Concrete Durability Issues

By Vijay Chandra P.E. PB Americas Inc.

Western Bridge Engineers' Seminar September 2007



What is Durability?

 Durability of hydraulic-cement concrete is defined as its ability to resist weathering action, chemical attack, abrasion, or any other process of deterioration. Durable concrete will retain its original form, quality, and serviceability when exposed to its environment.

(Guide to Durable Concrete, Reported by ACI Committee 201)



Durability

"Durability of Highways taken for Granted." - The Oakland Tribune

"Why do you doubt your senses?" "Because," said Scrooge, "every little thing affects them." - Charles Dickens



Factors affecting Durability

- Proximity to sea water
- Ice/Snow removal agents
- Leaking expansion joints
- Aggressive chemical exposure
- Freezing & Thawing



Factors affecting Durability (Cont'd)

- Design & Detailing defects
- Construction defects
- Material types, incl. admixtures
- Post-tensioning grout filler
- Post-tensioning anchorage protection



What does Durability depend on?

- Proper selection and correct use of materials
- Proper design and constructible detailing
- Attention to method of construction
- Addressing inspection access and maintenance
- Good specifications / special provisions
- Good inspection and records during construction
- Vigilant quality control during construction
- Qualified personnel to supervise and direct construction activities



Lessons Learnt in Both Design & Construction





Deck Rebar and Piling











Scour Damage



Girder Collapse – Lack of Bracing



Freeze-Thaw Effect

Epoxy Application

Internal Corrosion

PE Pipe Cracking

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PT Hardware Condition

Visual Observation

Duct w/ Void Duct w/ Water

Grouted Ducts !!!

Deck Rebar Positioning

Concrete Honeycombing

New Direction

Self Consolidating Concrete

Smooth Steel Sheath

Individual duct sections

Joined duct sections

Sealing of joint by tape

PT- PLUS Duct: Flat

Duct coupler/vent connection Connection to anchorage

Connection to H-anchorage

Corrugated Steel Duct: Round

Vent made of corrugated hose:

Closing by Outside Screw Cap Closing by Inside Screw Cap **Closing by Valve**

HDPE Pipe

Anchorage

Loop Tendon

Multiple Protection Concept

Construction Joint Liquid Applied (Elastomeric 1'-6" Waterproofing Membrane) (500mm min.) Grout Drip to prevent seepage through construction joint from reaching anchors **Anchorage End Cap Vent Liquid Applied** Permanent Anchorage End Cap (Waterproofing Membrane) **Grout Injection Hole/Vent in Anchorage TR 47 Anchorage Protection Multiple Protection Concept**

Note: Not allowed in the state of Florida for segmental bridges, except splice girders with cast-in-place top deck.

Top Pocket Anchorage (not recommended) Multiple Protection Concept

SAW CUT STARTER SEGMENTS

Strengthening of Column NB13-C utilizing Carbon Wrap

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Conclusion

- Durability depends on design, detailing, materials, construction, construction supervision, and quality control at all levels of design and construction.
- Properly designed, detailed and constructed structures enhance structural durability.
- Durable structures are economical, avoid unnecessary repairs and minimize future maintenance costs.

Thank You

