



Pierre-Fort Pierre Bridge Newsletter

Feb. 29, 2024 | Issue 81

Lt. Cmdr. John C. Waldron Memorial Bridge Pierre & Fort Pierre, S.D.

Bridge Project Update

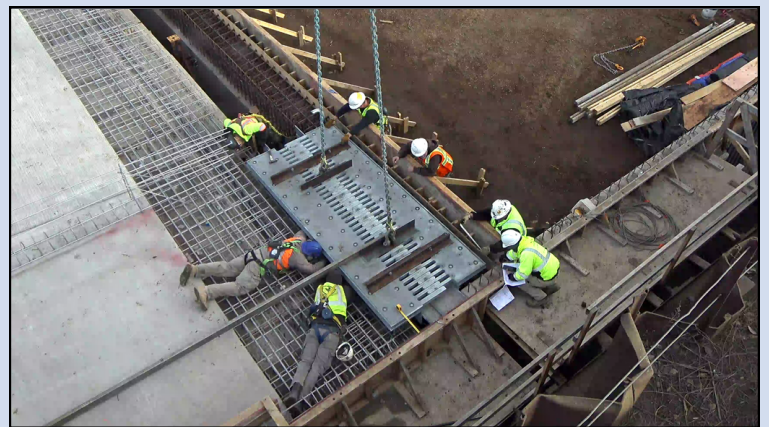
As we inch ever closer to Spring, crews remain on-track, with February work occurring across the entire span of the new bridge. An abundance of seasonally warmer days has assisted with this effort, but credit is also due to every single person involved with this monumental project.

With this month coming to a close, critical joints—fabricated to order and made specifically for an important purpose—are being installed. As mentioned in our last issue, these joints provide the horizontal flexibility needed in all bridges of this design. As the steel embedded in the concrete throughout the bridge deck expands and contracts throughout the year, the joints allow for improved and consistent structural stability from abutment to abutment.

By utilizing a 4-axle, 449 horsepower mobile crane, workers are able to safely move these large, heavy joints into place before making them a specific and permanent addition to the infrastructure of the bridge. In fact, the crane featured in these images can lift up to 135 tons, lift as high as 299 feet, and telescope out 217 feet! Sparing the rest of the technical details, suffice it to say that in South Dakota, we're proud to have access to modern, safe, and efficient construction technology.

Work is also progressing on the abutment walls, deck and overhang formwork, and barrier rails. Look for more exciting updates in our March issues!

Keep up to date on photos, videos, and construction progress by visiting <https://www.Pierre-FtPierreBridge.com>.



Workers prepare for precise installation of the finger joint, Feb. 26, 2024.

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Aerial shot of the mobile crane prior to finger joint installation, Feb. 25, 2024.



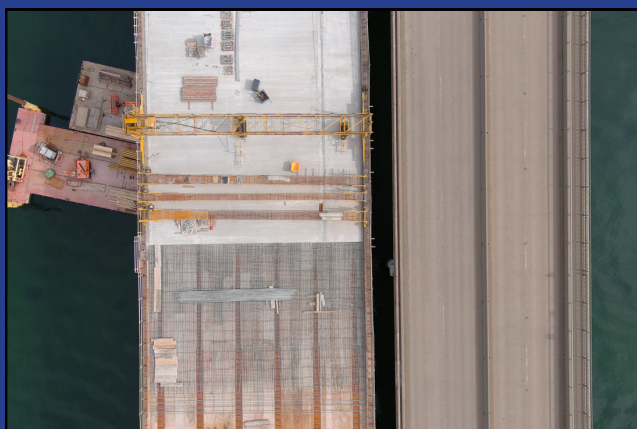
Mobile crane awaiting delivery of first finger joint, Feb. 26, 2024.



Workers guide the mobile crane operator to the finger joint, Feb. 26, 2024.



Mobile crane operator moving finger joint to the top of the east abutment, Feb. 26, 2024.



Overhead shot of the bridge deck and barges, Feb. 25, 2024.



Sunrise over the barge and staging area on the west side of the bridge, Feb. 26, 2024.