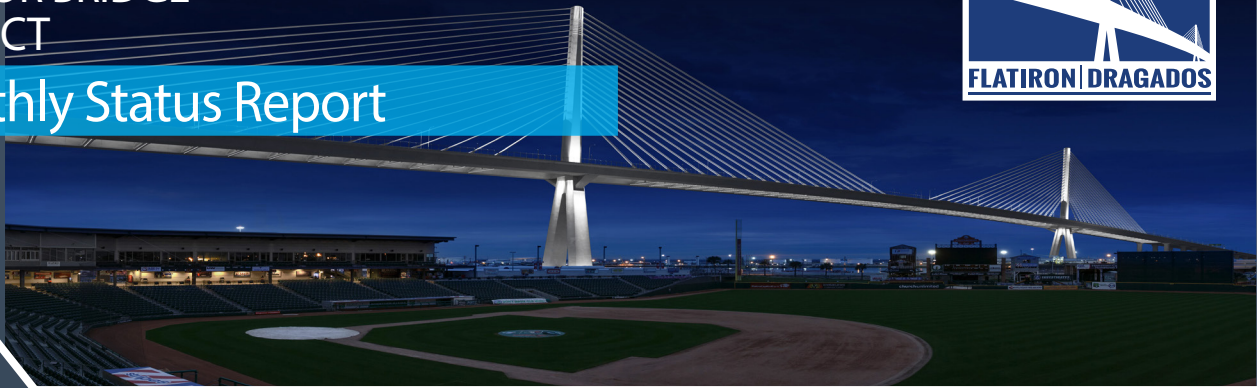


US 181 HARBOR BRIDGE PROJECT

Monthly Status Report



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November 2021

Pre-Cast Yard Highlights

This summer, the Pre-Cast Yard (PCY) team overcame the hurdles of suspended Cable Stay Bridge (CSB) operations and rallied behind a green light to resume production of casting the Harbor Bridge Project (HBP) main span concrete segments. During the CSB reevaluation pause, PCY crews completed casting all of the north and south approach segments (March 2021), conducted equipment inspections, maintained inventory, thoroughly organized the yard, coordinated segment transports to the south approach bridge area, and prepared forms to restart main span segment production. In August, segment erection was in full swing on Mold M6 for southbound main span segments, Mold M7 for northbound main span segments, and Mold M8 for main span delta frames. This fall, crews out-paced previous records by casting 40 segments in November; 18 northbound segments, 18 southbound segments, plus four delta frame segments. Impressive production and quality control (QC) places PCY operations on track to erect the remaining ~600 segments by next Winter.

The efficiency and quality of the HBP precast segment fabrication involve a complex engineering process that cannot be understated at this facility. An overview of the multi-layered QC process includes third-party testing of raw materials used in the high-performance 170-year concrete mix produced at the onsite batch plant. The intricate rebar mazelike design used to shape the box girder segments provides the utmost reinforcement in bridge construction and requires inspection with each concrete pour. Transverse stressing and longitudinal post-tensioning are engineered into main span segments to make for a durable cross-section that can handle extreme loads. Geometric surveys are conducted on the ~110-ton segments before, during, and after the curing process to ensure match casting is done within a fraction of an inch of the next 'sister' segment dimensions. Sustained production alongside detailed technical procedures comprise the most impressive elements of the HBP Pre-Cast Yard operations.

Pre-Cast Yard Leadership

We attribute much of the PCY success to the superintendent, Sergio Villeda. Sergio's responsibilities are vast in overseeing the casting of almost 3,000 precast segments to create the longest Cable Stay Bridge deck in the USA. He has been with the HBP for over five years and serves as the driving force responsible for safety at our yard in Robstown, Texas. In addition, Sergio mentors new supervisors and manages up to 150 crew members day and night, depending on productivity rates. Commitment to safety is evident in Sergio's day-to-day activities. A few examples include: implementing a color-coded housekeeping program to mitigate hazardous risks, routinely recognizing employees for 'good catches', utilizing his own time to make the annual Safety Week purposeful and entertaining, and creating videos to orient new hires on PCY safety protocols. As a result of this passion for a safe work atmosphere in a highly fast-paced setting, the PCY has enjoyed two years without any recordable or lost time incidents. The HBP is fortunate to have this type of leadership and one-of-a-kind team member and is pleased to announce that Sergio was selected as the finalist out of many nominees from national projects for the Dragados USA 2021 Safety Champion Award!



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