



# S.M.A.R.T. News

Safety Materials and Research Technology News from Transpo Industries, Inc.

Volume Three

Spring 2003

## *Break-Safe Certification Training*

In January, the Idaho Transportation Department received the first Break-Safe® certification training from Kathleen Johnson (Western Regional Sales Manager) and Tom Beggs of the Coral Sales Company (Northwest Distributor). Kathy and Tom gave three training classes statewide to 115 ITD traffic engineers, sign maintenance personnel, construction resident engineers, as well as private signing contractors.

Idaho has been a long-term user of Break-Safe® with initial installations going in twenty years ago. Even though Break-Safe® has been in the ITD standard plans since 1992 and used in all signing projects since 1985, a refresher course was requested by ITD and the course was created. Topics of discussion included product review, installation procedures and possible field problems and solutions. The Break-Safe® installation video was reviewed and a short multiple-choice quiz rounded out the morning session. Certificates of completion were given to all participants.

The next scheduled training class will be for the City of Calgary, Alberta Canada in April. This complimentary course is being offered to any qualified agencies that have not yet used Break-Safe® as their breakaway system for sign supports. For more information, Email: [info@transpo.com](mailto:info@transpo.com)



Kathy Johnson holds a Break-Safe® Training Certificate



Workers placing T-48 overlay on the bridge deck

## *Transpo Overlay for Triborough Bridge Rehab*

The Triborough Bridge is a vital link in New York City connecting Manhattan, Queens and the Bronx. Consisting of 3 bridges, a viaduct and 14 miles of approach, the bridge owner, The Metropolitan Transit Authority began a 12-year, \$550 million rehabilitation program in 1997. As part of the 3-phase project, the Harlem River Lift Bridge and the East River Suspension Span are to receive new steel orthotropic bridge decks.

The first phase involves replacing the East River Suspension Span, which carries 8 lanes of traffic over a 2780 foot length, with a prefabricated steel orthotropic bridge deck. The contractor, American Bridge/Koch/Skanska a JV, selected Transpo's T-48 Polysulfide Epoxy Polymer Concrete Overlay as the material to be used for the finished wearing surface. The prefabricated bridge panels were delivered to Bridgewater Protective Coatings Inc. (BPC) in New Jersey, where they were shot-blasted and overlaid with T-48. BPC applied the overlay using a multiple coat, broom-and-seed method. Each deck panel was given three coats of T-48, and a hard, wear-resistant aggregate. The result was a 3/8-inch-thick, water, salt and wear-resistant, flexible lightweight bridge overlay. When the panels were completed, they were temporarily placed in storage.

The contractor removed the existing bridge deck in sections and installed the new steel orthotropic panels with the finished overlay in place. Each panel had a small bare area, allowing field weld connections to be done without damaging the new overlay. After welding, the bare areas were overlaid using the same T-48 material. In total, Transpo supplied 16,350 gallons of T-48, for 3/8 inch overlay of over 240,000 square feet!

(Continued on back)



Ken O'Connor with Ed Thaler and Arif Chawalwala

### *Re-Certification in 2003!*

ISO is a series of standards defined by the European Communities International Organization for Standardization created to assure the quality of goods and services sold within the Common Market. ISO is quickly becoming the standard for worldwide quality in manufacturing.

In a process that has taken many companies over a year to successfully complete, Transpo's certification was accomplished in just over 6 months.

This year, Transpo Industries Inc. was re-certified ISO 9001 for the design, manufacture and supply of transportation construction materials and safety products. Transpo, the "Smart Solutions Company", is proud to commit to a level of quality that must be maintained year after year!

Please visit our website  
[www.transpo.com](http://www.transpo.com)

### *Transpo Overlay for Triborough Bridge Rehab* (Continued)

The second phase of the project was to replace the existing bridge deck on the Harlem River lift span. The contractor, Yonkers Contracting, selected T-48 Polysulfide Epoxy Polymer Concrete Overlay as the material for the new deck panels. Originally the project was to have the T-48 overlay applied at 3/8" thick with an asphalt overlay. After discussions with the owner, engineers and contractor, it was decided that the asphalt was not needed, due to the past performance of T-48 on the Poplar Street Bridge in St Louis, completed in 1992. Eliminating asphalt on the Harlem River lift span would reduce the dead load, resulting in an increased service life.

The steel orthotropic bridge deck panels for the Harlem River Bridge will receive 77,000 square feet of 3/8-inch thick T-48 overlay, applied in one application using Transpo's specially designed slurry system. The steel fabricator for the orthotropic decks, Matsuo Bridge Co. Inc., will be making the decks in their plant in Shanghai, China. The fabrication will start in the spring of 2003 and should be completed by summer. Transpo will be sending technical representatives to China, to train and assist Matuso personnel in the proper application of T-48.

In addition to the Triborough Bridge, Transpo's T-48 is being considered as the overlay on the Bronx Whitestone Bridge, with rehabilitation scheduled to bid in the spring of 2003, and construction scheduled for 2004.

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### *No More Pothole Headaches!*

Transpo's Bondade CU-31 promotes the bonding of asphalt to a variety of substrates. Order 3 gallons of Bondade CU-31 with sprayer for \$59, and get FREE delivery within the continental U.S. This offer good until 7/4/03.

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### *Conventions/Conferences*

- **NASTO**, Saratoga Springs, NY April 26-29, 2003
- **AAAE**, Los Angeles, CA April 27-30, 2003 Booth #712
- **NYSATE**, Saratoga Springs, NY May 27-30, 2003 Booth #63
- **IBC**, Pittsburgh, PA June 9-11, 2003 Booth #100