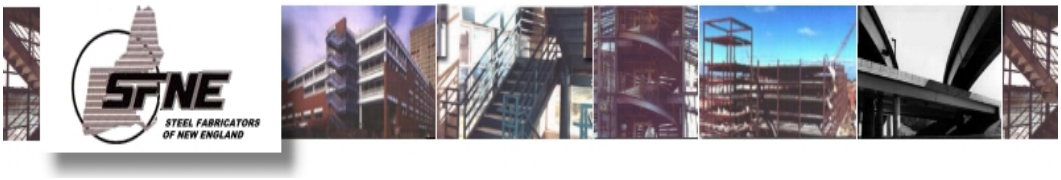

Why Choosing Steel for Your Next Project is the Right Choice

Steel is the most versatile, cost effective and environmentally friendly option for any bridge and building project. Steel has the highest strength-to-weight ratio of any construction material, ensuring that a bridge or building built with steel will be in place serving the public for many years to come – allowing taxpayers to know that their money has been well spent on a quality cost efficient product.

Structural steel delivers flexible, cost effective and enduring design possibilities that will provide a safe reliable structure for use in any condition and for any purpose.

Additionally, many steel fabricators are locally owned small businesses, and many are multi-generational family businesses. Supporting local businesses, like members of the Steel Fabricators of New England, directly boosts local and state economies by creating good jobs for working families.

Is Steel "Green?"

Steel is 100% recyclable, and the steel used to build your project will be made almost entirely from recycled materials, ensuring your bridge or building has as little impact as possible on our environment.

Steel's recyclable quality and low-impact on the environment has earned it high marks from the U.S. Green Building Council who has recognized the value of steel in its LEED certified "Green" buildings.

- In 2007, 83 million tons of steel were recycled in the U.S.
- Scrap steel has become the industries single largest source of raw material.
- Steel has environmental advantages as the material of choice for bridges.
    1. LONGER SPANS—Steel is cost effective and creates longer spans for crossing streams, lakes, wetlands, and environmentally protected areas. Longer spans reduce the number of piers necessary for a crossing, minimizing the number of components affecting a habitat.
    2. LIGHTER WEIGHT—steel is lighter than concrete. The lighter weight lessons construction impact on the environment (contractors can use lighter cranes and other equipment to construct a bridge out of steel and the substructures can be less massive)

3. FASTER CONSTRUCTION—steel bridge structures can be put up quicker than other building materials, reducing construction time, cost, and minimizing disturbances to the environment.
4. WEATHERING STEEL- Paints and coatings are associated with volatile organic compounds—emissions that can have undesirable effects on the environment.
5. LIFE CYCLE—the performance of steel bridges and their durability decreases the need for replacement. This minimizes the generation of waste and the demand for resources.

Safety and Durability

Structural steel's strength and durability make it the idea choice for bridge and building products. Its ability to withstand fire, earthquakes, strong winds and other natural and man-made disasters makes it the ideal material for any project's needs.

Is Building with Steel Cost Effective?

- Today, the cost of steel framing continue to offer a 5% cost saving over other building materials.
- Steel prices over the years have increased, however the increase in steel prices have impacted all project on a nearly equal basis independent of the framing system selected. Just as the price of steel has increased, cost increases of other materials are also a reality.
- A steel structure takes less time to construct, which reduces up-front costs and its durability and longevity will also save money in the long term.