



NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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Kahn-designed Rail Car Manufacturing Facility earns Innovative Structural Steel Award from AISC

Detroit, Michigan, May 17, 2011 – The Albert Kahn Family of Companies (Kahn), a leading provider of architecture, engineering, planning, design and management services, is proud to announce that the Kahn-designed National Alabama Corporation's rail car manufacturing facility earned the America Institute of Steel Construction (AISC) 2011 Innovative Design in Engineering and Architecture with Structural Steel (IDEAS²) award.

The IDEAS² award is a steel-framed building awards competition and is the most prestigious project-based award bestowed by the structural steel industry in the United States.

In 2007, National Alabama Corporation embarked on a quest to build the most efficient railcar manufacturing plant in the United States, and selected Kahn to serve as A/E of Record for this spectacular manufacturing plant spanning nearly one mile in length and covering 2.1 million sq. ft. of heavy industrial space. Built in The Shoals region of northwest Alabama, the plant is the single largest railcar manufacturing facility in North America and a marvel of modern industrial architecture. The fusion of function, form and sustainable design in this facility has successfully created a flexible production environment with a reduced carbon footprint that will endure for decades. The project is currently registered with the USGBC and LEED Silver certification is anticipated.

Completed in 2009, the outcome is a unique example of elegant industrial architecture that achieves an efficient, collaborative and inspiring image. As a result, this project has been the recipient of awards from numerous organizations, including the American Institute of Architects and Engineering Society of Detroit.

Albert Kahn Associates, Inc. was founded in 1895 by world-renowned architect, Albert Kahn. Today, the Albert Kahn Family of Companies have grown to become worldwide leaders in architecture, engineering, planning, design and management. With offices in Detroit, MI; Birmingham, AL; and Sao Paulo, Brazil, Kahn is well-conditioned to meet the changing needs of clients in a variety of market sectors, including health care, corporate, educational, automotive/industrial, research and technology, and government.

The Albert Kahn Family of Companies is comprised of Albert Kahn Associates, Inc., Kahn Global Services, Inc., Kahn Facility Management, Inc., Kahn Program Management, Inc., Kahn South, Inc., Kahn do Brasil Ltda., and Albert Kahn de Mexico, S.A. de C.V.

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