



Editor's Comments

In the April 2004 issue a historical trail followed who, when and how this publication's editors were chosen and replaced. This issue continues the trail of memorializing historical accounts of how many issues have been published and when, plus any significant changes that may have occurred.

The original idea for creation of a publication for the Association was to have a vehicle to promote the purpose, goals and objectives of the organization. So, in January 1983, Issue I of Volume I rolled off the press. It was identified only as NA of SM, an acronym for National Association of Structural Movers. Two months later Issue II was published under the name IA of SM. The name of the Association had been changed from National to International. Hence the "N" became "I".

Initially, publication dates were erratic. In 1983 the dates were January, March and July. In 1984 the dates were January, July and November. In 1985 what historical records that can be found indicate there were only two issues. We don't know the month of the first but the second issue was published in July. Apparently there was no third issue. In 1986 the dates were January, April and October. The first and only time four issues were printed in one year was 1987. The dates were January, May, September and December. The May issue saw the name changed from IA & SM to The Structural Mover. No reference to the name change was found.

From 1988 through 2003 three issues have been published annually in the months of April, September and December, with one exception. The second issue of 1991 was published in July instead of September.

The September issue of 1992 saw the publication go from a vertical to a horizontal format. No published explanation has been found for the change in format.

Thanks are due Association Directors for authorizing Structural Mover (SM) to be published quarterly in the foreseeable future. As explained in the April issue the magazine has reverted to a vertical format. The original reasons for establishing the publication still exist today, twenty-two years later. The quality of content reflects the commitment of the leaders and members of the Association. As the "Official" publication of the International Association for Structural Movers (IASM), viewpoints expressed within



its pages carry more weight than other publications since IASM and SM are THE vehicles representing the Structural Moving Industry in North America and around the World. No persons or organizations are closer to the issues, problems and possible solutions for this industry than IASM and its members. Consequently SM, representing the Association, "speaks for" the industry.

That said, how can the Association become more effective in addressing some of the problems and issues affecting the industry today? There are many; however, in the final analysis only two really matter: Commitment and participation. Commitment to IASM by maintaining membership, enlisting others to become members, plus financial or "in kind" support for specific issues deemed to be critical to the Association's success. Participating in Association committees, programs, meetings and activities. By responding to requests from association committees and leaders for data to develop credible research. Without credible research the organization cannot effectively represent its members before government agencies and in the arena of public opinion. Without member participation in annual conferences, educational programs and displays of technical equipment, member companies may have difficulty staying current with industry technology and information. Without members enlisting other companies to become members, IASM will not have the necessary strength of numbers needed to become more effective.

Association members should never forget that the purpose of the organization is not to do for the member but to assist the member to accomplish collectively what he/she cannot do individually.