

Steelwork contractor:
Unger Stahlbau Ges.m.b.H.

©Unger Stahlbau Ges.m.b.H. + Werkraum Ingenieure ZT GmbH
Belgium: IMEC Parking Building, Leuven

This seemingly simple and aesthetic structure shows an honest industrial style and thus creates identity and image. It is a remarkable example how car parks can be done beautifully in a classic design but with optimised floor design and modern means of steel construction.

Owner:
IMEC & KU
Leuven

Architect:
Stéphane Beel
Architects

Engineer:
SWECO
Belgium

General Contractor:
Cordeel Zetel
Hoeselt

Steel contractor:
C-Metal

©Infosteel vzw
Czech Republic: Dragons – the largest jewel and lighting, Saipan

The tradition of Chinese Dragons has been stretched to a new dimension of monumental lightness. A creative and optimal truss structure perfectly hides behind Bohemian crystal. Structural engineering which reminds of watchmaking in precision and detail manufacturing.

Owner: LASVIT s.r.o
Engineer: EXCON, a.s
Architect: LASVIT s.r.o.
General Contractor: LASVIT s.r.o.,
Steelwork contractor: EXCON, a.s

©EXCON a.s + T. Kolder, LASVIT s.r.o
Denmark: Camp Adventure Forest Tower, Rønnede

The beautiful tower enables exiting experiences tone in tone with nature. Its mathematical hyperbolic shape, optimised by parametric design, employs eco-friendly weathering steel tubes of appropriate trunk dimensions. What a natural and lovely combination of steel and timber.

Owner:
Camp Adventure

Engineer:
Arup

Architect:
EFFEKT

General Contractor:
Levi Jensen

Steelwork contractor:
JVP STEEL POLAND Sp z o.o.

©Camp Adventure, EFFEKT Architects and COAST Studio
**Finland: Kuusijärvi Bridge, Vantaa**

*The bridge melts like a big horizontal tree into the Nordic landscape, reaching with its branches to the ground. Those piles resemble a group of trees themselves. With a natural form, eco-friendly weathering steel and easy deconstruction or recyclability it respects fragile nature.*

**Owner:**
City Of Vantaa

**Engineer:**
WSP Finland Oy

**Architect:**
WSP Finland Oy

**General Contractor:**
Destia Oy

**Steelwork contractor:**
Normek Oy

©Destia Oy, Mikael Song/ WSP Finland Oy, Sami Niemelä
France: Passerelle Coty, Puteaux

Passerelle Coty establishes with Simone de Beauvoir and Léopold-Sédar-Senghor a family of wavy footbridges. Familiar but unique, bridging the Seine but lingering along the river and enabling moments of very urban public leisure are the qualities of the new Puteaux watermark.

Owner:
Ville de Puteaux

Engineer:
Coredia

Architect:
AEI Agence

Co-Contractor:
Vinci Construction France

Steelwork contractor:
Viry - Fayat Group

© AEI Agence - © Nicolas Du Pasquier Photographe
Germany: Elbbrücken Train Stations, Hamburg

This impressive steel-class ensemble of subway and local train stations nicely dialogs with neighbouring old Elbe bridges. The inviting manifest of urban steel and lightness celebrates loving detailing and parametric variation of modernity.

Owner:
Hamburger Hochbahn AG

Engineer:
schlaich bergermann partner (sbp)

Architect:
GMP - von Gerkan, Marg und Partner

Steelwork contractor:
SEH Engineering, Hannover

©Elisa Peppel PR & Communications, gmp · Architekten von Gerkan, Marg und Partner
Norway: Hurtigruten Museum: Protective building for MS Finnmarken, Stokmarknes

The steel and class construction encases the historic MS Finnmarken ship as striking centre piece of the Hurtigruten Museum. Such a transparent and filigree shelter is the result of contemporary means of advanced structural design and high-end steel construction pushing the possible to the sky.

Owner: Vernebygg AS
Engineer: Multiconsult Norge AS
Architect: LINK Arkitektur AS
General Contractor: Peab – Bjørn Bygg
Steelwork contractor: Intas Prosjekt AS

©Kjetil Myhre, Norsk Stålforbund
Portugal: Geneva International Airport – East wing

The simple and robust exoskeleton structure beautifully braces the rhomboid shape whilst the inclination naturally shades the façade. This steel-like technical building with pretty connections and detailing creates an appropriate meccano feeling.

Owner:
Aéroport International de Genève

Engineer:
Ingérop & T-Ingénierie SA

Architect:
Rogers Stirk Harbour + Partners, London / Jacques Bugna SA, Geneva

General Contractor:
HRS Real Estate SA

Steelwork contractor:
MARTIFER – Construções Metalomecânicas, S.A.
Switzerland: Bridge over Varnan, Kristinehamn

This origami-style sculpture beautifully contributes to the landscape bridging the river. The very appropriate use of weathering steel and the integrated design accomplish this folded master piece of a footbridge.

Owner:
Municipality of Kristinehamn

Engineer:
Structor Bro och anläggning
Malmö AB

Architect:
&Rundquist, Stockholm

General Contractor:
NCC Örebro

Steelwork contractor:
Stål och Rörmontage AB

©Henrik Rundquist, Rundquist arkitekter ab
Switzerland: Italian Bridge over the River Plessur, Chur

The filigree bridge structure fits the urban landscape well, is technically challenging and very lovingly detailed. This brilliant solution of elegance and lightness feels as if it always has been there, making the life of pedestrians and bikers not only easier but also beautiful.

Owner:
   City of Chur

Engineer:
   Bänziger Partner AG

Architect:
   Bänziger Partner AG

General Contractor:
   Crestageo AG
   Mettler Prader AG

Steelwork contractor:
   Toscano Stahlbau AG
   Jörirmann Stahl AG
   Schneider Stahlbau AG

©Thomas Jaeger, Bänziger Partner AG
The Netherlands: Schuttebusbrug, Zwolle

The elegant S-shape, metallic painting of the main beam and bamboo cladding of the deck add a playful aspect to a busy urban space. What looks so wavy elegant and light requires extraordinary engineering skills to design and build for heavy traffic loads.

Owner:
Zwolle Municipality

Engineer:
BAM Infraconsult
Setzpfand Beratende Ingenieure

Architect:
ipv Delft

General Contractor:
BAM Infra

Steelwork contractor:
Victor Buyck Steel Construction

© Photo; ipv Delft / Henk Snaterse
Turkey: Canakkale Antenna Tower, Canakkale

This iconic antenna tower resembles an artistic vision rather than an indispensable industrial structure. With impressive slenderness in a seismic area and appropriate weathering steels it brings elegance to the Southern sky.

Owner:
Ministry of Transport

Engineer:
INTAC Construction Engineering

Architect:
IND [inter.national.design]

General Contractor:
Çanakkale Special Provincial Administration

Steelwork contractor:
Cakır Construction

©Yeşim Gür'eş, TUCSA
The Awards Ceremony for the European Steel Design Awards 2021

Exceptionally this year, the European Steel Design Awards 2021 ceremonies have been held locally by each ECCS National Association, e.g. on their National Steel Day. However, the Laureate, the Special Bridge Award will rewarded in Brussels on 1st October 2021.

The winning projects will be published on the ECCS website: www.steelconstruct.com. ECCS Steel Construction journal will also publish a special issue on ESDA 2021.

The material may be used for press-information and publications referring to ECCS European Steel Awards 2021. Copyrights of photos must be mentioned, however. Please always include also the ESDA-2021 logo. Any form of advertising is excluded.

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