



PRESS RELEASE

For more information:
Deb Flavin 814.861.3321

"Fix I-5" Becomes Concrete Example of Success

California Department of Transportation Receives Gold Level National Achievement Award

Austin, TX/November 3, 2009 - The National Partnership for Highway Quality awarded its Gold Level National Achievement Award to the California Department of Transportation for its "Fix I-5" Project. The \$33 million project, which featured 40 days of around-the-clock work and uni-directional closures, replaced damaged pavement and improved drainage on a leaky stretch of I-5 in downtown Sacramento. Caltrans engineers nicknamed this the "Boat Section" of I-5 because it was constructed below the water level of the nearby Sacramento River.

The project was originally estimated to involve partial lane closures, take almost a year and cost \$45 million. Caltrans and C.C. Myers instead completely closed each side of the freeway in alternating directions and worked around the clock over 38 days using a new fast-setting slag concrete material to expedite the project. The faster schedule saved the state \$18 million, and traffic delays averaged only five to 10 minutes.

Other innovative project features included a new, state-of-the-art monitoring system that allows engineers to constantly monitor hydrostatic forces at work under the roadway. Recycled glass was also used as a landscaping element.

"The success of this project would not have been achieved if the partnering process - including identification of mutual goals among stakeholders and structured communication procedures - had not been implemented," said NPHQ Executive Director Bob Templeton. "In fact, this project is a model of the partnering process. Through an innovative proposal by C.C. Myers to accelerate the work and Caltrans' willingness to dedicate resources to redesign the traffic handling and state construction plans in a very compressed timeframe, the project developed into a tremendous success."

In addition to Caltrans and C.C. Myers, partners in this award-winning project include CEMEX, Bay Area Geotechnical Group, Nor-Cal Pump & Well Drilling, C M C Fontana Steel, Coral Construction Company, Hansen Painting, Penhall Company, Ramco Concrete Cutting, Royal Electric Company, Teichert Construction, Traffic Solutions Inc., and Watkin and Bortolussi Inc.

The NPHQ National Achievement Awards recognize overall project quality, the partnership between State departments of transportation and private contractors; technical and materials innovations; the effectiveness and creativity of public involvement; the teams' effectiveness in meeting or exceeding expected deadlines, costs and deliverables; responsiveness to environmental needs and opportunities; and adherence to other principles of quality management.

NPHQ is a national coalition of public highway agencies, industry organizations and private firms founded in 1992 as the National Quality Initiative. For more than 15 years, NPHQ continues to be the only National program that brings Federal, State and Municipal highway agencies and private industry

together to combine their expertise and to cooperatively lead the advancement in highway quality, safety and service to the highway users. For more information on the NPHQ and its awards: www.nphq.org. To learn more about "Fix I-5:" www.cityofsacramento.org/transportation/fix_i-5/index.html.

###