

# Electric Arc Furnace Team Wins 2020 Malcolm Burns Award for Improvement that Increases EAF Performance

*North Star BlueScope Steel's Electric Arc Furnace (EAF) team won the 2020 Malcolm Burns Award for helping modify and redesign an EAF Enhanced Slag Door.*

DELTA, OH, UNITED STATES , February 17, 2021 /EINPresswire.com/ -- North Star BlueScope Steel's Electric Arc Furnace (EAF) team won the 2020 Malcolm Burns Award for helping modify and redesign an EAF Enhanced Slag Door. Before this improvement, team members had to manually clean the slag door tunnel with a fork truck. The newly enhanced slag door improves safety and increases performance within the EAF. The new improvements also increase slag retention to improve arc stability and reduce refractory wear. North Star's south EAF furnace team is reviewing the option to add the newly enhanced slag door as well.



Back Row: Ron Swartz, Don Glenn, Andy Lancour, Shawn Wielgopolski, Rob Kearney, Doug Lange (President) Front Row: Brian Armstrong, Mike Eddy, Mike Wenzke

Malcolm Burns was the President of North Star BlueScope Steel in 1998 when the steel industry market conditions deteriorated significantly. Under Burns' leadership, North Star made tough decisions to control all costs. They survived the poor market conditions and developed a continuous improvement culture that is still active today. Burns was killed in a car accident in 1999.

In honor of Burns, the company presents an award each year to the individual or team that has demonstrated outstanding leadership and solutions for achieving continuous improvement. The Senior Management Team and the Continuous Improvement Team select the winner based on the following criteria:

- Participation in the continuous improvement process

- Leadership in implementing new initiatives
- Specific successes of the improvements
- The complexity of issues resolved
- Money saved or earned from continuous improvement initiatives

Established in 1996, North Star BlueScope Steel is a highly productive steel mill that uses leading-edge technology and processes to produce more than 2 million tons of coiled steel every year. The company delivers hot-rolled bands to steel service centers, coil processors, cold roll strip producers, original equipment manufacturers, and the steel pipe and tube industry. North Star places a special emphasis on community and company culture. Employees enjoy an onsite fitness center, weekly bonus plans, profit sharing and pension plans, plus health, dental and life insurance. Tuition reimbursement is available for approved college courses. [Click here to learn more about career opportunities.](#)

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