

Project:

Kwinana Freeway
Extension, Perth



500PLUS REIDBAR simplifies lifting procedure for 200 tonne beams



500PLUS REIDBAR, the threaded steel reinforcing bar and coupler from OneSteel Reinforcing was recently been used to facilitate the lifting and placement of massive 200 tonne Super Trough Precast Concrete Bridge Beams in Perth, Western Australia.

The beams were used in an upgrade to the Kwinana Freeway. Works included extending the Narrows Bridge, which links the Kwinana Freeway to the Mitchell Freeway, plus the addition of extra bus lanes and 12 additional bridges at the southern-most end of the freeway.

In each of the 12 bridges, there are multiple Super Trough Beams that are typically 48m long, 750mm wide and 1.75m deep.

Each Bridge Beam weighed 200 tonnes and were lifted from both ends by large mobile cranes.

So that the builder, Thiess Contractors, could safely lift the massive beams into place, structural engineer, Brian Craig - Manager Western Australia for Reid Construction Systems, was commissioned to design a method of lifting.

Eight lengths of RB32 500PLUS REIDBAR were incorporated into the units at each end of the beams and anchored with RB32 footplates.

To lift the beams, all that was needed was to place a specially-designed 100 tonne capacity lifting bracket over the top of the RB32s, which protrude from the surface of the beam.

After the bracket was in place, eight nuts were tightened to secure it, and the beam could then be handled easily and safely.

Once the beam was been placed where it was required, the nuts and brackets were removed. The REIDBARS were left in place and incorporated in the final deck.

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