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NBIS Subscription Service Announcement 2/19/2019

Bearing Seats of Suspended Spans (Dapped Beams)

On February 11th, a local agency bridge required closure due to a fracture of the web steel which was part of a dapped bearing seat.
Although we have not yet seen a report detailing the reasons for this deficiency, we suspect that a combination of moderate corrosion at the fracture location combined with extreme temperature swings in the last two weeks contributed to the fracture.

The dapped beam connections may also occur on material types other than steel. If you are aware of this detail or any similar details for structures under your jurisdiction, please send the structure number and a copy of the existing plans to the following e-mail address DOT.BBS.BridgeMgmt@Illinois.gov.

Because the entire state saw similar temperature swings, we also ask that you schedule an In-Depth inspection of such structures as soon as possible to provide assurances to the public that this detail has been recently inspected, and you do not anticipate any similar issues. If the inspection shows the bridge may need a repair or retrofit, please let us know at the above e-mail address.

We appreciate your attention to this matter and look forward to working with you to correct any issues found.

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Some useful inspection resources are:

Section 3 of the Bureau of Bridges and Structures Structural Services Manual contains information valuable for performing bridge inspections in Illinois. The manual is available by clicking here.

Additional resources for the many functions of the Bridge Office can be found at the Bridges and Structures tab found by clicking here.

Refresher Training is required every 5 years. Click Here for class information. Inspector qualification and information is available by clicking here.

Bridge inventory and inspection information is available in a web-based interface at Bridge Information Website.

A SIMSCounty file is available for each county in Illinois. This database can be used to review inspection and inventory data and produce inspection reports.

SIMSLink may be used to create customized queries, forms and reports using linked data from a SIMSCounty file.

SIMSCounty and SIMSLink files can be found by Clicking Here. These data files contain bridge inventory and bridge inspection data for structures over 20 feet face to face of abutments on roads maintained by public agencies.

National Bridge Inspection Standards of the Federal Highway Administration are available by
Clicking Here.

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