“Get In, Get Out, Stay Out!
FHWA Accelerated Bridge Construction Program
By
Gary Jakovich, P.E.
Senior Bridge Engineer, FHWA
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Federal Highway Administration
VISION AND MISSION
- VISION: Improving Transportation for a Strong America
- MISSION: Enhancing Mobility through Innovation, Leadership and Public Service

Presentation Outline
- Mobility - Forces Driving Change
- Accelerated Bridge Construction – What is it?
- Innovation in Equipment and Methods
- Bridge Prefabrication Examples
- SAFTEA-LU Bridge Programs
- Current FHWA ABC Initiatives
- Contacts

MOBILITY CHALLENGES
- CONGESTION
- SAFETY
- ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

CONGESTION IMPACTS
THE ECONOMY
- Congestion robs our nation of productivity and quality of life
- 3.5 billion hours/year time delay
- 5.7 billion gallons of wasted gas/year
- $67.5 billion in 75 urban areas

MORE CHALLENGES AHEAD
- 1 Million more trucks on road by 2016
- Globalization of manufacturing increases demands on our transportation Intermodal networks
- More drivers on highways
- Urban Sprawl Continues

TTI 2003 Urban Mobility Report (2001 data)
**Necessity for Infrastructure Renewal**

- Aging infrastructure
  - 50th Anniversary of the Interstate System
  - Average bridge age is 42 yrs (50 yr life)
  - Average bridge deck life is 20-25 yrs

⇒ One Third of US Bridges need Rehabilitation or Replacement

**Response to the Need**

- $4.5 B/yr. - SAFETEA-LU's Bridge Replacement/Rehabilitation
- $4.5 B/yr. - States and Locals matching
- Can’t be Business as Usual
- Get In and Get Out Quickly
- Our livelihood depends on transportation

**Impact of Work Zones**

- 6,400 work zones (2003)
- 6,157 lane miles closed
- 20% capacity reduction
- Safety Issues

**Solution for the Future ..... Accelerated Bridge Construction**

- A process to encourage the use of innovative technologies and techniques to accelerate the construction of major highway projects with extended service lives for the purpose of reducing user delay and community disruption.

**What Constitutes ABC?**

- Fast Track Contracting Process
  - Close Coordination between Owner, Designer, Constructor
  - Incentives, Disincentives
  - Prefabricated Bridge Elements and Systems
    - Innovative Equipment and Methods

- The Goal
  - Reduce on-site construction time, traffic impact, and environmental impact

**Innovative Methods and Equipment**
NO JOB TOO BIG!

- Confederation Bridge
- Coleman Bridge

Pivoting

- Minimizes work near traffic and power lines, at high elevations, or over water.

Meylan Pedestrian Bridge, France

Launching – 12 Hours per 130 Meter Span, 12,000 M Tons Total

Horizontal Skidding with strand jacks – 3300 M Ton

TOTAL BRIDGE MOVEMENT SYSTEMS
Star Performer – Incredible Machines

Forward/Backward
Sideways
Crabwalk
Pivot & Turn

Self-Propelled Modular Transporters - SPMT

Span Placement with SPMT
Span Placement with SPMT

Moving with SPMTs

Prefabrication

- Advantages
- Challenges

Advantages
- Reduces on-site construction time
- Minimizes traffic disruptions
- Improves work zone safety
- Minimizes environmental impact
- Drives innovation and improves constructibility
- Increases product quality and
- Lowers life-cycle-costs

Challenges
- Requires a greater degree of planning and coordination
- More options to consider
  - Evaluation of economics
  - User Costs
  - Contractor's Equipment and Staffing
- Transportation, Site accessibility, Lifting Capability

What Bridge Elements or Systems Can Be Prefabricated?
- Decks
- Bent caps
- Columns
- Footings
- Parapets
- Total superstructure systems
- Total substructure systems
- Total prefabricated bridges
Virginia’s Superstructure Replacement of I-95 James River Bridge

Prefabricated Superstructure Span

Precast Abutment

Precast Bent Cap

Pile Cap Awaiting Lower Stem Segment
Half the Anchor Bars are Coupled at the Top of the Pile Cap and Half Extend Upward and are coupled at a Higher Point in the Pier

The First Segment is Threaded over the Extended Bars Anchored in the Pile Cap Through 3” Galvanized Ducts
- Footing is Recessed
- Set on Shims
- This Segment Controls Plumbing
- Grout is Pumped into Recess
Hammerhead Segments Ready for Shipping

Constructing New Precast Piers
- Typical Erecting Time Per Pier is One Shift
- Post Tensioning Time is One Shift
- Grouting and Misc. is One Shift

Aesthetic Rehabilitation

Restoration of Historic Monroe Street Bridge
Using Prefabricated Rail Sections, Deck Slabs, and Historic Pavilions

Straight Rail Sections for Promenade
Self Consolidation Concrete Used

Total Prefabricated Bridges

Mill St. Bridge in Epping, NH
Precast Footing

Precast Abutment Walls

Precast Box Beams

Port of Longview

- Length 123 feet pavement seat to pavement seat
- Cost of project $6.9 million
- Project length was 2400 feet and completed in 200 days

Freight Mobility Grade Separation

Prefabricated - Styrofoam Block Approach Fill, Tip-up Concrete Walls, and Prestressed Concrete Girders

Tip-up Walls, A Prestressed Girder Span, and Styrofoam Fill Approaches
SAFETEA-LU Bridge Programs
- Highway Bridge Program ($21.6 B)
- Innovative Bridge Research and Deployment (IBRD) - $52.4 M (of which $16.5 M for HPC)
- Highway for Life - $75 M ($15M for 06, $20M for each of 07-09)
- $16.4 M HPS
- Long-Term Bridge Performance ($31 M)

FHWA ABC Initiatives
- Decision-Making Framework (Published)
- SPMT “How To” Manual (being Finalized)
- Connection Details Catalog (in Progress)
- Specifications (2007)
- Database, Project Costs info (Ongoing)
- Marketing Plan and Demo Projects
- Workshops, Conferences, Showcases

SUMMARY
- Increasing Use of PBES World-wide
- Technology Exists Now
- Equipment Readily Available
- Incentives/Disincentives Work
- “Weekend Bridges” Are Here Today
- Lower First Cost is Possible
- Better, Faster, Safer Bridges thru PBES

FHWA Website Resources
- PBES bridges and contact information - http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/bridge/prefab/
- Highways For Life – www.fhwa.dot.gov/hfl

FHWA Contacts
- Benjamin Tang: Ph. (202)-366-4592
  E-mail:Benjamin.Tang@dot.gov
- Vasant Mistry: Ph. (202)-366-4599
  E-mail:Vasant.Mistry@dot.gov
- Raj Ailaney: Ph. (410)-962-2542
  E-mail:Raj.Ailaney@dot.gov
- Gary Jakovich: Ph. (202)-366-4596
  E-mail:Gary.Jakovich@dot.gov

The future is here!:
Better Bridges Built Faster
Thank You