

READER RESPONSE

I am currently working on the preliminary engineering for the rehabilitation of an historic concrete arch bridge in the Pittsburgh area. Part of the scope of the project is a complete re-decking. Due to both difficult access and the benefits of shorter project duration, we believe that a precast deck alternative may be appropriate. Fortunately, I happened to see in the Fall 2007 ASPIRE™ magazine a very similar-looking project, the Monroe Street Bridge. The precast plank subdeck with a CIP topping is pretty much exactly what I had envisioned as the way to go here. I was wondering if it would be possible to get more details from this project, whether it is construction photos or engineering drawings. I'm particularly interested in reinforcement and dowel details at the floor beams and any details with regards to the sidewalk cantilevers. I have proposed details to our client, but not having seen a similar job, I think their mind would be set at ease to see details on a similar job that has been built successfully. Please let me know if it would be possible to get any of this information. I appreciate your assistance.

Gary Gardner
ms consultants inc.

[Editor's Note: Mr. Gardner was put in touch with the participants in the Monroe Street Bridge, Spokane, Wash., and we trust all questions and requests were answered.]

I recently had an opportunity to read the Spring 2008 edition of ASPIRE. I was somewhat disappointed that there were no articles dealing with railroad bridges. As a Rail Bridge Designer, I know that the U.S. railroads use a large volume of prestressed concrete beams and girders for their bridges. There are some amazing things that the railroads do with their bridge designs and construction using these types of beams and girders. One of the most amazing is that they can change out bridge superstructures in hours, not days or weeks. I believe your readers would be fascinated with what railroads can do with prestressed concrete elements.

Jeffrey Teig
HDR Engineering Inc.
Omaha, Neb.



Indiana LIAP is a research/technology transfer program funded by INDOT and FHWA. We publish a quarterly newsletter and are interested in requesting permission to reprint an article from your Winter 2008 issue "Structurally Deficient Bridges are SAFE." How might I go about requesting that permission?

Lisa Weicker Calvert
West Lafayette, Ind.

I work at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock in the department of Urban Studies & Design. We are seeking your permission to print the article titled "Fifth Street Pedestrian Plaza Bridge" from

the Winter 2008 edition of ASPIRE, in a report we are producing for the City of Little Rock.

Kim Simmons
University of Arkansas
Little Rock, Ark.

The "Loop 340 Bridges" article in the Spring 2008 ASPIRE is great! I was very pleased we were able to get that project to letting in August 2004, the month before I retired. I'm now equally pleased to see it in ASPIRE.

Mary Lou Ralls
Ralls Newman LLC
Austin, Tex.

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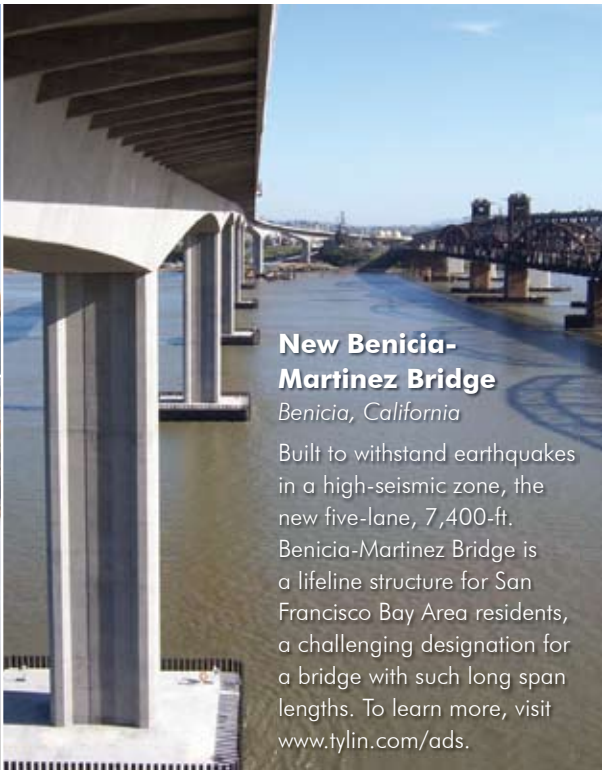
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