Construction of an Unbonded Concrete Overlay Under Traffic US 18, Iowa

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(A tribute to Dr. James Cable)

Tech Cente

National Concrete Pavement Technology Center







- Project description
- Constraints
- Design
- Traffic management
- Construction
- Things we learned the hard way

Project Overview

- 2 lane county road (2 counties)
- ~2400 ADT
- 18.8 miles long
- Existing composite pavement
- 4 bridges



Project Overview

- Existing system
 - 1938 PCC 18' wide
 - 24' Asphalt overlay 6" thick
 - Rutted and raveled
 - Tenting from poor condition concrete joints



Constraints

- Widening from 24 to 32 feet
- Traffic had to be maintained
- 2 mile max work zone for patching & milling
- 3.5 mile max work zone paving
- · Cross slope had to be adjusted



Design





Traffic Management



Patching Traffic Control







Construction

- 1. Subdrains, patching, drains, shoulders
- 2. Bridge approaches
- 3. Mill asphalt
- 4. Place overlay
- 5. Connections

Partial Depth Milling



Partial Depth Patching



Partial Depth Patch



Full Depth PCC Patches

• Average 30 per day



Full Depth PCC Patching





- 7' wide machine
- Minimum $\frac{1}{2}$ " to 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ " maximum
- Centerline pass controlled by total stations
- Remainder controlled by sensor off milled surface







Skipped Mill and Pull Off













- Average Paving per day 6,800 to 7,500 ft.
- Heated water for cold weather



Stringless Control







Placing Safety Edge







Removing Safety Edge



Things We Learned

- Know what is there
- Details matter
- Building under traffic is slower and does cost more
- Communication is critical
- But it can be done!

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