

QUIKRETE® HELPS KEEP DENVER INTERSTATE UP AND RUNNING *FastSet™ DOT Mix Allows Crews to Quickly Repair Problem Areas and Reopen Important Denver Highway in Short Order*

DENVER (March 17, 2010) – The I-270 beltway is a vital thoroughfare for the city of Denver, accommodating more than 73,000 cars per day, according to the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT).

A combination of heavy truck traffic, Colorado's extreme freeze/thaw cycle and subsequent use of deicing agents make the need for structural bridge deck repairs critical for keeping the lives of Denver residents who rely on this stretch of interstate unimpeded.

So, in February 2009, CDOT and Denver-based ABCO Contracting started a two-phase repair project to four bridge decks along I-270 – focusing on a full-depth repair and replacement of bridge deck expansion joints. To assure disruption to traffic was kept at a minimum, crews turned to QUIKRETE® FastSet™ DOT Mix – Extended for both phases of the project.

Achieving an initial 3,000 psi level in 1 ½ hours, QUIKRETE FastSet™ DOT Mix – Extended allows work crews to complete the needed repairs and have traffic re-opened in approximately one hour. To further limit their affects on commuter traffic, work was conducted in the evenings until completion in June 2009. Phase one repairs used 3,500 total 80-pound bags while an additional 3,000 total 80-pound bags were needed for phase two. The mix reaches 4,500 psi in just three hours and 10,000 psi in 28 days.

By design, QUIKRETE® FastSet™ DOT Mix – Extended is a fiber-reinforced, rapid hardening repair material that is blended with gravel in the manufacturing process. The addition of gravel to the mix means no jobsite mixing is required and allows for full-depth repairs without jobsite measurement of coarse aggregate.

By needing only to mix water on-site, crews could make consistent repairs and reduce the amount of preparation time needed, ensuring that crews completed their work within the tight time constraints mandated by CDOT and maximizing productivity. To help combat the freeze/thaw cycle, QUIKRETE® FastSet™ DOT Mix-Extended is air entrained and contains an integral corrosion inhibitor to protect rebar and prevent oxidation during repairs.

“The work entailed stripping the asphalt 3 to 4 inches down then repairing the damage road or elevations using the mix. In addition, all expansion joints across the highway, 12 total,

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were replaced,” QUIKRETE® Construction Products Sales Representative Dale Nehls said. “Bridge expansion joints are particularly susceptible to deterioration over time thanks to weight transfer as large trucks and passenger vehicles cross the bridge decks. Throw in the winter conditions here, and these expansion joints need routine maintenance.”

Full-depth repair, reaching greater than four inches past the rebar, and partial depth repairs were utilized for repairs reaching approximately 1 ½ inches into the road surface. Once the old material was removed, crews prepped the surface area for pouring then applied the mix into the existing joint locations – smoothing the surface for curing as the mix set.

“We realize there’s never an ideal time to close lanes for repairs, but it is work that must be done,” Nehls said. “Products such as QUIKRETE® FastSet™ DOT Mix – Extended are designed to lessen the delay period while affording the work crews the needed time to assure the repairs are done right and meet DOT standards – and that ultimately benefits everyone.”

The QUIKRETE® Companies

The QUIKRETE® Companies is the largest manufacturer of packaged concrete and cement mixes in the United States and Canada, and an innovative leader in the commercial building and home improvement industries. QUIKRETE® products are manufactured in more than 90 manufacturing facilities in the United States, Canada, Puerto Rico and South America, allowing for unsurpassed distribution and product depth. The QUIKRETE® Technical Center ensures that professionals and consumers alike are provided with the most innovative and highest quality products available on the market. For additional information on The QUIKRETE® Companies or its products, please visit www.quikrete.com or call (800) 282-5828.

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