



Bridge & Structure Repairs Rehabilitation Methodology.

PREPARED BY -TECHTIL INFRA PRIVATE LIMITED.

www.techtilinfra.co.in

Email-Info@techtilinfra.co.in

Contact no -8170022010/7001770030

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CODAL PROVISION

Here are some codal provisions related to bridge rehabilitation:

- IRC SP 40,2019 - "Guidelines for Repair and Rehabilitation of bridges"
- 1. IRC: 112-2011 - "Guidelines for Rehabilitation of Bridges"
- 2. IRC: 115-2014 - "Code of Practice for Repair and Rehabilitation of Concrete Bridges"
- 3. IRC: 116-2014 - "Code of Practice for Repair and Rehabilitation of Steel Bridges"
- 4. MORTH: "Specifications for Road and Bridge Works" (Fifth Revision)
- 5. AASHTO: "LRFD Bridge Design Specifications" (2012)
- 6. AASHTO: "The Manual for Bridge Evaluation" (2015)
- 7. FHWA: "Bridge Rehabilitation and Replacement" (2012)
- 8. BS: 5400-1:2010 - "Steel, concrete and composite bridges. General specification"
- 9. BS: EN 1504-1:2011 - "Products and systems for the protection and repair of concrete structures"

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Rehabilitation Methodology

A stylized blue graphic of a cable-stayed bridge with two towers and multiple stay cables, set against a light blue background with abstract shapes.

- - Assessment of bridge condition
- - Repair of concrete cracks and damages
- - Replacement of bearings and expansion joints
- - Strengthening of steel structures
- - Rehabilitation of bridge decks and superstructures
- - Seismic retrofitting of bridges
- - Quality control and assurance procedures

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Assessment of bridge/Structure condition

Assessment of bridge conditions is a critical step in determining the need for repair or rehabilitation. Here are some key aspects involved in assessing bridge conditions:

- 1. Visual Inspection: A visual examination of the bridge's structural elements, including decks, superstructures, substructures, and foundations.
- 2. Structural Evaluation: An evaluation of the bridge's structural integrity, including the assessment of load-carrying capacity, stability, and durability.
- 3. Material Testing: Testing of materials, such as concrete or steel, to determine their properties and condition.
- 4. Non-Destructive Testing (NDT): Use of techniques like ultrasonic testing, radiography, and magnetic particle testing to evaluate the condition of structural elements without damaging them.
- 5. Condition Rating: Assigning a condition rating to the bridge based on its overall condition, typically on a scale of 0 to 100.
- 6. Identification of Defects: Identification of defects, such as cracks, corrosion, or damage, and assessment of their severity.
- 7. Prioritization: Prioritization of repairs or rehabilitation based on the severity of defects and the bridge's overall condition.

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Repair of concrete cracks and damages

Repair of concrete cracks and damages is a crucial step in maintaining the integrity and extending the lifespan of concrete structures, including bridges. Here are some common methods used for repairing concrete cracks and damages:

1. Epoxy Injection: Filling cracks with epoxy resin to restore structural integrity and prevent further damage.
2. Polyurethane Injection: Filling cracks with polyurethane foam to expand and fill the crack, providing a flexible seal.
3. Grouting: Filling cracks and voids with a cement-based grout to restore structural integrity.
4. Concrete Patching: Replacing damaged concrete with new concrete, often using a polymer-modified patching material.
5. Overlay: Applying a new layer of concrete over the existing surface to cover cracks and damages.
6. Stitching: Using U-shaped steel stitches to repair longitudinal cracks in concrete.
7. Surface Sealing: Applying a protective coating to the concrete surface to prevent further damage from water, salt, or other corrosive substances.
8. Cathodic Protection: Applying an electric current to drive the reaction to prevent corrosion.

It's important to note that the repair method chosen will depend on the severity and location of the cracks or damages, as well as the type of concrete used in the original construction.

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Replacement of bearings and expansion joints

Replacement of bearing and expansion joints is a critical aspect of bridge rehabilitation. Here are the general steps involved in replacing bearing and expansion joints:

- **Bearing Replacement:**

1. **Inspection:** Inspect the bearings to determine their condition and identify any damage or deterioration.
2. **Removal:** Remove the existing bearings, taking care to avoid damaging surrounding structures.
3. **Cleaning:** Clean the bearing pockets and surrounding areas to ensure a smooth installation.
4. **Installation:** Install new bearings, ensuring proper alignment and seating.
5. **Testing:** Test the new bearings to ensure proper function and movement.

- **Expansion Joint Replacement:**

1. **Inspection:** Inspect the expansion joints to determine their condition and identify any damage or deterioration.
2. **Removal:** Remove the existing expansion joints, taking care to avoid damaging surrounding structures.
3. **Cleaning:** Clean the joint gaps and surrounding areas to ensure a smooth installation.
4. **Installation:** Install new expansion joints, ensuring proper alignment and seating.
5. **Testing:** Test the new expansion joints to ensure proper function and movement.

Some important considerations when replacing bearing and expansion joints include:

- Ensuring proper material selection for the new bearings and expansion joints
- Following manufacturer instructions for installation and testing
- Ensuring proper alignment and seating of the new components
- Testing the new components under various loads and conditions
- Ensuring the new components meet the required specifications and standards

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Strengthening of steel structures

Strengthening of steel structures is a critical aspect of bridge rehabilitation. Here are some common methods used to strengthen steel structures:

1. Steel Plate Reinforcement: Welding steel plates to the existing structure to increase its strength and stiffness.
2. Steel Beam Reinforcement: Installing new steel beams or reinforcing existing ones to increase the structure's load-carrying capacity.
3. Fiber-Reinforced Polymer (FRP) Composites: Bonding FRP composites to the steel structure to increase its strength and stiffness.
4. Steel Jacketing: Encasing the existing steel structure with a new steel jacket to increase its strength and corrosion resistance.
5. Welded Connections: Upgrading existing bolted connections to welded connections to increase the structure's strength and stiffness.
6. Member Replacement: Replacing deteriorated or damaged steel members with new ones to restore the structure's integrity.
7. Bracing and Trussing: Installing bracing and trussing systems to provide additional support and stability to the structure.
8. Corrosion Protection: Applying corrosion protection coatings or cathodic protection systems to prevent further corrosion.

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Rehabilitation of bridge decks and superstructures

Rehabilitation of bridge decks and superstructures involves repairing or replacing damaged or deteriorated components to restore the structure's integrity and extend its lifespan. Here are some common methods used in rehabilitating bridge decks and superstructures:

- Bridge Deck Rehabilitation:
 1. Overlay: Applying a new layer of concrete or asphalt to the existing deck.
 2. Deck Replacement: Replacing the entire deck with a new one.
 3. Patching: Repairing localized damaged areas with concrete or polymer patching materials.
 4. Surface Treatment: Applying a protective coating or surface treatment to prevent further deterioration.
- Superstructure Rehabilitation:
 1. Structural Steel Repair: Repairing or replacing damaged or corroded structural steel elements.
 2. Concrete Repair: Repairing or replacing damaged or deteriorated concrete components.
 3. Bearing Replacement: Replacing existing bearings with new ones.
 4. Expansion Joint Replacement: Replacing existing expansion joints with new ones.
 5. Painting and Coating: Applying a protective coating or paint to prevent corrosion and deterioration.
- Some other methods used in bridge deck and superstructure rehabilitation include:
 1. Fiber-Reinforced Polymer (FRP) composites
 2. Cathodic Protection
 3. Seismic Retrofitting
 4. Structural Strengthening
 5. Advanced Materials and Technologies

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Seismic retrofitting of bridges

Seismic retrofitting of bridges involves modifying existing bridges to make them more resistant to earthquake forces. The goal is to prevent collapse, reduce damage, and ensure the bridge remains safe and functional after an earthquake. Retrofitting techniques may include:

1. Strengthening pier and abutment foundations
2. Upgrading bearing and expansion joints
3. Bracing and trussing systems
4. Reinforcing concrete columns and piers
5. Installing seismic isolation systems
6. Enhancing structural connectivity and continuity
7. Improving anchorages and tie-downs
8. Installing shock-absorbing materials
9. Enhancing bridge decking and superstructure
10. Implementing advanced materials and technologies

It's important to note that seismic retrofitting requires careful planning, design, and execution to ensure effective and safe outcomes. Consulting with experienced professionals is essential for successful bridge seismic retrofitting projects.

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Quality control and assurance procedures

Quality control and assurance procedures are essential in bridge construction and rehabilitation projects to ensure that the work meets the required standards, specifications, and regulations. Here are some quality control and assurance procedures:

- Quality Control:

1. Inspection: Regular inspections of materials, equipment, and workmanship.
2. Testing: Laboratory and field testing of materials and constructed elements.
3. Verification: Checking of dimensions, alignment, and elevations.
4. Documentation: Maintenance of accurate records and documentation.

- Quality Assurance:

1. Planning: Development of quality plans and specifications.
2. Training: Training of personnel on quality procedures and standards.
3. Auditing: Regular audits of quality control processes and procedures.
4. Certification: Obtaining certifications from recognized authorities.

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