

NIATT *Research Summary*

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Assessment of Asbestos Containing Materials Assessment in Idaho Bridges

Principal Investigator

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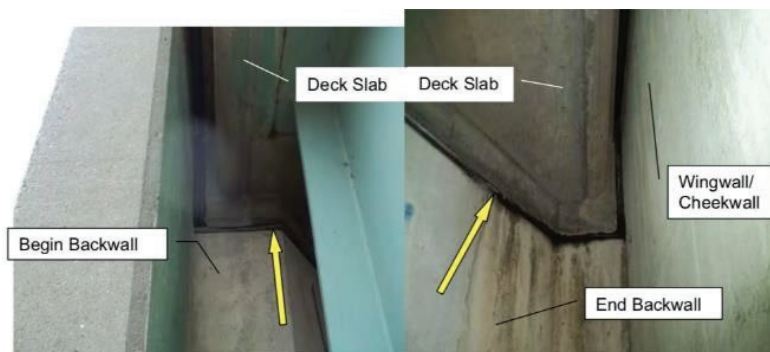


Sponsor

Idaho Transportation Department (ITD)

Description

ITD bridge section is in need to identify the level of asbestos contamination in their bridges and up to what extent the ACM is dangerous and how to comply with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Department of State Health Services (DSHS) Standards in a cost-effective manner. This problem requires a systematic approach to review ITD's past bridge construction and material specifications and bridge plans to determine if known asbestos containing materials were specified for use. Also, a comprehensive review and creation of a database of the results of all asbestos testing that has been done to date on bridges in Idaho will be obtained from the bridge section. The existence of asbestos containing materials in bridge elements such as bearing pads, joints, abutments, concrete rails, and in some concrete coatings subject ITD to a compliance and liability issue especially when it comes to bridge renovations or demolitions. Therefore, more research into understanding of ITD's liability and identifying the extent of problem are believed essential. Other state DOTs such as New York, Texas, Tennessee, and Nebraska have taken actions toward the ACM in their bridge inventory.



The main outcome of this project is to provide ITD personnel a complete database of all ACM used in Idaho bridges from 1918 to 1980. The proposed research will save ITD personnel a lot of effort, money, and time in identifying ACM in bridges ready for demolition or rehabilitation. If the location of ACM of ACM is known, ITD would be able to take steps to dispose of those materials when work is being performed rather than discovering ACM

during the project activities. Additionally, it would be possible for ITD to garner funding at times to perform this removal before any demolition or renovation work was performed. Project: 851722

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