

Erection of Skewed Bridges: Keys to an Effective Project



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Introduction

CASE STUDY 1

I-87 NB Connector over I-287 EB
Erector: Yonkers Contracting Co.



HSSI Job No. NY 01066

CASE STUDY 2

SR 0031 over PA Turnpike
Somerset Co., PA
Erector: High Steel Structures, Inc.



HSSI Job No. PA 01004

CASE STUDY 3

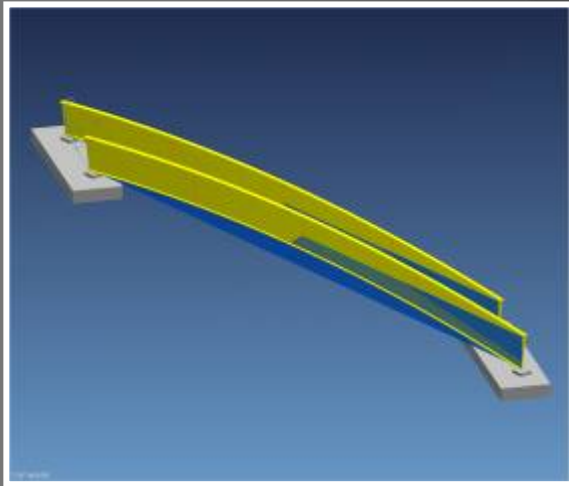
SR 0028 OVER CSX RR
Erector: Alvarez, Inc./High Steel Joint effort



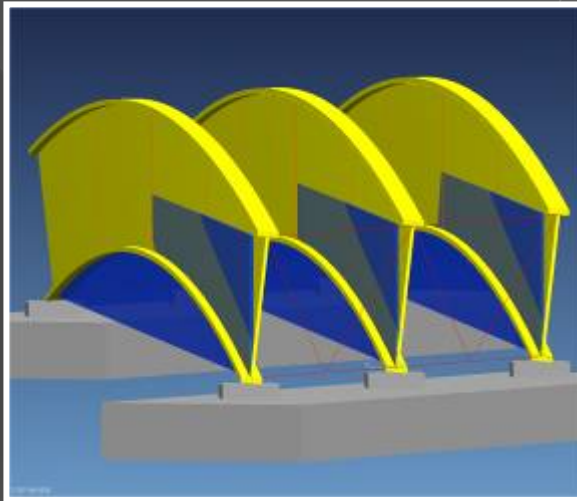
HSSI Job No. PA 3127

Case Study 1

Single-Span Skewed Structure. Each end twists in opposite directions



Span: 265 ft



Skew: 65 ° (PA 25 °)



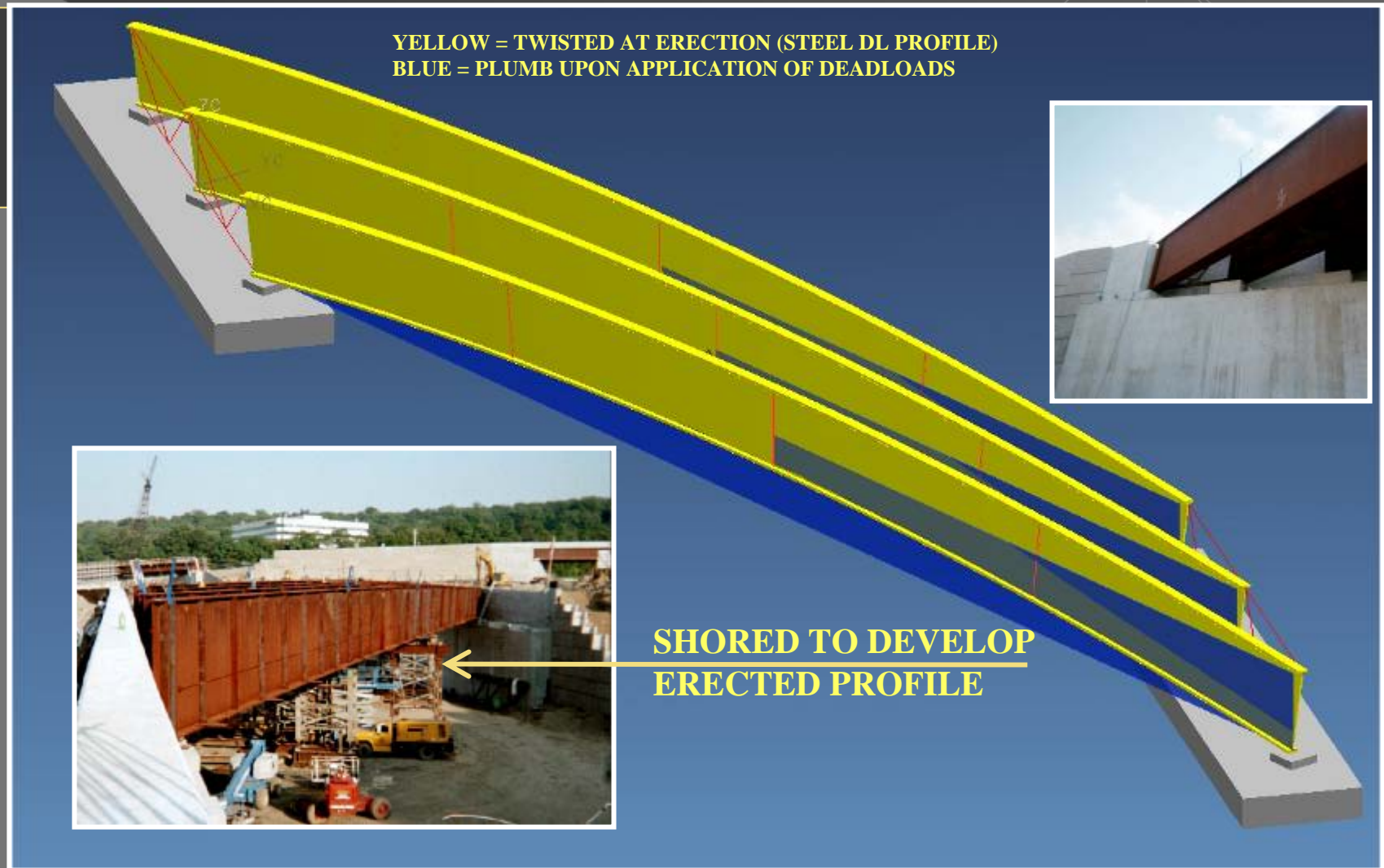
Web Layover: 2½" : 120"
(4" at full no-load profile)

Restores to plumb at
application of dead loads

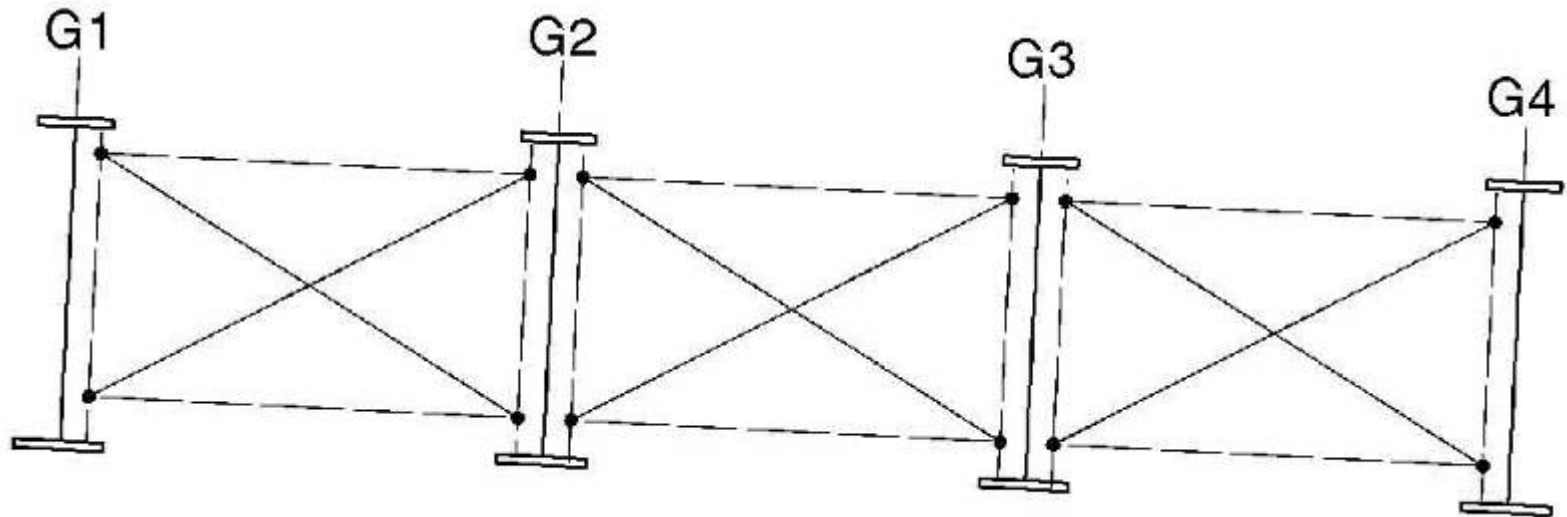
I-87 NB Connector over I-287 EB

Erector: Yonkers Contracting Co.

LONG-SPAN, DEEP, HIGHLY SKEWED STRUCTURES TEND TO UN-TWIST AS DEADLOAD DEFLECTIONS OCCUR.



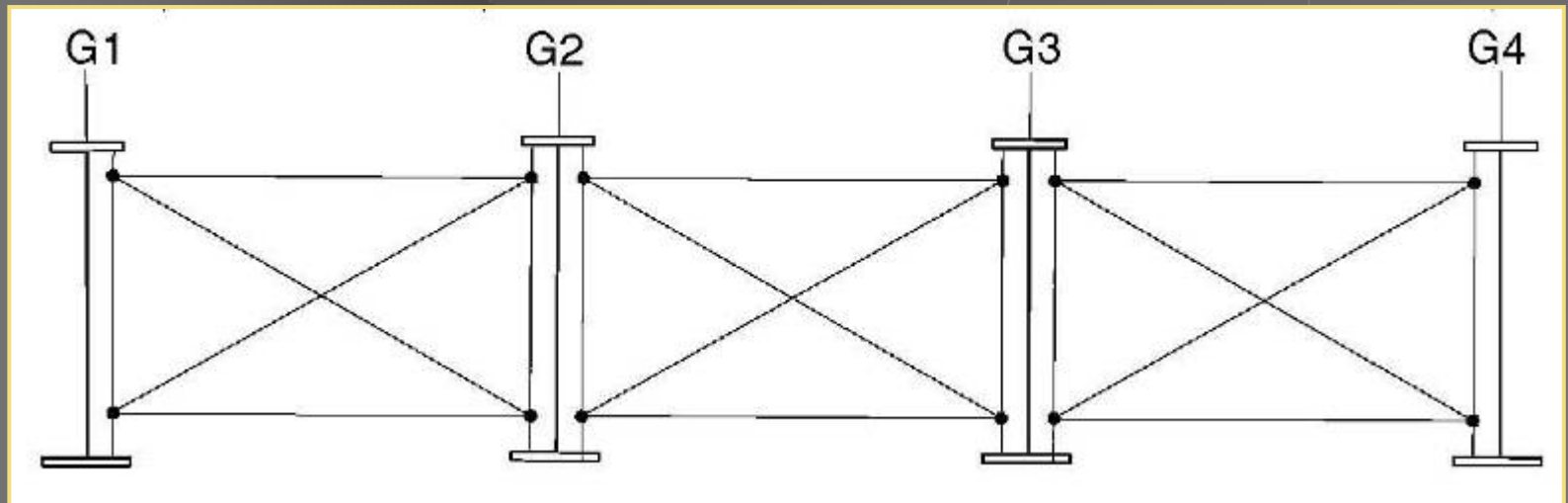
Skewed Bridge Erection



Steel Dead Load

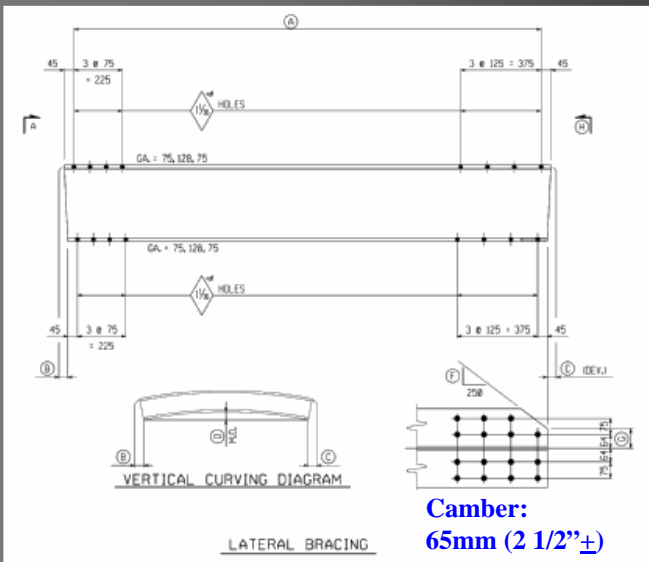
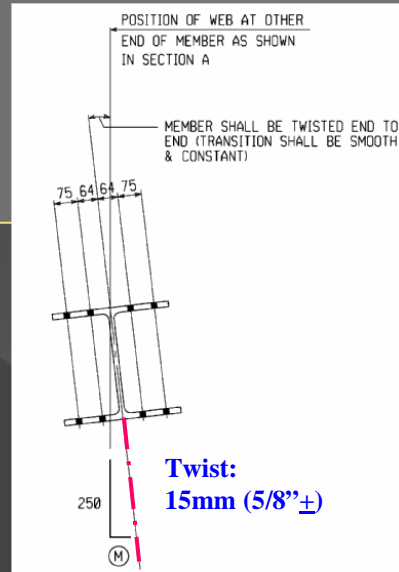
Source: AASHTO/NSBA Steel Bridge Collaboration G12.1-2003, Fig. 1.6.1.B
Guidelines for Design for Constructibility (see www.steelbridges.org)

Skewed Bridge Erection

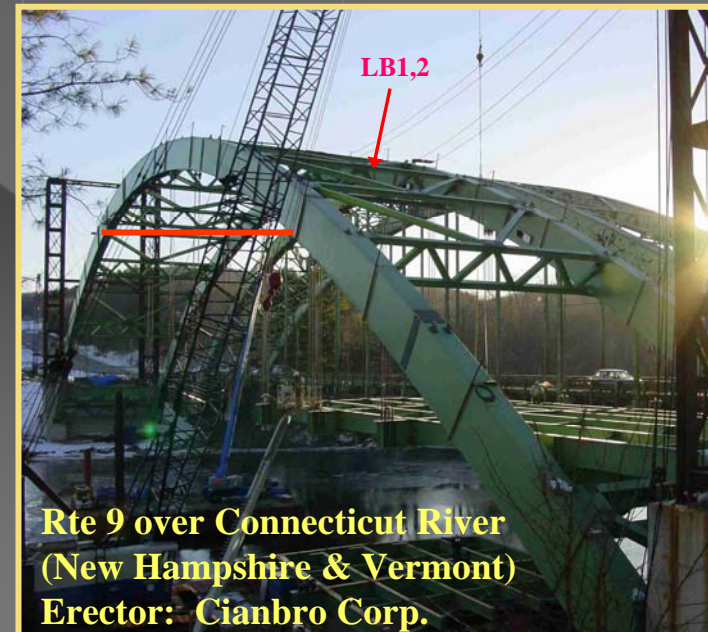
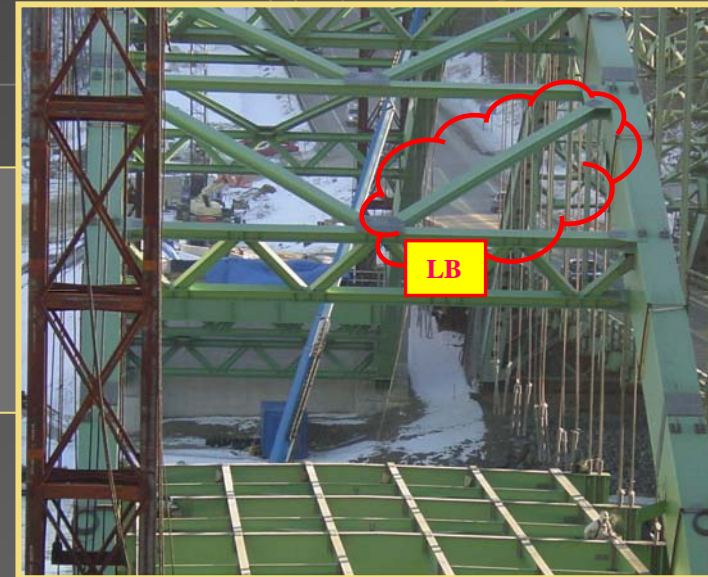


Complete Dead Load

Twisted Arch Lateral Bracing



	Metric	English
Section	W360x134	W14x99
d	356	14 1/8
t_w	11	1/2
b_f	369	14 5/8
t_f	18	3/4
	(mm)	(in)
L	9.94 m	33 ft

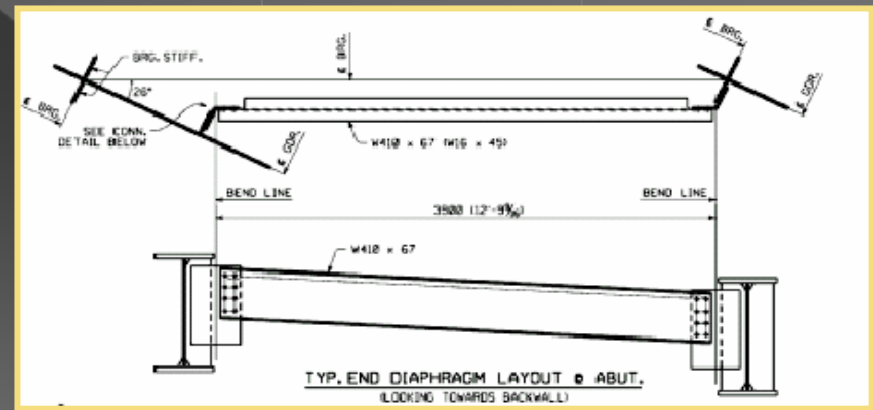
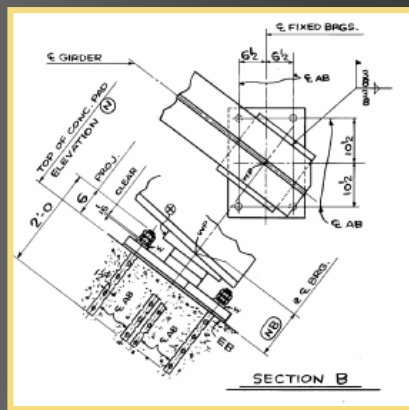
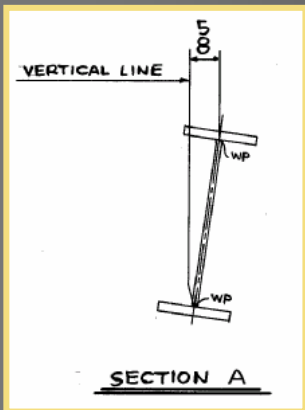




Detailing and Fabrication for Severe Skew

ERECTOR NOTE:

WEB LAYOVER IS SHOWN AT THE COMPLETION OF STEEL ASSEMBLY. GIRDERS WILL ROTATE TO VERTICAL AFTER THE CONCRETE SLAB IS PLACED.



- DETAILER CONFIRMS IF OWNER WANTS STRUCTURE PLUMB AT ERECTION OR "FINAL POSITION"
- DETAILED TO FINAL POSITION: DURING ERECTION, CROSSFRAMES FORCE/TWIST THE GIRDER WEBS OUT OF PLUMB.

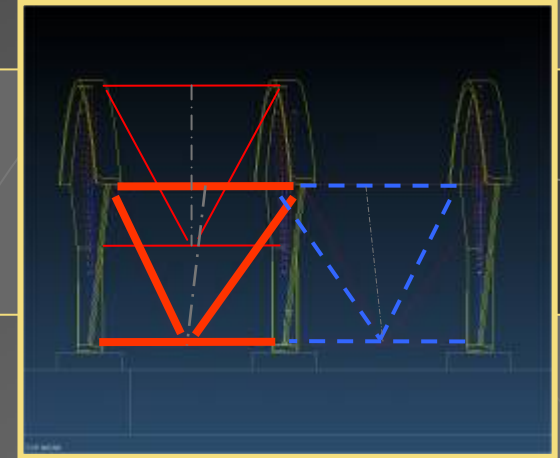
GIRDER WEB LAYOVER IS COMPUTED PURELY AS A GEOMETRIC EFFECT, BASED ON:

- Span, L
- Skew, Θ
- Dead Load Camber (especially, concrete DL), δ_{CONC}
- Girder Depth, D

GIRDER END ROTATION IS COMPUTED.

Ref. NYSDOT's Elastomeric Bearing Design Manual (1979), p. 15:

$$\Theta_{STEEL} = (4\delta_{STEEL})/L ; \text{ similarly, } \Theta_{CONC} \propto \delta_{CONC}$$



NEXT, BASED UPON ROTATION & SKEW, THE OUT-OF-PLAN LAYOVER OF THE WEBS IS COMPUTED AT SUPPORTS (OPPOSITE SENSE AT ABUTMENTS). IF COMPUTED TO ACCOMMODATE SLAB DL:
 $L.O. = \{ \sin [\tan^{-1}(\Theta_{CONC})] \times \text{Depth} \} / \tan (\text{Skew})$

FOR A SIMPLE SPAN, SKEWED BRIDGE, DETAILING TO FINAL POSITION CREATES A TWIST IN THE GIRDERS AT TIME OF ERECTION, WHICH RELAXES UPON APPLICATION OF CONCRETE DEADLOADS (Like wringing a towel).

ASSUMPTIONS:

- THE GIRDERS ARE FLEXIBLE ALONG THEIR SPANS, SO THE BRIDGE CROSS-SECTION AT DIAPHRAGM LINES RETAINS ITS INTEGRITY
- SIMILAR TO THE CHICAGO TRUSS ERECTION METHOD, WHERE:

“... (TRUSS) MEMBERS, AS ERECTED UNDER A NO STRESS (OR PRACTICALLY SO) CONDITION, MUST BE BENT AND FORCED TO FIT THE END CONNECTIONS, THUS INTRODUCING AN INITIAL REVERSE SECONDARY STRESS WHICH WILL THEORETICALLY DISAPPEAR WHEN THE STRUCTURE ASSUMES THE LOADING FOR WHICH IT IS CAMBERED”.
(AREMA Ch.15, Sect 9.3.2.7)

DESIGNER MUST EITHER :

- ENSURE SUFFICIENT TORSIONAL FLEXIBILITY TO PERMIT WEB-LAYOVER (TWIST), OR
- INCREASE VERTICAL (X-X) AND/OR TORSIONAL (CURVED) STIFFNESS TO REDUCE DEFLECTIONS

Examples:

- Short-span, heavy through girders
- Closely-spaced, deep girders
- deck placement sequence can restrain relaxation (DL deflection)

“Twisting of the cross section about the z axis is resisted by St. Venant and warping torsion. Conditions of geometry, restraints and loading will determine the relative importance of the two types of torsion.”

- FHWA Bridge Engineering Course

St. Venant-type is pure, uniform & un-restrained torsion. When the cross section is restrained or prevented from warping, warping torsion develops.

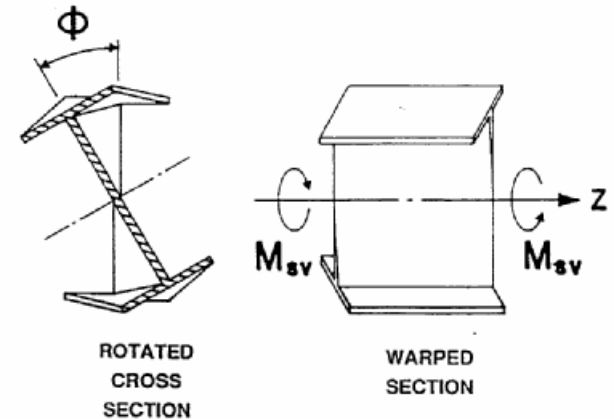
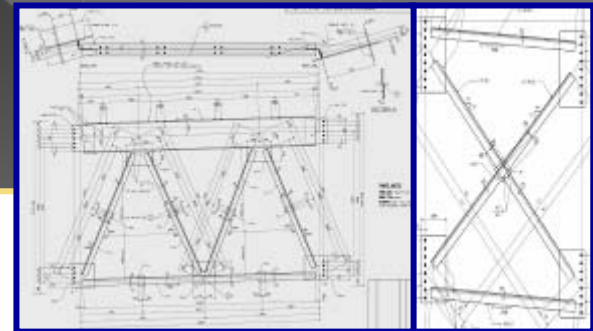
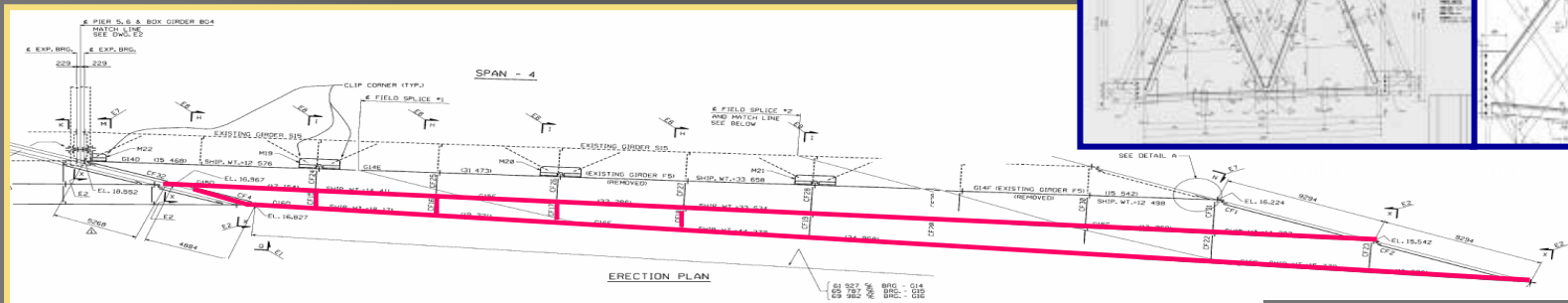


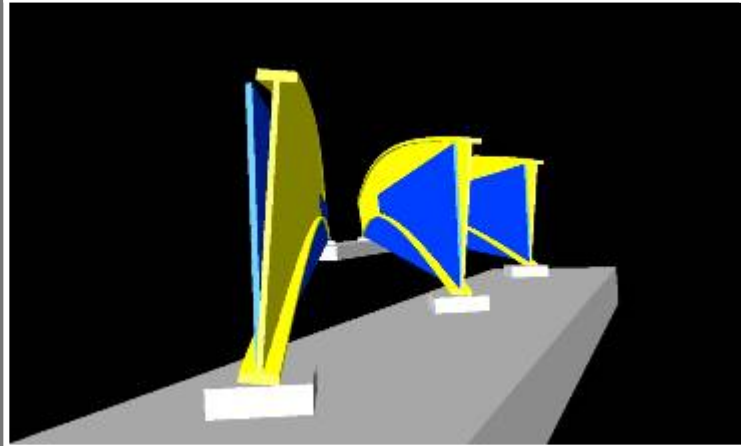
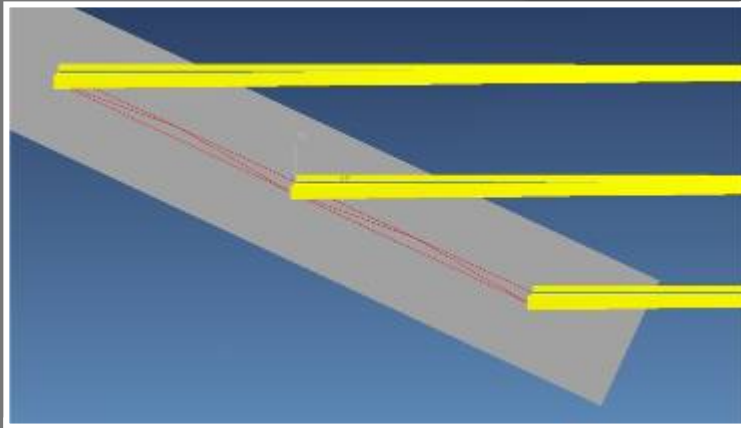
FIG. 6-4
SAINT VENANT TORSION OF A GIRDER SECTION

Source: FHWA, Bridge Engineering (Vol I),
NHI Course No. 13064, pp. 13-31 thru 13-38 (1994).



Case Study 2

Two Equal-span Skewed Structure. Each Span Twists in Opposite Directions Centered About the Parallel Pier



Spans:
161 ft each

Skew:
 70° (PA 20°)

Web Layover:
 $1\frac{1}{2}'' : 48''$

Restores to
plumb at
application of
dead loads

General, Practical Skew Limits:

< 300 ft SPAN, $60^\circ \pm$ REASONABLE ($65^\circ \pm$ FOR 200 thru 250 ft)

- Possibly higher for shorter spans
- Check bearing rotational limit

SAMPLE COMPUTATIONS

1) Long-span (single)

- $L = 270$ ft
- $\Theta_{XY} = 65^\circ$

2) Two span continuous

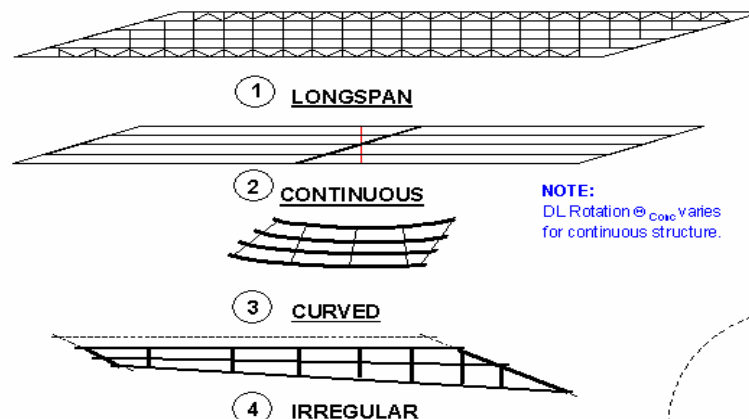
- $L = 160$ ft
- $\Theta_{XY} = 70^\circ$

3) Curved & skewed

- $L = 110$ ft
- $R = 400$ ft
- $\Theta_{XY} = 65^\circ$

4) Skewed widening

- $L = 230$ ft
- $\Theta_{XY} = 75^\circ$

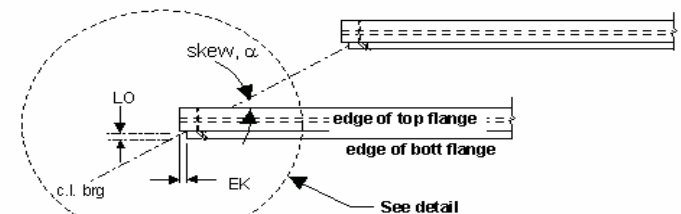
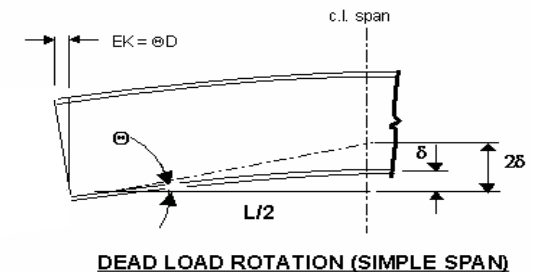


Formulae:

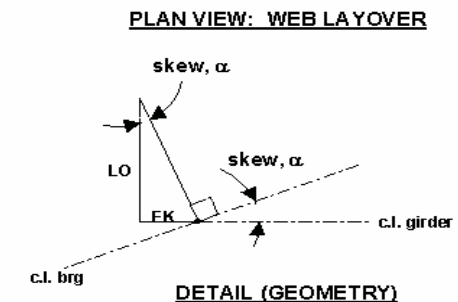
Slab DL Rotation $(4\delta_{TOT, CONC})/L = \tan \Theta$

Web Layover $= \sin [\tan^{-1} \Theta] D / \tan(\text{Skew})$

NOTE:
DL Rotation Θ_{conc} varies
for continuous structure.



Structure	REFERENCE ONLY			
	①	②	③	④
HSSI Job No.:	NY 01066	PA 01004	MA 99124	NJ 00194
Remarks:	HPS70W long-span	2-span continuous	curved Abuts #	G16D/E (PG 9)
L, ft	270	160	110	229.50
skew, °	25	20	35	14.481
D, ft	10	5.75	5	8.94
$\delta_{TOT, CONC}$, in	12	3.5	2.4	5.16
Slab DL Rotation	0.015	0.007	0.007	0.007
Θ , rad	0.015	0.007	0.007	0.007
Web Layover, in	3.812	1.382	0.623	3.112
Shop Dwg:	3.622	1.457	0.625	3.150



79 mm \pm

Fabricating and Erecting Skewed Structures

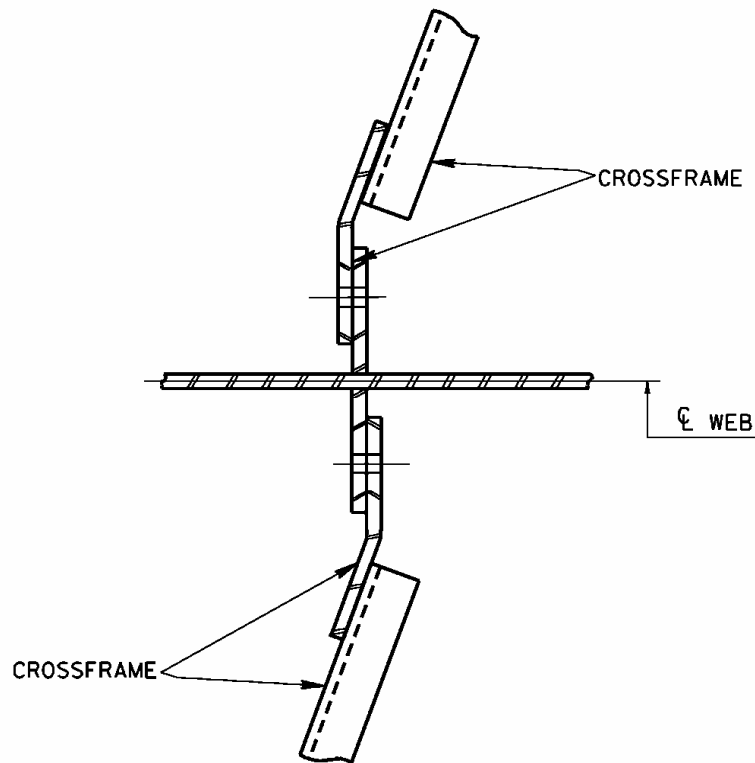
◆ FABRICATION:

- Girders built as for un-skewed structures, to no-load "Laydown" profile
- Cross-frame drops detailed to reflect no-load, steel DL or final position

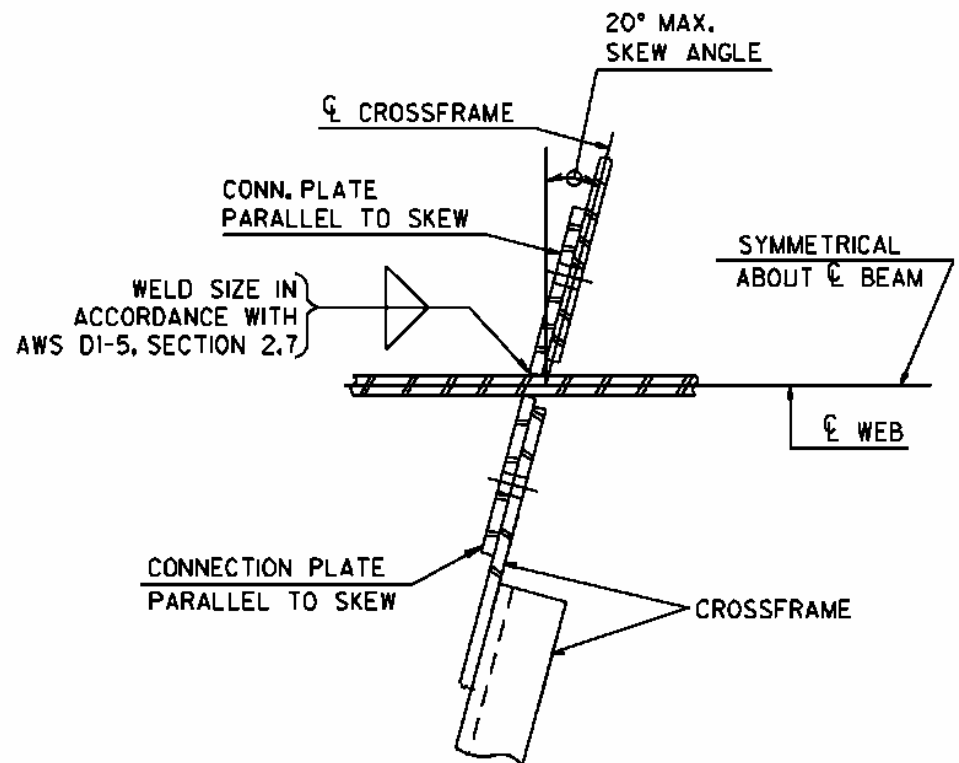
◆ ERECTION:

- Girders erected to approximate no-load profile.
- Shop-assembled cross frames will normally force the required twist condition
- If knock-down (field-assembled strut) cross frames, can be problematic.

Cross Frame Connections



preferred (by fabricators)



20° maximum skew

[illegible]

Skewed connection parts can be complicated, especially when combined with knock-down crossframes.



Erecting Highly-Skewed Structures

HIGH STEEL STRUCTURES, INC.

P.O. Box 10008
Lancaster, PA 17605-0908
Phone (717) 299-5211
A Division of High Industries, Inc.

Project SR 0081 OVER PA TAY Job # PA 0004
Subject EP STABILITY ANALYSIS Sheet 26 of 26
Computed me Date 9/22/01 Checked _____ Date _____

Cable Tie-Downs At Pier (cont'd): SUPPLEMENTAL TIE TO PIER WALL.

FROM GEOMETRY, $\theta = 21^\circ$ IN ORDER FOR TIE-DOWN TO BE EFFECTIVE,
NEXT PIER MUST BE 10' (3.0m) FROM & PIER AS SHOWN.

$\tan \theta = X/10'$; $X = 10(\tan \theta) = 3.84'$

DISTANCE FROM SURF OF PIER (CENTER) WALL, 10' 7" TYP.
CHOOSE SURF = 6.6'

$\tan B = 44' - \frac{3.8'}{22.5'}; B = 10^\circ$
 $\therefore Y = 22.85'$

ADDING SUPPLEMENTAL ANCHORS AS SHOWN. 4 ANCHORS
IN ADDITION TO PRIMARY (ERECTOR) ANCHORS 2 ANCHORS

CONSIDER TOTAL: 6 ANCHORS EFFECTIVE
IN EITHER LONGITUDINAL/TRANSVERSE DIRECTION.

$T_v = \frac{22.7'}{6 \text{ ANCHORS}} = 3.8' \text{ /ANCHOR}$ 44' @ *

$V = \frac{4'}{6 \text{ ANCHORS}} = 0.7' \text{ /ANCHOR}$ 44' @ *

* INDUSTRY 100 MINIMUM = 25" @ 20

* REQUIRE MINIMUM 9" ANCHOR SPACING (FOR 8" EMBEDMENT SPACING)
TO PRECLUDE OVERLAPPING TIE, V_A REDUCTION. ALSO, USE 5" MIN.
EDGE DIST. AS SHOWN (> INDUSTRY SPEC. 6" = 6-0.35" 4 1/2" @ 20).

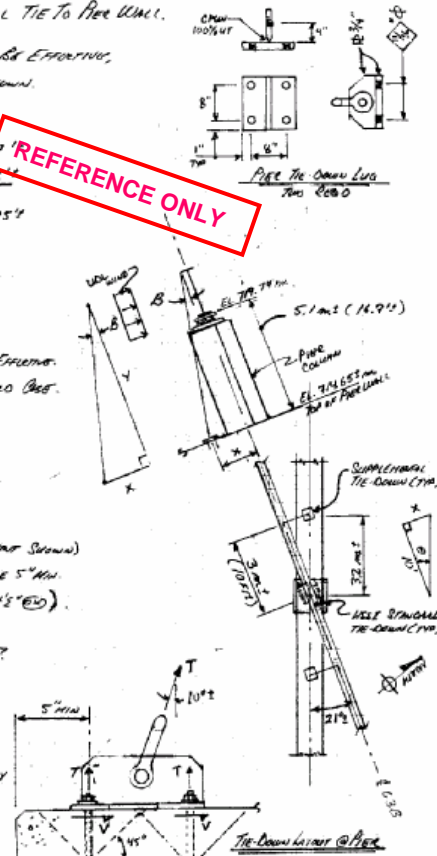
CHECK COMBINED T & V, USE (CONC.) $\left(\frac{V}{V_n}\right)^{1.67} + \left(\frac{T}{T_n}\right)^{1.67} \leq 1.0$

$\left(\frac{0.7}{4}\right)^{1.67} + \left(\frac{3.8}{4}\right)^{1.67} = 0.05 + 0.92 = 0.97 < 1.0$ @ 20

BY INSPECTION, DIRECT TENSION ON LUG IS FAIRLY
LOW. NONETHELESS, TO MITIGATE/ELIMINATE
PILING EFFECT AMPLIFICATIONS ON T, USE
SUFFICIENTLY THICK LUG MATERIAL - $t_{min} = 3/4"$.

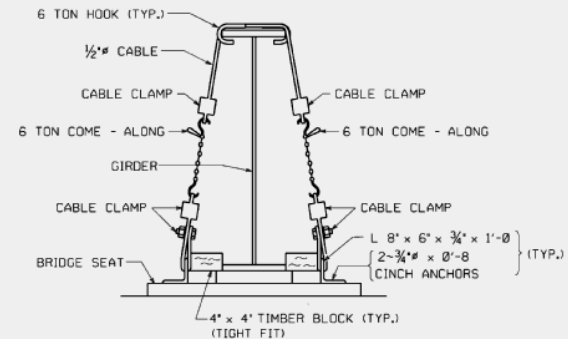
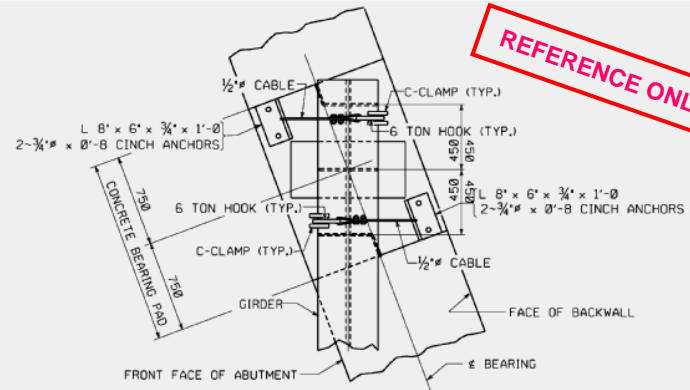
CONSIDER (CONC.)

INSTALL THIS SUPPLEMENTAL TIE-DOWN AS SHOWN
AS PRACTICAL UPON ERECTING GSA/BS.

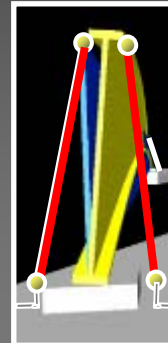


ASSUMED REINFORCEMENT
LUGS DIRECTED AWAY
FROM BRIDGE

HS-0002-2-0105 4/99



△ TEMP. TIE DOWN
AT ABUTMENTS



TOWERS & TIE-DOWNS FACILITATE TWIST

Case Study 3

Combining Curvature, Severe Skew & Stiffness Successfully.



Spans: 130 ft -130 ft

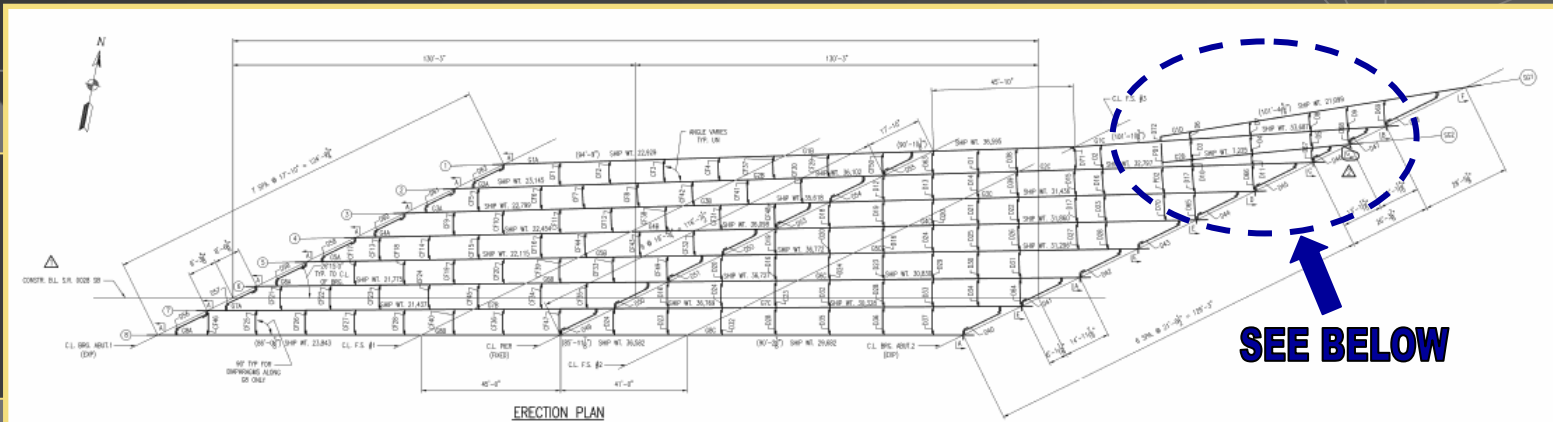


Skew: 64° (PA 26°), & varies



Web Layover: $1\frac{1}{2}$ " max : 4 ft"

- Asymmetrical, continuous flared structure
- sub-girders framed rigidly into main girders at narrow spacing
- vertical sag-curve
- radius: 1,000 ft+/- (varies, chorded)

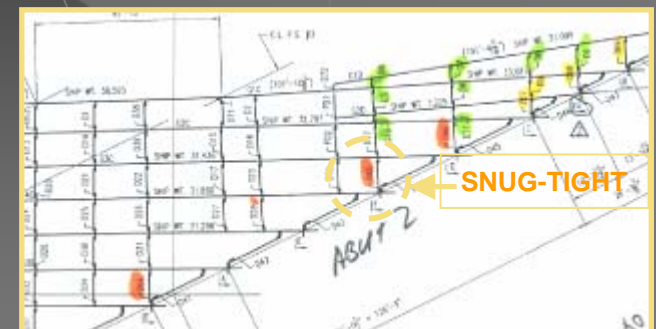


SNUG-TIGHT



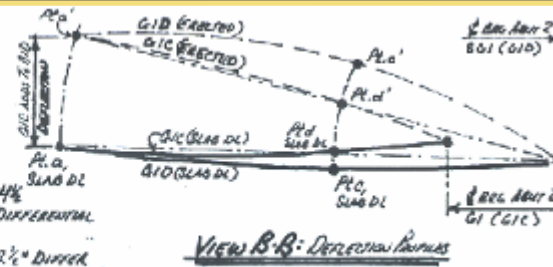
SIMPLE SPAN SUB-GIRDERS FRAMED INTO CONTINUOUS MAIN GIRDERS NEAR $0.6L_2$ (MAX M^+). DESIGNER BALANCED RELATIVE STIFFNESSES OF ADJACENT GIRDERS VIA 3DFE MODEL, TO MINIMIZE DIFFERENTIAL DEFLECTION.

WHERE RESTRAINT BY CLOSELY SPACED DIAPHRAGMS WAS ANTICIPATED, CONNECTIONS WERE LEFT SNUG TIGHT UNTIL AFTER DECK POUR (UTILIZED O.S.H. AT THE DIAPHRAGM PLY OF CONNECTION).

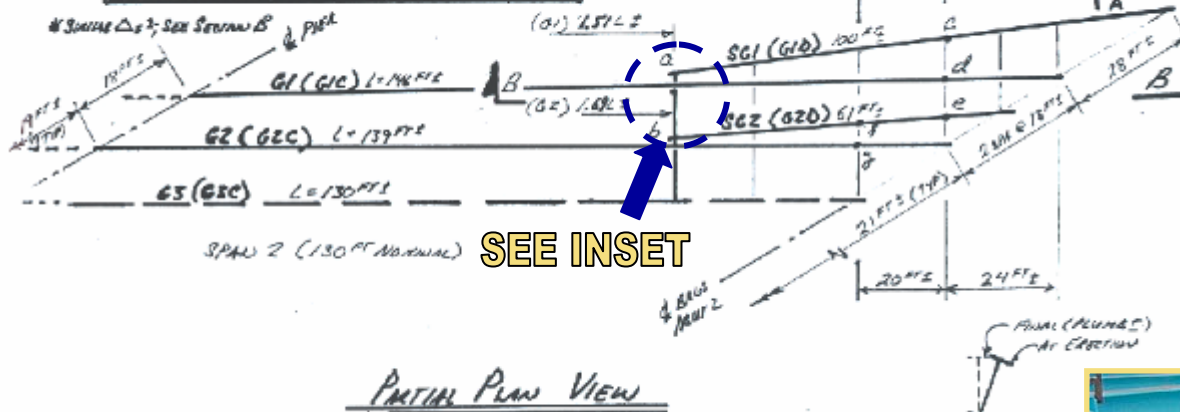


Snug-tight locations at time of pour

GIRDER	PAIR	LOCATION	DL DEF'L SLAB (IN)	POINT
SG1	G1D	SG1 0.5L (G1 1.8L)	SG1 0.5L G1 1.8L TOTAL 0.5L	a
		0.5L	SG1 0.5L G1 1.8L TOTAL 0.5L	c
G1	G1C	1.8L	5 1/2"	d
SG2	G2D	SG2 0.5L (G2 2L)	SG2 0.5L G2 2L TOTAL 0.5L	e
		0.5L	SG2 0.5L G2 2L TOTAL 0.5L	f
		SG2 0.5L (G2 2L)	SG2 0.5L G2 2L TOTAL 0.5L	b
G2	G2C	1.9L	2 1/2"	g



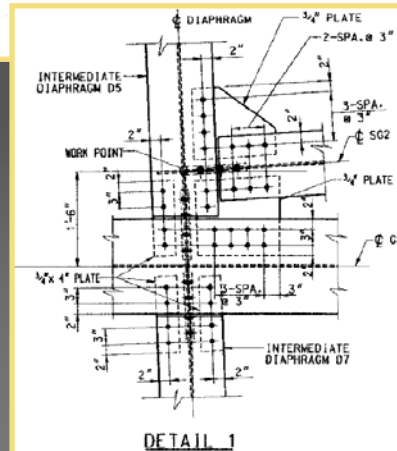
RELATIVE DL DEFLECTIONS (4 1/2" MAXIMUM) BETWEEN THE CLOSELY SPACED SUB-GIRDERS AND MAIN GIRDERS.



Through effective communication among key parties on the project, only two holes (shown below) failed to come into full alignment.



Sub-girder SG1



Sub-to-main girder connection



Minor, localized mis-alignment

SETTING STEEL



Thank you for your attention.

QUESTIONS?



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Chief Engineer

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