

## CASE STUDY



### PROJECT DETAILS

**Project Name:**

WI I-35

**Owner:**

WisDOT

**Location:**

Fountain City, WI

**General Contractor:**

Larson Construction  
Company

**Product Manufacturer:**

County Materials  
Corporation

**Date:**

2019

**Key Products:**

Prestressed Bridge Girders

## County Materials' Prestressed Bridge Girders Installed within 15 Minutes to Keep Traffic Flowing

**Solutions:** Live traffic installation; prestressed bridge girders offer lasting performance

Wisconsin I-35 is a well-traveled state highway that runs along the Wisconsin-Minnesota border and connects several cities along the northern Mississippi River. Two of the highway's bridge structures, south of Fountain City, WI, required timely replacement to minimize disruption to this vital corridor. The Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT) planned the reconstruction effort, to keep traffic flowing.

WisDOT specified prestressed concrete bridge girders for their installation efficiency and lasting performance. Compared to alternative solutions, prestressed girders offer greater speed and ease of installation. They arrive on site ready to be installed and can be placed in a shorter amount of time. Prestressed girders withstand heavy live loads and inclement weather conditions for several decades and can remain in serviceable condition for decades compared to alternative materials. Their inherent strength and durability reduce maintenance and attribute to low life-cycle costs, providing best taxpayer value.

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County Materials manufactured seven prestressed concrete bridge girders, measuring 69 feet-long and 36 inches-tall for the two-phase project. The project's north and south bridges were worked on successively. Stop lights were installed to direct two-way traffic across the single-lane bridge during construction. The operational bridge served as a staging area for the neighboring bridge's installation. Live traffic waited during girder unloading and installation, prompting construction to move at an accelerated pace. County Materials' dispatchers and drivers completed deliveries within the contractor's tight 15-minute installation timeline and helped mitigate traffic congestion. Once the first bridge was complete, it was set up for staging, and work began on the second bridge.



County Materials' precise girder delivery aided in the successful completion of this time-sensitive project. The prestressed girders helped the bridges open for traffic a few weeks after installation and will protect travelers for a long time to come.



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