PREFACE

The MBMA Metal Building Systems Manual incorporates the results of research undertaken by MBMA, its member companies and other industry groups. In many respects, it reflects refinement and advances in the knowledge of load application methods and design. This edition of the Metal Building Systems Manual replaces the 2012 edition.

Most municipalities in the United States have now adopted a building code. In the past, where a building code did not govern the design, the recommended loads in the MBMA Low-Rise Building Systems Manual (the predecessor to the Metal Building Systems Manual) were often specified. In recognition of the decreased need for MBMA loads, the Metal Building Systems Manual now focuses on how to apply the loads specified by the International Building Code and ASCE 7. Although the information in the new manual can be applied to low-rise buildings in general, it concentrates on issues related to design, code compliance and specification of metal building systems.

Use of this manual is totally voluntary. Each building manufacturer or designer retains the prerogative to choose its own design and commercial practices and the responsibility to design its building systems to comply with applicable specifications and safety considerations.

This 2018 edition of the MBMA Metal Building Systems Manual brings the manual into conformance with the 2018 Edition of the International Building Code and ASCE 7-16 (referred to herein as IBC and ASCE 7, respectively). It incorporates the results of research and development undertaken by MBMA, its member companies and other industry groups. It also updates referenced standards to the current editions.

Although every effort has been made to present accurate and sound information, the responsibility for an individual project rests with the design professional and contract parties. MBMA and ICC assume no responsibility whatsoever for the application of this information to the design or construction of any specific building system.

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