Blue Water Bridge #1 Anchor Link Replacement

Presenters

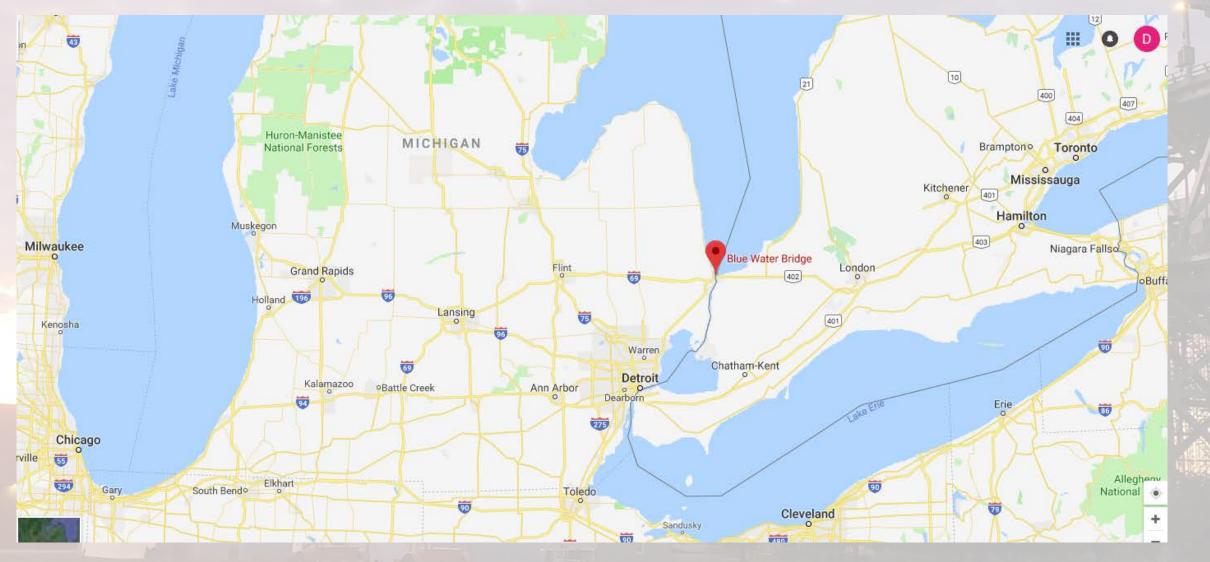
Craig Dashner, P.E. Construction Manager/Partner

OHM

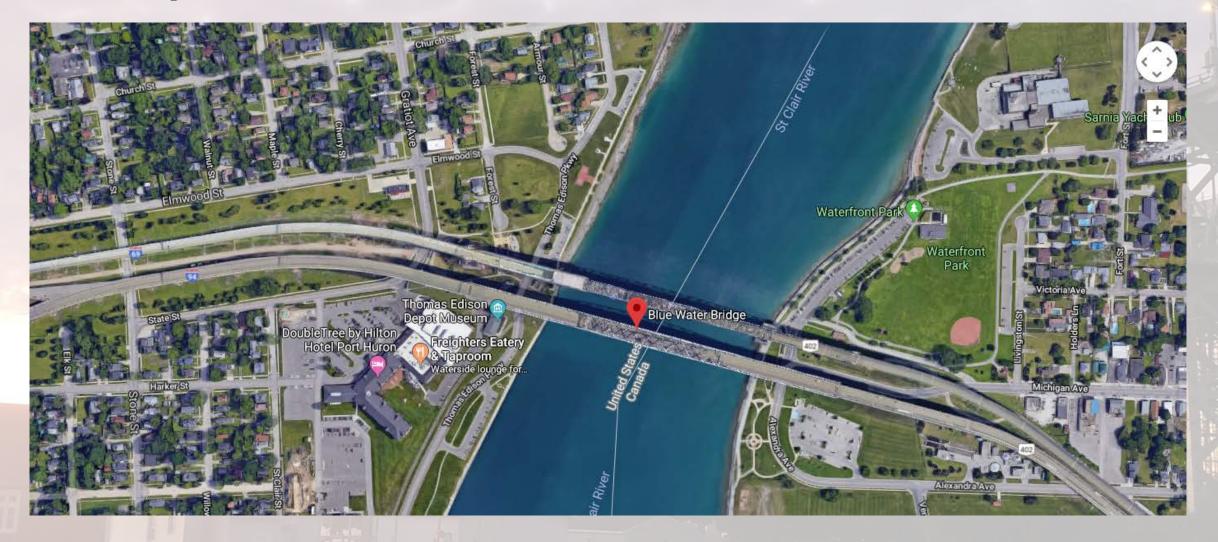
Thomas Bachmayer Engineer

OHM Advisors

Project Location

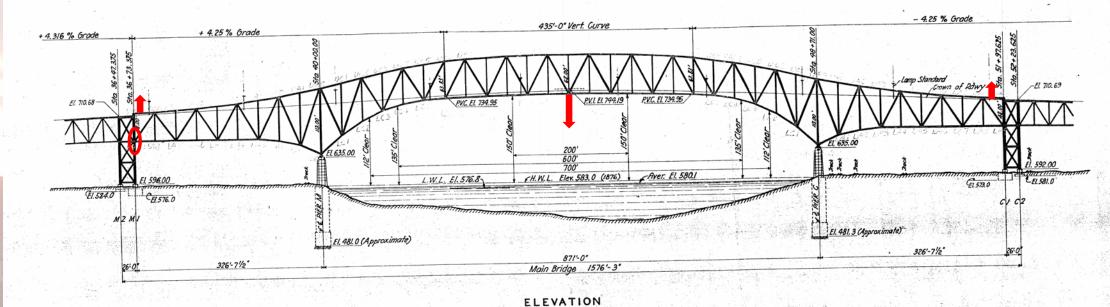


Project Location



Bridge Information

- Built 1938
- Spans the St. Clair River at the mouth of Lake Huron
- Spans: 326'-871'-326'



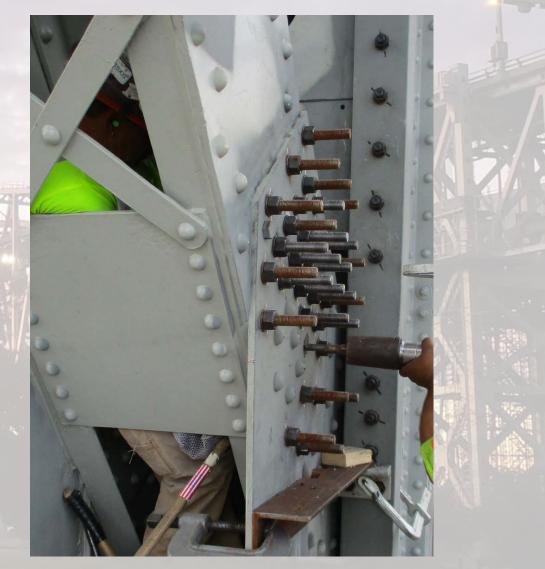
- Link is *INSIDE* the tower leg
 - Temporary support outside
 - Durable materials and coatings "get in, get out, stay out"
- Link is a Fracture Critical member
 - Multiple link plates: A709 GR HPS 70W
 - Forged Pin Material: Stainless Steel A705 UNS S45000/XM-25/Custom 450
- Geometry and alignment
 - Did not re-use existing bearing surfaces
 - Slotted holes in lower pin plates



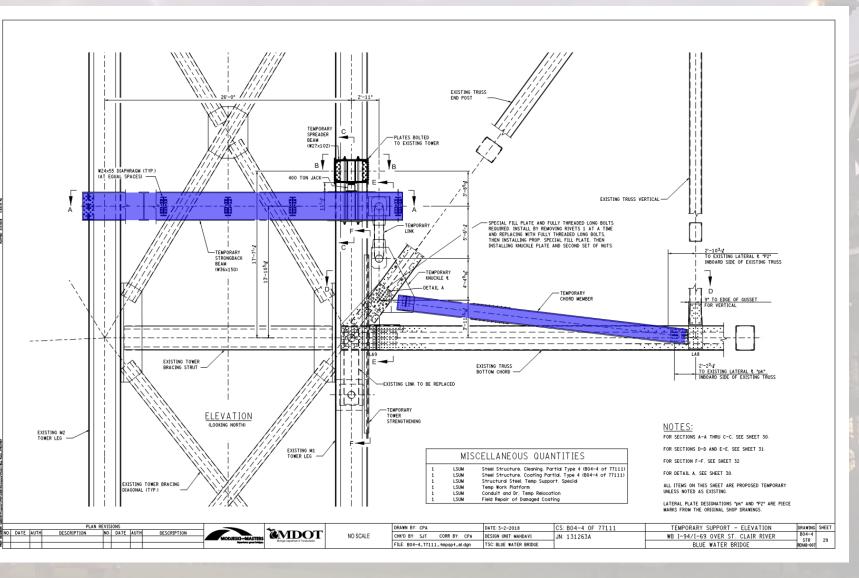


- Temporary support away from work
 - Connect to gusset using special cheeseplate fill and long bolts



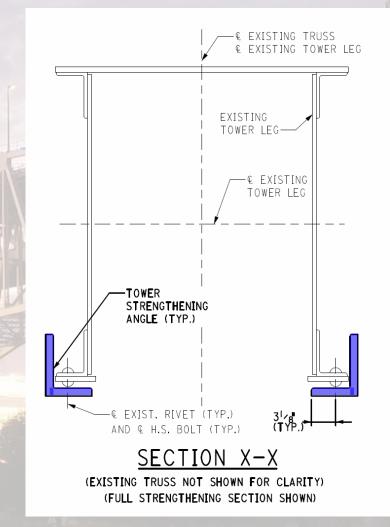


- Temporary support Eccentric connections
 - Temp bot. chord
 - Temp strongback



Removal of tower cover plate for access

- Lane closure for removal
- Temp. strengthening angles for work duration



Design Process - CMGC

- Early involvement
- 30%, 60%, 90% Review and Cost Estimates
- Avoid unknowns
- Ensure feasibility
- Eliminate double work
- Decrease construction issues and RFI's
- Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP)

• Owner

- MDOT, Blue Water Bridge
- Designer
 - Modjeski and Masters
 - DLZ
- Contractor
 DCL Tech
 - PCL, Toebe

Construction Challenges

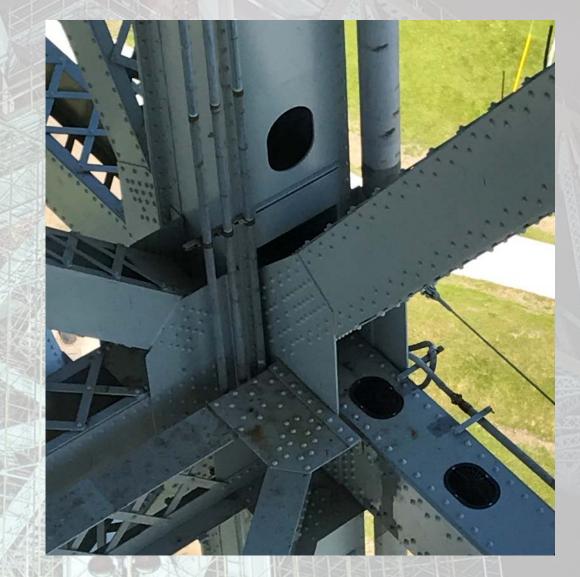
- Utility Conflicts
- Access
- Installation of Temporary Support
- Load Transfer
- Removal of Existing Links and Pins
- Operator/MITA Issue
- Installation of New Links and Pins



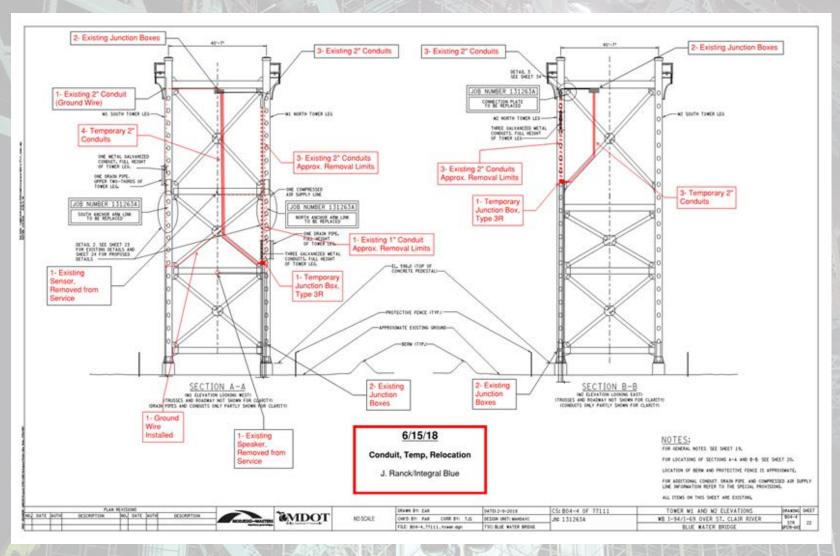
Utility Conflicts and Solutions

• Conflicts:

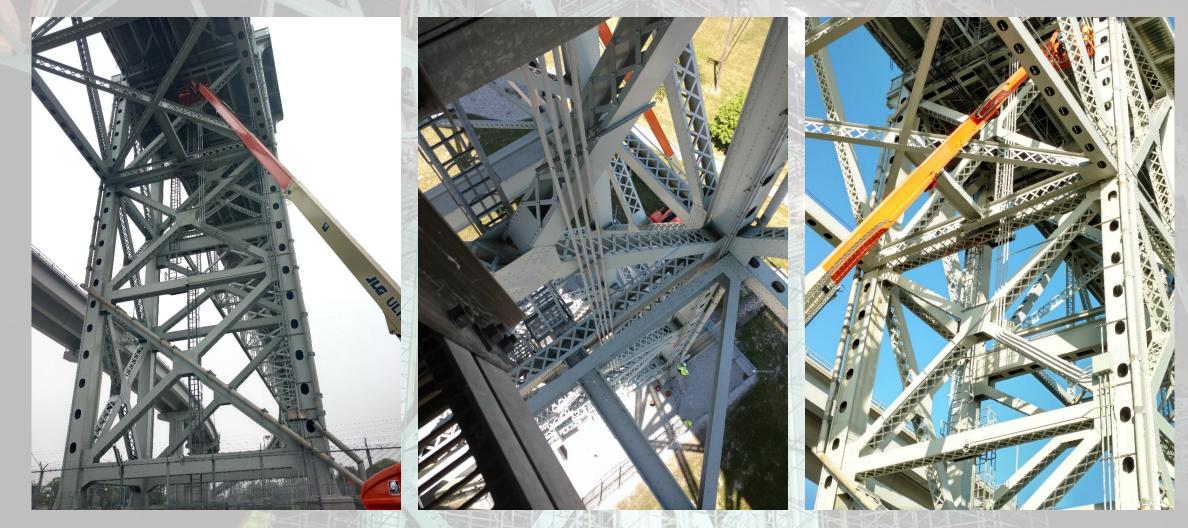
- Electric, fiber optic, ITS
- Storm water drainage
- Fire Suppression Line
- Limited to man lifts
- Solutions:
 - Relocation of:
 - Fiber Optic
 - ITS
 - Electrical
 - Drainage
- Two weeks to relocate



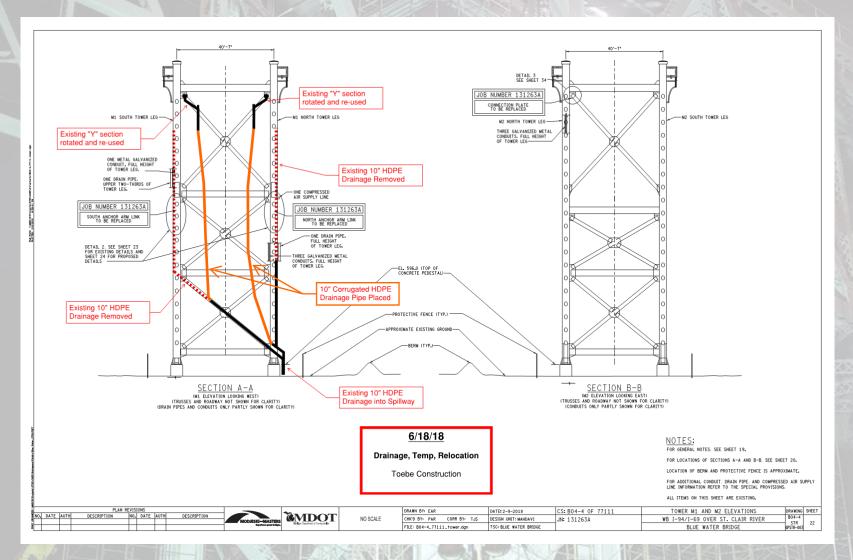
Utility Conflicts Solutions Temporary Conduit Relocation



Utility Conflicts Solutions Temporary Conduit Relocation



Utility Conflicts Solutions Temporary Drainage Relocation



Utility Conflicts Solutions Temporary Drainage Relocation



Accessing the Bridge

Location of anchor links

- 85 ft +/- above ground
- 20 Kip Shoring/Scaffolding
- Man Lifts

• Limited access at tight spots

- Inside tower legs (roughly 2'5" x 3'3")
- Inside horizontal chords of truss tower
- Inside existing truss bottom chord



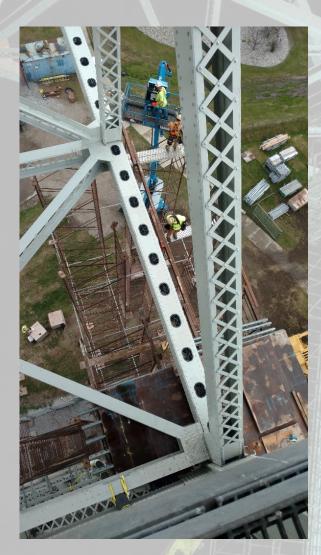
Accessing the Bridge

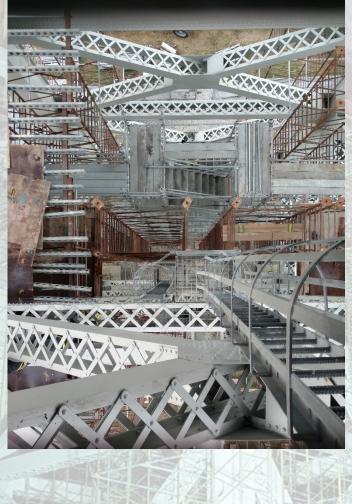




- 20 Kip Shoring/Work Platform
- Stair Tower
- 32 Scaffold Towers total, capacity of 20 kips each
- 4 weeks to install

















Access Solutions

Perforated Cover Plate Removal

- M1Tower Legs at Links
- Allowed for removal of old links, placement of new links
- Coincided with Tower Strengthening



Access Solutions Perforated Cover Plate Removal



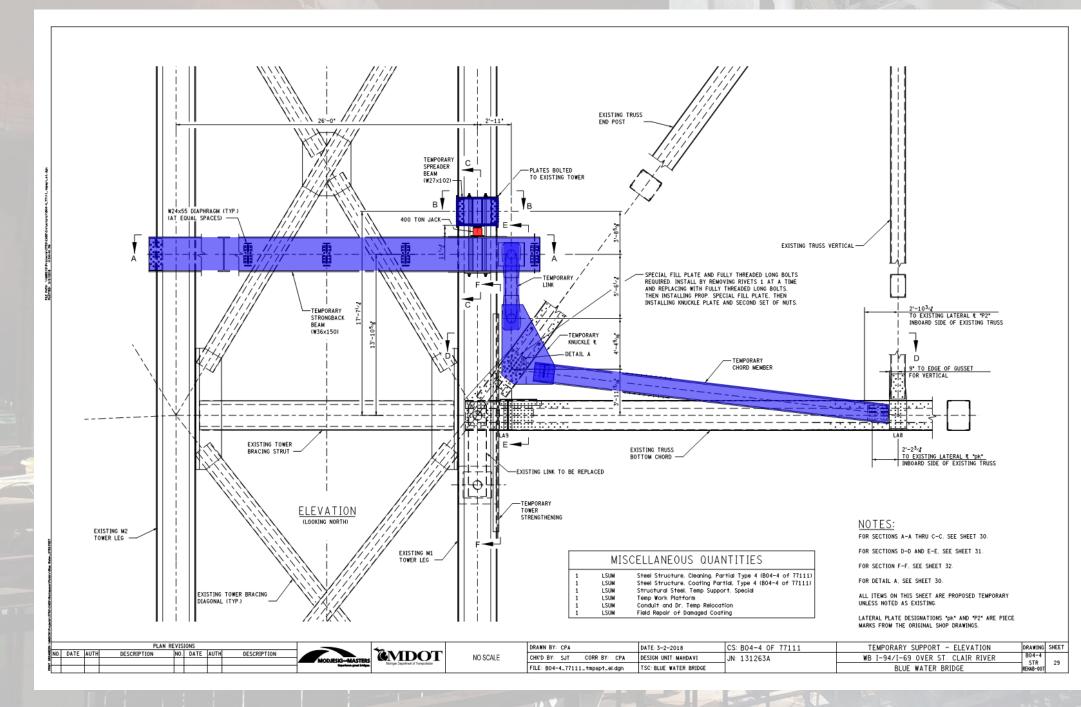
Access Solutions Temporary Lacing Removal

- Approved for removal (wind loading member)
- Access to:
 - upper pin for removal
 - line boring
 - painting
 - placement of new pin



Temporary Support System

- Multiple components:
 - Tower Strengthening
 - Connection Plates to Tower Legs
 - Strong Back Beams/Diaphragms
 - Spreader Beams
 - Pins/Links
 - Knuckle Plates
 - Lower Cords/Diaphragms





Temporary Support System – Rivet Removal

- Rivet Removals Required at:
 - Connection Plates
 - 72 Rivets
 - Tower Strengthening Angles
 - 72 Rivets
 - Knuckle Plates
 - 140 Rivets
 - Lower Cords
 - 12 Rivets



Temporary Support System – Rivet Removal Torch Method

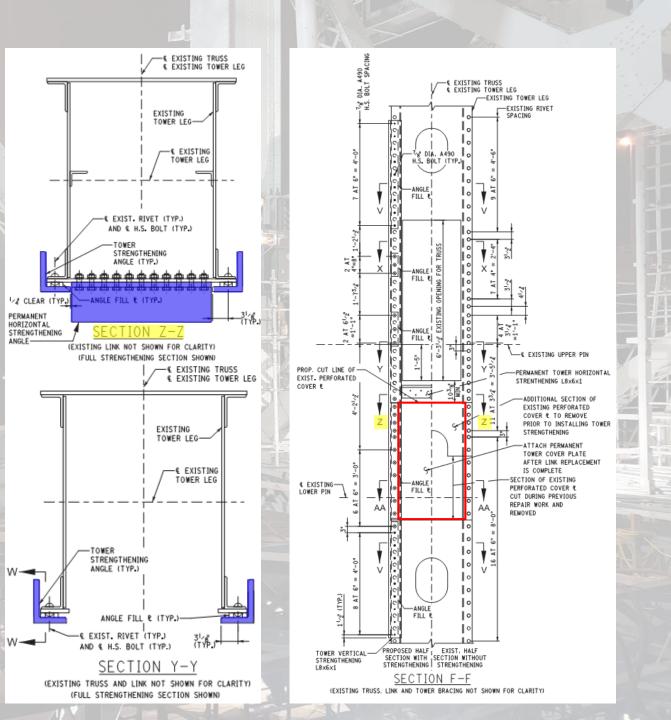


Temporary Support System – Rivet Removal Rivet Buster Method



Temporary Support System Tower Strengthening

- Tower Strengthening required after removal of perforated cover plate
 - Vertical Angles
 - Multiple Fill Plates
 - Permanent Horizontal Angle



Temporary Support System Tower Strengthening





Temporary Support System Tower Strengthening



Temporary Support System



Temporary Support System Connection Plates to Tower Legs

M1Tower Legs:

- Connection Plates
 - Provided connection for Spreader beams
 - Both sides of Tower leg
 - Jacking forces transferred to tower leg through connection plate
 - Required field cut access hole



Temporary Support System Connection Plates to Tower Legs

M2 Tower Legs:

- Stiffened Connection Plates
 - Provided connection for Strong Back beams
 - West side of Tower leg
 - Required field cut access hole
 - Conflict with existing rivet pattern

Temporary Support System Spreader Beams (M1)

Spreader Beams

- Means for jacking truss during load transfers
- Threaded rods through spreader beams supported Strong Backs
- N and S sides of M1 tower legs



- Strong Back Beams/Diaphragms
 - Installation challenging Length of beams greater than width of Truss Tower
 - Scaffolding conflicted with placement
 - Heavy
 - Connected at M2 stiffened connection plates, suspended at M1 Spreader Beam
 - East end of Beams supported Temporary Pins/Links
 - Four Diaphragms each













Temporary Support System Strong Back Beams Positioned



Temporary Pins and Links



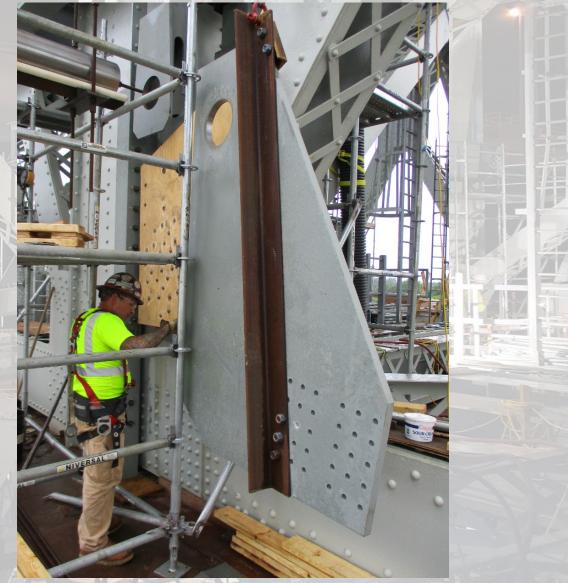
Temporary Support System Knuckle Plates

- A490 HS Bolts replaced rivets, removed one at a time
- Templates used to punch mark holes
- Required installation of temp pins/links prior to placement
- "Cheese" plate between truss diagonal and knuckle plate
- DTI Washers, did not function as desired
 - Used torque on wrench as guideline

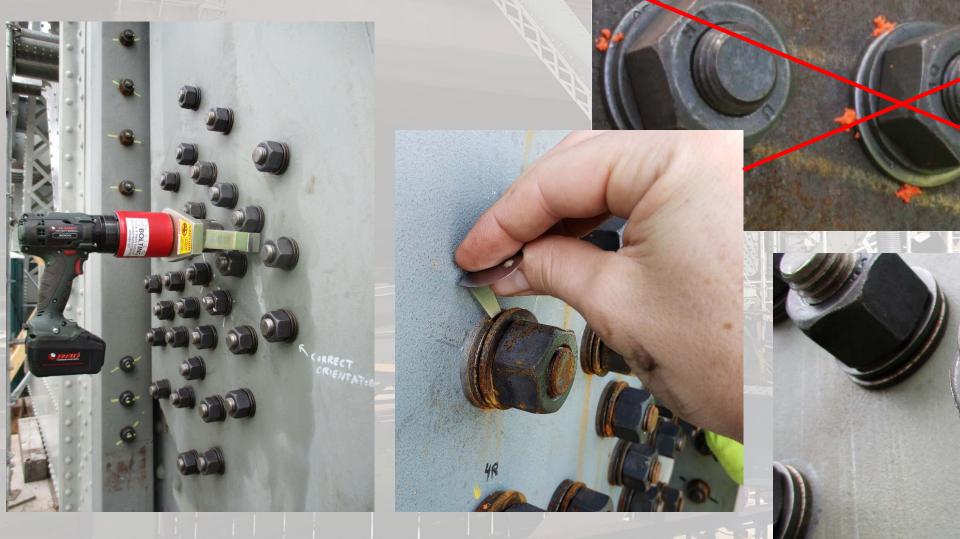


Temporary Support System Knuckle Plates





Temporary Support System Knuckle Plates- DTI's

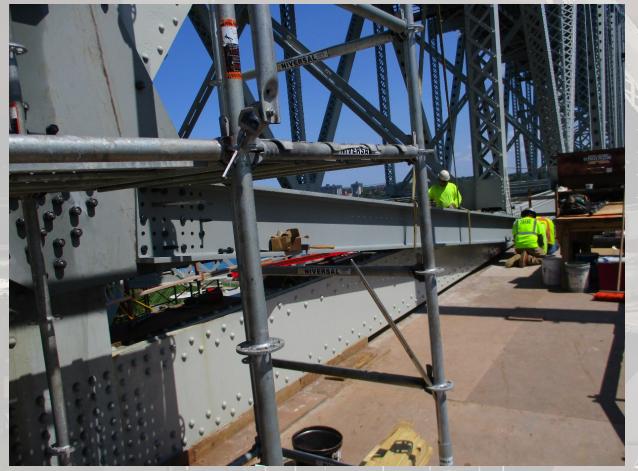


Temporary Support System Lower Cords

- Two diaphragms required
 - Between knuckle plates
 - Inside existing bottom cord
- Batten plates for bracing
- Tight spots challenging
- Field drilling 23 holes at existing bottom cord
- Field coping at inside lower cords for fitment



Temporary Support System





Temporary Support System



Temporary Support System





Load Transfer to Temp Support

- Bridge closure during jacking to
- enable assessment of Dead Load
 - Anticipated DL = 290 kips
 - Max allowable was 410 kips
 - Actual Jacking load ~350 kips
- Identifiers for point of "lift-off"
 - Nail polish cracking
 - Measurement of gaps closing up
 - Acceleration of movement observed with dial gauge
- Locked the collars on jacks tightened threaded rods

Load Transfer to Temp Support



Load Transfer to Temp Support

Anchor Link Removal

- Torch cutting to remove portions of link
- Jack system used to pull pins
- Pipe struts to prevent bending during jacking
- Seized pins cut into pieces
- Oxygen Lance to burn out center of pin, relieve pressure on bores

Anchor Link Removal



Anchor Link Removal





Anchor Link Removed





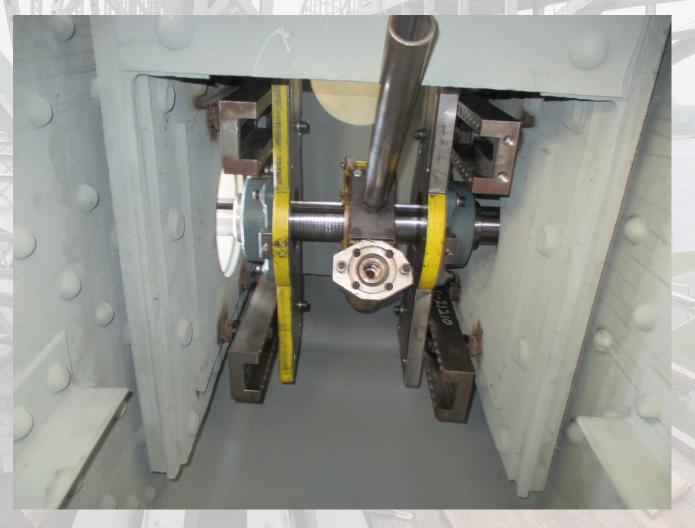
Anchor Link and Pin Placement

• Multiple Steps:

- Upper Bores (truss)
 - Line Bore
 - Install Bushings
- Remove/Replace Lower Pin Plates
- Place Permanent Links Assembly
- Install Upper Pin
- Jack Truss
- Adjust Lower Pin Plates, Install Lower Pin
- Load Transfer
- Replace Perforated Cover Plate

Line Boring Upper Pin Bores (Truss)

- Bore to 9.875" dia (+0.002 to +0.005)
- Inner Pin Plate Conflict
- Bore Bar leveled to earth, verified centered with bores
- Rough cuts (20 thou) and final cuts (5–10 thou)
- Carbide Tip on Carrier



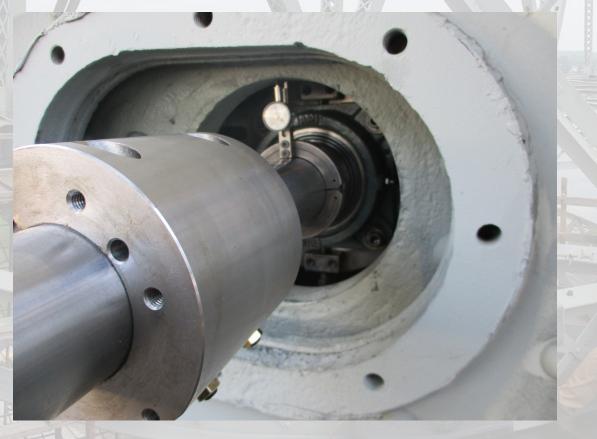
Line Boring Upper Pin Bores (Truss)







Line Boring (Video) Upper Pin Bores (Truss)



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Line Boring Upper Pin Bores (Truss)



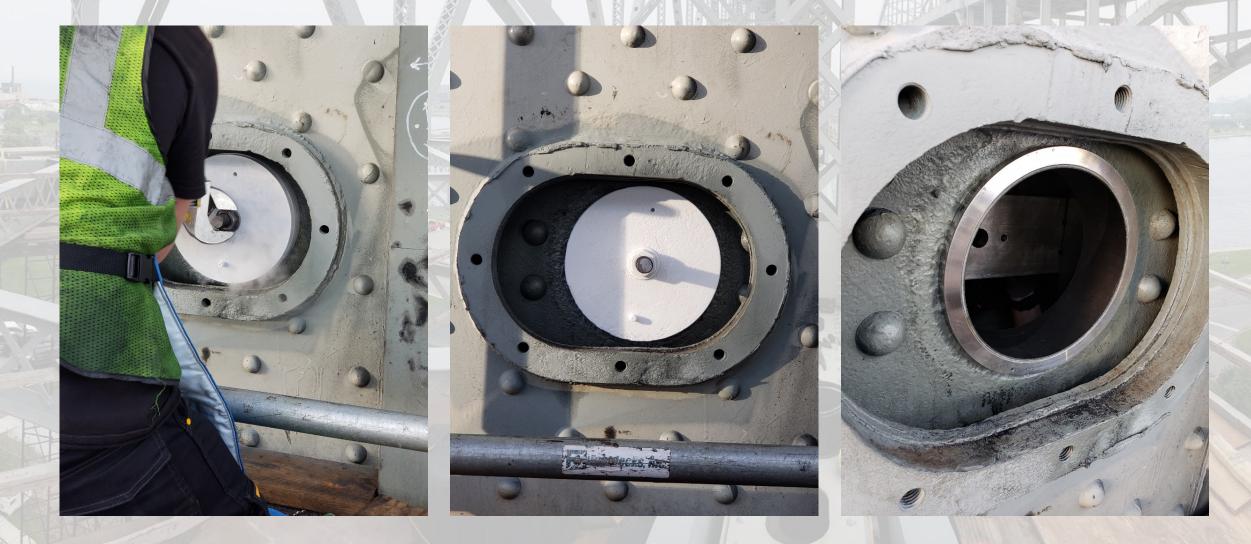


Line Boring Bushing Installation - Upper Pin Bores (Truss)

- "Sandwich Plates"
- Liquid Nitrogen
- Example- North Bushing:
 - Initial O.D. = 9.882"
 - Bore machined to 9.878"
 - O.D. after Liquid Nitrogen = 9.864"
- 45 minutes submerged in Liquid Nitrogen



Line Boring Bushing Installation - Upper Pin Bores (Truss)



Lower Pin Plates Removal of Existing Pin Plates

- Rivet Removal Required
 - 112 Rivets each leg
- Thickness of multiple plates
 - Drilling to remove
- Blasting/Priming prior to placement of new pin plates
 - Complete blasting/priming inside tower leg

Lower Pin Plates Installation Removal of Existing Pin Plates



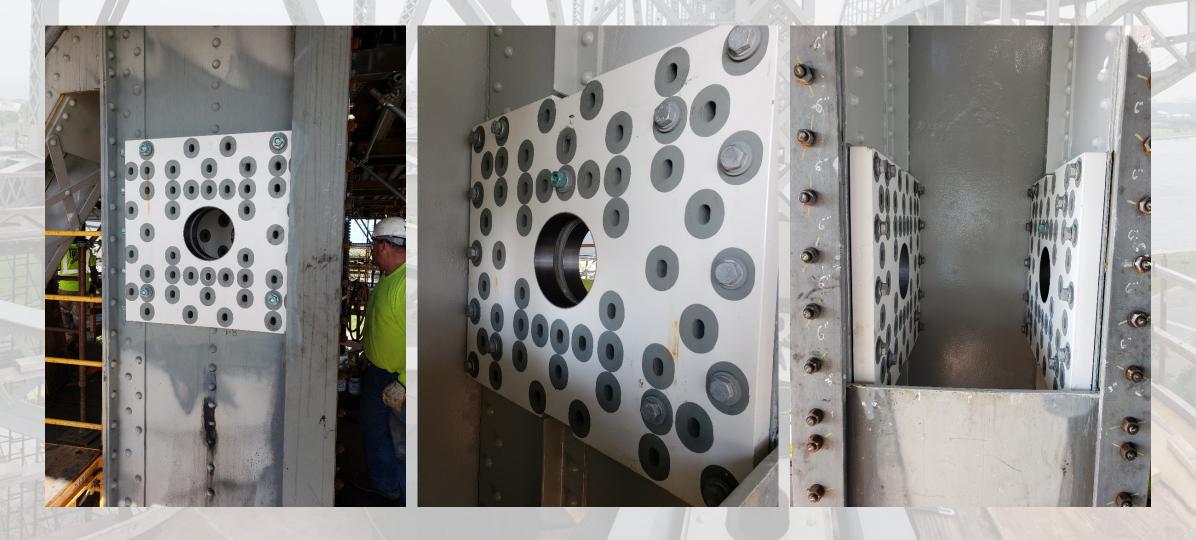
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Lower Pin Plates Installation Placement of Plates Prior to Link Installation

- Lower Pin Plates fabricated with slotted holes
- Outer Pin Plates required fill plates
- Plates heavy, 2.5" thick
 - Outer Plate: 337 lbs each
 - Inner Plate: 402.5 lbs each
 - Multiple come alongs used to position
- Temporary Strengthening Angle conflicted with bolts



Lower Pin Plates Installation Placement of Plates Prior to Link Installation



Intermission

Union lockout could disrupt projects throughout Southeast Michigan

CHAD LIVENGOOD 🕑 🖂



PRINT

Road construction firms to lock out heavy equipment operators Tuesday

It could impact more than 1,000 workers

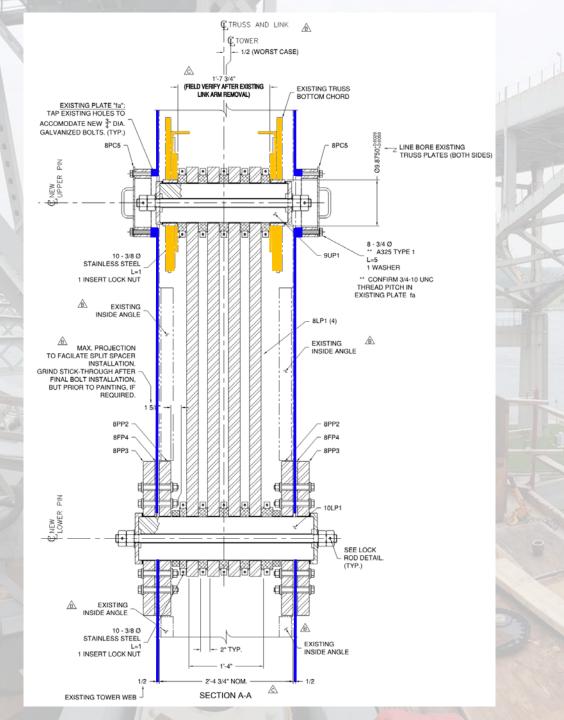
Operating engineers union contract expired in June



Michigan Department of Transportation

A summer-long labor dispute comes to a boil Tuesday and could disrupt road projects throughout Southeast Michigan.

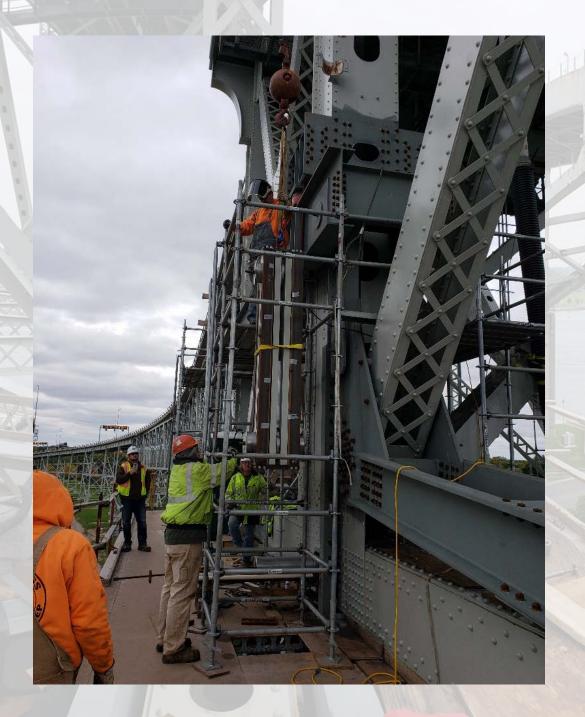
- Contr. elected to assemble links prior to placement
- Steel "cage"
- Sheaves and cable through tower leg opening at truss
- Jack used inside tower leg to raise assembly
- Temporary Pins to be pushed and removed by permanent pins once positioned







- Come alongs and crane to pull into Tower Leg
- Set on Pancake Jack
- Jacked vertically to align Temporary Upper Pin
- Upper Pin installed, pushing out Temporary Pin
- Jack Truss (if needed) and install lower pin, pushing out Temporary Pin



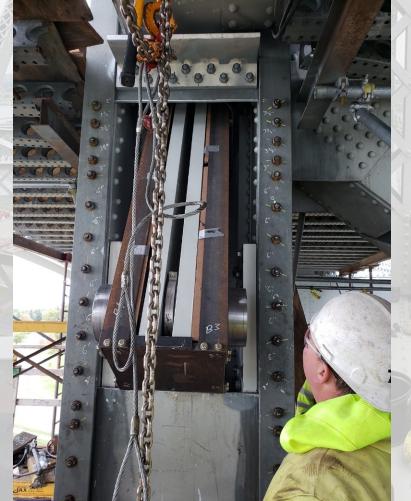


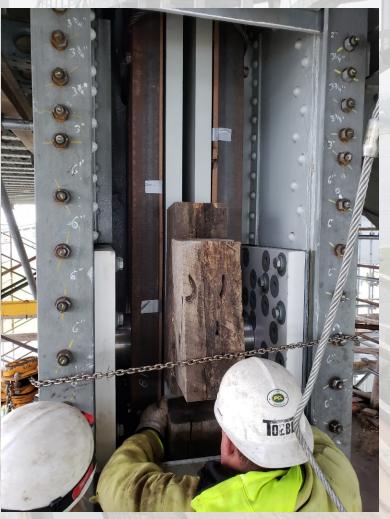






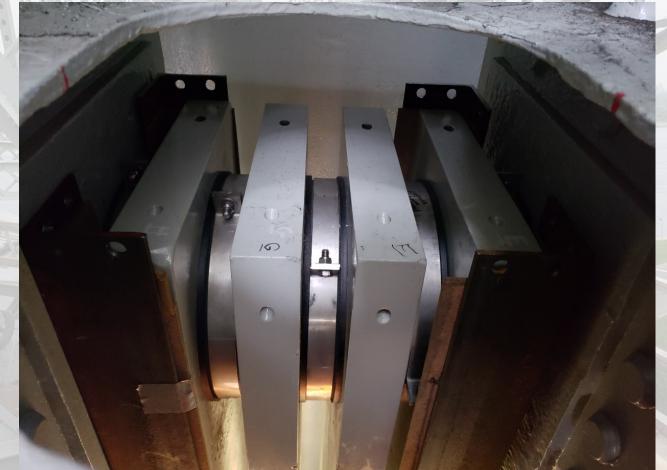






Temporary Pins/Permanent Links Upper Pin Installation

- Chairs to support Pins (Heavy)
 PTFE Dry Lubricant only
- Threaded Rod and nut with wood "jack chair" on opposite end
- Protecting and monitoring Non-Metallic Bushings critical (5 Total @ Upper Pin)



Permanent Anchor Link Installation Upper Pin Installation





Permanent Anchor Link Installation Upper Pin Installation – Issue

• South M1Issue:

- Pin placed through south Bore and links/Spacers (0.002" tolerance)
- Cone entered north Bore, off alignment
- Upper Pin and Cone rested on Non-Metallic at N Bore while pulled through
- Damage to Non-Metallic Bushing visible



Permanent Anchor Link Installation Upper Pin Installation - Issue



Permanent Anchor Link Installation Upper Pin Installation – Issue Resolved

- Spare Bushings, Non-Metallic bushing removed and re-used
- Local shop machined aluminum block for contr.
- I.D. of Steel Bushing checked vs. 0.D. of new Non-Metallic, 3 thousandths difference, acceptable
- Liquid Nitrogen used to shrink Non-Metallic and insert



Permanent Anchor Link Installation Upper Pin Installation – Issue Resolved



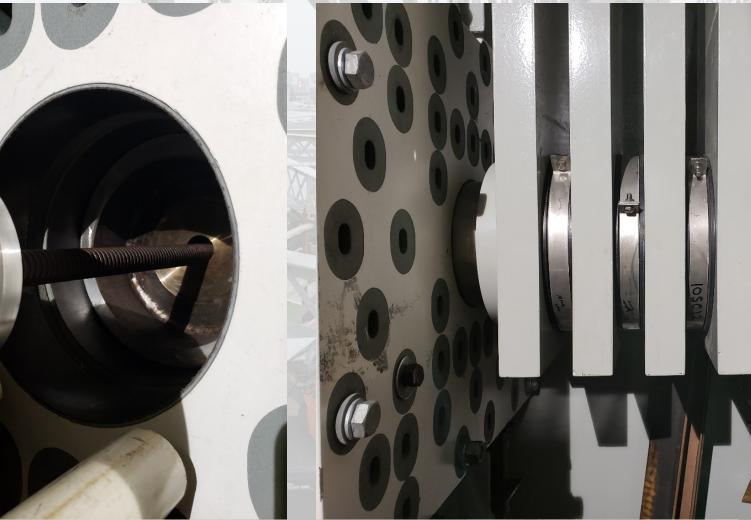


Lower Pin Installation

- Links hanging
 Temporary Lower Pin not aligned with bores
- Truss jacked to original position plus 1/16"
- Threaded Rod to pull Permanent Lower Pin
- Steel Bushings on each end of Pin, PE spacer bushing between outer links and steel bushings



Load Transfer to New Links Lower Pin Installation





Load Transfer to New Links Bushings Installed



Installation Complete





Questions?

Thank you!

Craig Dashner, P.E. Thomas Bachmayer



