# Florida Slab Beam (FSB) with Ultra-High Performance Concrete (UHPC) Joint Connections

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# Outline

- Background
  - Slab Beams
  - Florida Slab Beam (FSB)
  - Ultra-High Performance Concrete (UHPC)
- Objectives
- Supporting Tasks
- Current Progress







# Background

#### Slab Beams – Performance

There have been some issues observed with previously used slab beams







Bridge over Danforth Creek near West Palm Beach, FL (Spring 2018)

# Background

#### Slab Beams

Poor performance of previous systems led to development of alternate systems

#### <u>Precast Composite Slab Span System –</u> <u>PCSS (2005)</u>

Florida Slab Beam – FSB (2015)



# Background

#### Ultra-High Performance Concrete (UHPC)

Property	Range			
Compressive Strength ( $f'_c$ )	20 to 30 ksi	140 to 200 MPa		
Tensile Cracking Strength (f <sub>r</sub> )	0.9 to 1.5 ksi	6 to 10 MPa		
Modulus of Elasticity ( $E_c$ )	6,000 to 10,000 ksi	40 to 70 GPa		





Source: <a href="https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/research/resources/uhpc/">https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/research/resources/uhpc/</a>

### Research Objectives

- Develop cross-section and joint region detail for short- to medium-span bridges for use with accelerated construction
- Assess strength and fatigue performance of crosssection and joint
- Recommend fabrication procedures, on-site construction practices, and erection tolerances







# Supporting Tasks

- 1. Literature Review (short-span bridge options, joint details, current practices)
- 2. Conceptually and Analytically Develop FSB Design Standards and UHPC Joint Details
- 3. Conceptually and Analytically Develop FSB for 75-ft. Single Span with UHPC Joints
- 4. Small-Scale Joint Testing
  - a) Develop and Evaluate Alternative FSB and UHPC Connection Details and Testing Protocol
  - b) Develop Construction Documents for Beam Fabrication
  - c) Fabricate Small-Scale Specimens for Strength and Fatigue Testing
  - d) Strength Testing of Small-Scale Specimens
  - e) Fatigue Testing of Small-Scale Specimens





# Supporting Tasks (continued)

- 5. Full-Scale Specimen Testing
  - a) Develop and Evaluate Alternative FSB Details and Testing Protocol
  - b) Develop Construction Documents for Beam Fabrication
  - c) Fabricate Full-Scale Specimens for Strength and Fatigue Testing
  - d) Strength Testing of Full-Scale Specimens
  - e) Fatigue Testing of Full-Scale Specimens
- 6. Conceptually and Analytically Develop FSB Detail as a Continuous Span
- 7. Draft Final Report and Closeout Teleconference
- 8. Final Report





# Task 1 – Literature Review

- Short-span bridge solutions
- Longitudinal and transverse joints (non-UHPC and UHPC)
- Current practice with UHPC joints
- SDCL in prestressed concrete bridges











### Task 1 — Literature Review Longitudinal and Transverse Joints (UHPC)

#### **Full-Depth Deck Connections**







#### (Aeleti and Sritharan, 2014)



Mild steel

deck reinforcement

8 in.

#### **Adjacent Box-Beam Connections**







#### Task 2 – Section and Joint Development Objectives

- Feasible span lengths for beams without CIP deck
- Preliminary joint and section designs







#### Task 2 – Section and Joint Development

**Feasible Span Lengths** 







#### **Options 4 – Modified Box Beam Joint**









### Task 2 – Section and Joint Development Numerical Modeling of Joint Details





### Task 3 – FSB for 75-ft. Span Objectives

Determine options for 75-ft. span

- No CIP deck
- Adaptable for ABC projects (UHPC Joint)
- High notoriety









### Task 3 – FSB <sup>B</sup> Section Options

Box Beam and Pre-Topped Florida Inverted-T are the most efficient sections

**Pre-Topped FIT Section Type:** *Texas* 4*B*28 **NEXT D 96** FSB 27x53 28 36 28 depth [in] 27 48 96 48 53 width [in] 0.6" diameter strands for 18 40 20 (4\*) 39 (3\*\*) 75' length 678.8 1,562 635.4 A  $[in^2]$ 1,176 **I**<sub>xx</sub> [in<sup>4</sup>] 68,745 176,674 77,574 74,098 y<sub>t</sub> [in] 14.38 12.97 11.02 13.99 13.62 23.03 16.98 y<sub>b</sub> [in] 13.01 weight [k/ft] 0.707 1.627 0.661 1.225 **ρ** (efficiency) 0.517 0.379 0.652 0.351  $r^2$ Ι  $\rho =$ 22  $Ay_by_t$  $y_b y_t$ 

### Task 4 – Joint Testing Program Preliminary Test Specimens





FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY

Preliminary Test Specimens – Naming Convention





Note: 2 tests were performed on each specimen



### Task 4 – Joint Testing Program Test Setup



#### Instrumentation Schedule



### Task 4 – Joint Testing Program Numerical Modeling











#### **Specimen Fabrication**













### Task 4 – Joint Testing Program Specimen Fabrication













#### Specimen in Test Setup















![](_page_32_Figure_2.jpeg)

### Task 4 – Joint Testing Program Experimental Testing – 18" Specimens

![](_page_33_Picture_1.jpeg)

![](_page_33_Picture_2.jpeg)

![](_page_33_Picture_3.jpeg)

![](_page_34_Figure_1.jpeg)

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#### **18-inch deep specimens**

Current FSB joint failed much lower than expected

![](_page_34_Picture_4.jpeg)

☑ Test 2 (After cyclic)

□ Software

![](_page_34_Picture_7.jpeg)

![](_page_35_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_36_Figure_1.jpeg)

**Experimental Results** 

![](_page_37_Figure_2.jpeg)

![](_page_38_Picture_1.jpeg)

![](_page_38_Picture_2.jpeg)

#### 18-inch deep specimens

- Current FSB joint failed much lower than expected
- Modified UHPC joints had similar ultimate capacities to current FSB
- Joint 18A1 had the largest ductility among all the joints
- Sandblasted joint finish was not sufficient for achieving desired bond

![](_page_38_Picture_8.jpeg)

![](_page_38_Picture_9.jpeg)

![](_page_39_Figure_1.jpeg)

**Experimental Results** 

![](_page_40_Figure_2.jpeg)

**Experimental Results** 

![](_page_41_Figure_2.jpeg)

### Task 4 – Joint Testing Program Experimental Testing – 12" Specimens

![](_page_42_Picture_1.jpeg)

![](_page_42_Picture_2.jpeg)

![](_page_43_Figure_2.jpeg)

![](_page_44_Figure_2.jpeg)

![](_page_45_Figure_2.jpeg)

**Experimental Results** 

![](_page_46_Figure_2.jpeg)

#### **Experimental Results**

#### 12-inch deep specimens

- Reinforcement lever arm has greater impact on strength (12F2 had highest strength)
- Ledge was too shallow in 12F2
- Joint 12A2 had largest ductility
- Better finish with paste retarder

Sandblasting

![](_page_47_Picture_8.jpeg)

Paste Retarder

![](_page_47_Picture_10.jpeg)

![](_page_47_Picture_11.jpeg)

![](_page_47_Picture_12.jpeg)

![](_page_48_Figure_2.jpeg)

#### **Fatigue Testing**

![](_page_49_Picture_2.jpeg)

![](_page_49_Figure_3.jpeg)

Loading type	Load Range Steps	Lower Limit Load	Upper Limit Load	Frequency	# Cycles	Testing Days
Fatigue	1 - Calibration	2 kip	12.64 kip	1 Hz	200,000	3
	2 – Under Cracking Performance	2 kip	12.64 kip	1 Hz	900,000	12
	3 – After Cracking Performance	19 kip	31 kip	1 Hz	900,000	11
Strength	4 – Overload Performance	0 kip	100 % Failure Load	N/A	N/A	1

![](_page_49_Picture_5.jpeg)

![](_page_49_Picture_6.jpeg)

### Task 4 – Joint Testing Program Fatigue Testing

![](_page_50_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_50_Picture_2.jpeg)

![](_page_50_Picture_3.jpeg)

![](_page_51_Figure_2.jpeg)

### Future Work

- Task 5 Full-Scale Beam Testing
- Task 6 Conceptually and Analytically Develop FSB Detail as a Continuous Span
- Task 7 Draft Final Report and Closeout Teleconference
- Task 8 Final Report

![](_page_52_Figure_5.jpeg)

Proposed VWG schedule for full-scale specimens

![](_page_52_Figure_7.jpeg)

![](_page_52_Picture_8.jpeg)

# Thank You

![](_page_53_Picture_1.jpeg)

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![](_page_53_Picture_6.jpeg)

![](_page_53_Picture_7.jpeg)