HALVERSON Construction Co. Inc.




Illinois Route 47 over the Illinois River at Morris

Project Description

Construction of the new 1,730-foot long, 5-span southbound bridge, carrying Illinois Route 47 over the Illinois River, at Morris, Illinois. The existing structure remained in service during construction of the new bridge.

The scope of work included:

- the construction of a new substructure
- structural steel
- superstructure
- new roadway lighting
- MSE walls under the bridge

Owner -- Illinois Department of Transportation
Architects -- Teng & Associates, Inc.
Completion Date – November 2002
Contract Value -- $11,500,000



Project Details

- New bridge required 1,200 cubic yards of reinforced concrete substructure
- 5’ diameter caisson shafts, drilled 75’ to bedrock
- Installation of 375 tons of reinforcing steel
- 2,800 tons of new high strength structural steel (10’ tall plate girders with cross-frames)
- Placement of 1,850 cubic yards of reinforced concrete for new bridge superstructure
- Construction of some of the longest plate girder single spans in Illinois, reaching a maximum of 410’
- Construction of new bridge within a few feet of the existing truss bridge
- Use of structural steel erection methods to minimize disruption of river traffic

Unique Challenges

- Erection of structural steel using temporary falsework, temporary causeway and work barges while maintaining river traffic
- Design and implementation of a temporary steel guide frame to place the locations of the 50’ tall river pier foundations
- Development of a bridge deck pour sequence in order to keep deflections within tolerances
- Erection of structural steel using the cantilever method, requiring ballast in adjacent spans to adjust for deflections

Contact Information

Halverson Construction Co., Inc.
620 North 19th Street
Springfield, Illinois 62702
Phone: 217-753-0027 | Fax: 217-753-1904