



**For Immediate Release**

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## **Association of Steel Distributors Announces New President, Executive Committee**

Rockford, Ill., April 15, 2016—The Association of Steel Distributors (ASD) recently announced that Andrew Gross, President of Alliance Steel, LLC, Bedford Park, Ill., has been elected as 2016-2017 president of ASD. Gross will provide strategic direction for the association, and is committed to taking on the ASD leadership role. He has been involved with the ASD Board of Directors since 1981. ASD members include service centers, distributors, steel mills, transportation companies and service related companies who are all viable partners to the steel distribution marketplace.

The 2016 ASD Board of Directors and new Executive Committee officially assumed their roles following the March 31, 2016 ASD Spring Convention and board meeting held in conjunction with the convention. Gross will succeed 2014-2015 ASD president, Brian D. Robbins, CEO of MidWest Materials, Inc. in Perry, Ohio.

“2016 is going to be an exciting year for ASD, and I’m proud to be taking over the helm! Thank you to Brian Robbins for his tremendous service and time contributions as the ASD’s 2014 and 2015 president,” states Gross. “While Brian is a tough act to follow, I’m committed to continuing the momentum into, and throughout, this upcoming term. ASD is a premiere organization within the steel distribution industry known for creating networking and trading opportunities. With the support of the board and the members, we will further the benefits of ASD by focusing our efforts on education, business, networking, and social activities. “

“It has been an honor to serve the greater steel community as President of the Association of Steel Distributors these past 2 years,” says Robbins. “I am thankful for all of the relationships I made and furthered while leading an organization with such a long and rich history, and I am thrilled by the opportunities afforded to the association by the new management relationship with The Fabricators & Manufacturers Association Intl.<sup>®</sup> (FMA). Andy’s commitment to innovation and his strategic approach that has served Alliance Steel so well will be of great benefit, and I am excited for the future of the ASD under his leadership.”

Joining Gross on the Executive Committee will be:

- Executive Vice President – Michael Sawyer, Vice President, Universal Metals, LLC, Toledo, Ohio
- Vice President – Michael Bush, Vice President Commercial Sales, Esmark Steel, Chicago Heights, Ill.
- Treasurer – William Vitucci, Vice President/CFO, Vitco Steel Supply Corporation, Posen, Ill.
- Immediate Past President—Brian D. Robbins, CEO, MidWest Materials, Inc., Perry, Ohio

Returning Board of Directors are as follows:

Mike Barnett, Grand Steel Products, Wixom, Mich.	John Pidgeon, Steel Traders, Ft Lauderdale, Fla.
Lee Fahrenz, Euler Hermes, Lisle, Ill.	Gary Ziebell, Zeeco Metals, Inc., Bridgeview, Ill.
Lori Hahn, Steel Dynamics, Fort Wayne, Ind.	

The next ASD regional meeting is Thursday, June 23 at the Sofitel Chicago Water Tower in Chicago, Ill., and will include a Future Leaders Forum and business session featuring pertinent speakers, followed by a networking reception. Visit the [event page](#) for more information.

### **About The Association of Steel Distributors**

Headquartered in Rockford, Ill., The Association of Steel Distributors (ASD) is a vital information source for professionals in the steel distribution industry. Established in 1943, ASD has been a leader in this industry for over 70 years providing a strong voice for programs that benefit its members and the industry as a whole. ASD is a non-profit organization, whose primary mission is to serve the needs of the steel distribution industry's professionals and to represent their interests. ASD strives to provide high-quality information, education and networking to steel distribution professionals, increasing their success and strategic value within their businesses and to the manufacturing companies they serve. Regional meetings, Future Leaders Forum sessions, and national meetings provide members numerous opportunities to learn and network in this competitive environment. Visit [www.steeldistributors.org](http://www.steeldistributors.org) or contact ASD Headquarters at 815-227-8227 for more information.

Effective April, 2016 ASD has selected The Fabricators & Manufacturers Association Intl.<sup>®</sup> (FMA) to manage their association. ASD will continue to operate as an independent association, but will rely on FMA for management of its day-to-day affairs, membership relations and development, event planning, compliance and reporting issues, and general operation needs. For more information about FMA, visit [www.fmanet.org](http://www.fmanet.org).