

Gerald Desmond Bridge Replacement

The Gerald Desmond Bridge is a major access point to the Port of Long Beach from downtown Long Beach and surrounding communities, carrying I-710 over the Port's Inner Harbor to Terminal Island. The replacement bridge will be a six-lane, cable-stayed design, with a 205-foot clearance to allow the newest generation of cargo ships to enter the Port. The bridge will include emergency lanes on the inner and outer shoulders, as well as a bicycle-pedestrian path. The new bridge is being built alongside the current bridge to maintain traffic flow. The current bridge will be demolished once the replacement is completed. The project is being led by SFI JV composed of Shimmick Construction, FCC Construction and Impregilo S.p.A. It is expected to be complete in mid-2018. For more information regarding this project, please go to <http://www.enr.com/blogs/14-gold-rush/post/38596-gerald-desmond-bridge-project-in-long-beach-takes-shape>.



US SPEC Products on the Job

Several US SPEC products were chosen by SFI JV for use on this job and these products were provided by HUB Construction Specialties.

US SPEC Ezkote Green (HUB Form Oil Green) was used for all formed concrete surfaces that were near the water. Since **Ezkote Green** is an environmentally friendly form release, there was little concern about any damage the product could cause to the nearby ocean waters.

US SPEC Slickote (HUB Premium Gold Release) was used for all formed concrete that was located away from the water. SFI JV (contractor) chose this product in order to achieve multiple pours on gang form and crawler formwork. **Slickote** offers great coverage per gallon and easy stripability.

The bridge support towers are so massive the engineer specified a cold water cooling system in each tower. After the curing process was complete they had to fill the cooling tubes by pumping in a sandless non-shrink grout with a long open time as the cooling tubes are rather long. The grout selected for this was **US SPEC RA Grout**. **RA Grout** is a low viscosity, high flow, high strength, non-shrink grout. This grout provided the engineer with the solution they needed to fill the voids created by the coolant lines.