

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

APRIL 23, 2026

MKA PRESIDENT DAVE ECKMANN PRESENTED AISC 2026 LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

CHICAGO—The American Institute of Steel Construction (AISC) has honored Dave Eckmann, SE, PE, FAIA, President of Magnusson Klemencic Associates (MKA), with a prestigious 2026 Lifetime Achievement Award for significant project leadership throughout his career and longtime contributions to AISC, including his status as the longest-serving member of the NASCC Technical Planning Committee (and current vice chair). The award was presented to Eckmann at the NASCC: The Steel Conference opening session on April 22, alongside four other Lifetime Achievement honorees.

Eckmann is the Managing Principal of MKA's Chicago office where he has led the design of more than 100 projects. His professional career of 40 years has been dedicated to the melding of art and science in the built environment, a perspective informing his "first-ever" designs that primarily use structural steel as a building material. His dedication to AISC and advancements in the steel industry is evidenced by his ASIC leadership for more than 25 years where he has helped quadruple attendance at The Steel Conference, was a contributing author to "Designing with Structural Steel – A Guide for Architects," is the chair of AISC's Architecture in Steel Conference, the vice chair of the Architecture Center Advisory Committee, and most recently, he led the design of AISC's Additive Manufacturing pedestrian bridge demonstration project exhibited in 2025.

As both a structural engineer and architect, Eckmann brings a unique perspective to clients and provides a deep understanding of both aesthetic goals and technical demands. Eckmann's notable projects include transformative Chicago designs, such as the iconic Aqua Tower, 300 East Randolph (Blue Cross Blue Shield's vertical expansion), River Point Tower, Roosevelt University Wabash Building, the O'Hare International Airport Terminal 5, Salesforce Tower Chicago, and the University of Chicago's Ratner Athletics Center, and cutting-edge designs throughout the country such as the headquarters for Mutual of Omaha, Sherwin-Williams, and Dominion Energy.



CONTINUED



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

APRIL 23, 2026

MKA PRESIDENT DAVE ECKMANN PRESENTED AISC 2026 LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

In 2021, Dave received the coveted John F. Parmer Award, which recognizes a member of the Structural Engineers Association of Illinois (SEAOI) for outstanding and lifelong contributions to the structural engineering profession. He also received the distinguished Francis J. Plym Traveling Fellowship in Architecture (2000–2001). His projects have earned awards from the American Council of Engineering Companies (ACEC), American Institute of Architects (AIA), AISC, American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE), Architectural Record, Building Design+Construction, Engineering News-Record, SEAOI, Urban Land Institute (ULI), and other organizations.

A Chicago native, Dave is a graduate of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. He earned his Bachelor of Science in Architectural Studies and a Master of Architecture in the Professional Options of Structures.

For image(s), visit our download portal at:

<https://mka.openasset.com/Portals/1958f16e-c1ff-4c17-af96-0322872beaa7>

(Downloads are available for 90 days after press release date. Click on each photo in the portal to see captions and required crediting.)

MKA MEDIA CONTACTS

Laurel Goldammer

Marketing and Communications Manager

lgoldammer@mka.com

ABOUT MKA

Magnusson Klemencic Associates (MKA) is an award-winning structural and civil engineering firm founded in 1920 with offices in Seattle, Washington, and Chicago, Illinois. Serving clients worldwide, MKA has worked on projects in 48 states and 62 countries. MKA's passion is creating structural systems for buildings of all shapes, sizes, and complexities, and civil site and infrastructure designs for architectural projects.

Learn more at www.mka.com.

