

FRP Bridge Drain Pipe Case History

Huey P. Long Bridge – Bridge City, LA 2012



Service

In 1935, the opening of the Huey P. Long Bridge offered the greater New Orleans area their first Mississippi River bridge crossing. The importance of this structure was fully appreciated by Governor Long himself and he took measures to ensure the bridge, originally designed to carry railway traffic only, would also include lanes for automobiles. While the structural integrity of the bridge continued to hold firmly into the 21st Century, the operational performance of the bridge came into serious question. The old, two-lane roadway deck was hardly up to the task of carry the demands of a modern transportation system. To resolve this issue, engineers planned to update the nearly obsolete roadway by widening the deck for additional lanes of traffic. While entering the final phase of the \$1.2 billion rehabilitation project, engineers took additional action towards future preservation by specifying an FRP Bridge Drain Pipe system.

Features & Benefits

The fiberglass bridge drain system will help minimize corrosion, alleviate dead loads, and ultimately help this celebrated structure continue to serve its community well past its centennial anniversary celebration. For a structure that has now been declared by the ASCE as a National Civil Engineering Monument, the fiberglass drain system installation will prove to be the perfect match of traditional engineering practices and the industries current best available technologies.

Pipe System

- 780' of 6" FRP Bridge Drain Pipe
- 100+ Custom Collectors and Fittings
- 2 FRP Expansion Joints