



ASSOCIATION OF STEEL DISTRIBUTORS  
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**ASD Press Release**

**For Immediate Release: March 5, 2009**

**The Association of Steel Distributors Announces James Barnett of Grand Steel as ASD President**

CHICAGO - The Association of Steel Distributors (ASD) recently announced that James Barnett, a 40-year industry veteran and president of Grand Steel Products, Inc. in Wixom, MI, has taken the helm of the association as its 2010 president. Barnett will provide strategic direction for the organization and is committed to taking on the ASD leadership role. Barnett has been an active member of ASD since 1995 and a member of the ASD Board of Directors since 2000. ASD members include service centers, distributors, steel mills, transportation companies and service related companies who are all viable partners to the steel distribution marketplace.

"I am honored to be president of an organization I have great respect for the organization and look forward to taking ASD into its 67<sup>th</sup> year of serving the steel distribution community," Barnett says. "I am committed to filling the shoes of our past presidents and I know we have a bright future."

"Jim is a very dedicated and passionate industry professional," says Ron Pietrzak, ASD executive director. "With his leadership and vision, our association will grow substantially."

Barnett replaces 2008-2009 president Tom Smith of B & D Steel, located in Holland, PA, who will now assume the role of immediate past president. Joining Barnett on the ASD Executive Committee are:

- Robert Pelles, president of Premium Metals, Inc., Cleveland, OH, will serve as the executive vice president;
- Lisa Goldenberg, chief operating officer of Delaware Steel Company of Pennsylvania, Fort Washington, PA, will serve as treasurer;
- Ron Chase, Action Steel, Edison NJ, will remain in his role of eastern region vice president; and
- Brian Robbins, CEO of Midwest Materials of Perry, OH, will become the new central region vice president

In addition, ASD is pleased to announce that Andy Gross of Alliance Steel, LLC located in Bedford Park, IL, will also join the ASD Board of Directors.

ASD also extends a special thanks to Steve Lutz of Tomson Steel in Middletown, OH, who retired from the board after serving a three-year term.

The next ASD regional meeting is scheduled for May 6 at the Renaissance Pittsburgh Hotel in Pittsburgh, PA. Robert A. Dye, Ph.D., vice president and senior economist of PNC Financial Services, will be the guest speaker.

**About the Association of Steel Distributors**

Headquartered in Chicago, the Association of Steel Distributors is a not-for-profit organization founded in 1943 and provides the steel distribution industry a forum for ideas exchange and market information. Members have access to the most current industry developments and legislative issues. Regional and national meetings give members numerous opportunities to learn and network in this competitive environment.

**For more information, please visit [www.steeldistributors.org](http://www.steeldistributors.org).**