

ASSOCIATION WITH PRECISION CONTRACTING SERVICES INC. (PCS).

Precision Contracting Services Inc. (PCS) would like to thank the USL Group of Companies for welcoming it into its group. PCS was formed in 2001 by Derek Martin and Robert Coulombe. PCS began doing small residential concrete repair and construction projects. Over the past two years the company has matured to the point where we have started doing an increased volume of work and have also pursued some additional avenues.

In 2002, we began doing pool patios for three different pool contractors. We have completed a variety of patios such as regular broom finished concrete, colored broom and swirl finished concrete, pattern concrete and exposed aggregate. We have also been doing shotcrete for pool contractors in the bottom basin of steel liner pools. In 2003, we began pricing bigger formwork foundation jobs.

We are currently working on two commercial foundation projects which began in late October 2003, involving footings, reinforcing steel, foundation walls and flatwork. One of the projects also involves the construction of a wave pool, spa, slide-landing pool, basketball pool, and a toddler pool. The footing and foundation work for this project is for a building that will enclose a water park at a hotel resort.

Also, in the fall of 2003, we invested in a boom truck and residential foundation forms (Duraforms) as we have secured a project in a subdivision where we will be doing in excess of 200 foundations. As a result of positive direction and the increased volume of work, PCS formed an association with the USL Group of Companies in late 2003. PCS has also hired Mr. Chris Campbell to be the Division Manager and oversee and supervise all activities.



Derek Martin and Robert Coulombe

We are excited and enthusiastic about the upcoming season and hope that we may be able to offer you our services. For more details please visit our web site: www.precisioncontracting.ca.

Robert Coulombe

PRECISION CONTRACTING SERVICES INC. NEWS

FORMING AND POURING OF FOOTING FOUNDATION WALLS AND SLABS, 3400 LAKESHORE BLVD., ETOBICOKE

PROJECT DATE: February – April, 2004
PROJECT LOCATION: 3400 Lakeshore Blvd., Etobicoke, ON
PROJECT OWNER: Eden Oak Homes
PROJECT MANAGER: Robert Coulombe
PROJECT SUPERVISOR: Derek Martin
PROJECT CO-ORDINATOR: Paul Berry

PROJECT SUMMARY:

PCS is currently working with Eden Oak Homes on the Skeen's Lane Residential Condominium project. The duties of PCS for this project include the measurement and placement of all reinforced and non-reinforced concrete footings, foundation walls, piers, and above grade walls. The scope of work also involves placement of reinforcing steel, anchor bolts for structural columns, and bearing plates for structural beams.

MISSION STATEMENT

The employees of

USL Group of Companies

undertake to:

- work safely,
- work together as a team,
- be patient with and considerate of fellow workers,
- go the distance - when accepting a task, to finish it,
- maintain the highest quality of workmanship,
- maintain a positive attitude,
- keep an open mind, and,
- be flexible to change



Forming and placement of reinforcing steel



Foundation wall ready to be poured



First floor parking garage entrance

Concrete floor slabs and stairs have also been added to this project. With winter months upon us and the majority of this project still to be completed, PCS is looking forward to the challenge of keeping up with the Eden Oak's schedule in the upcoming weeks.

USL Group of Companies

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If you have any ideas or special projects you would like to see profiled, or mentioned in the newsletter, please contact Karen at 905-857-6962 and we will try to accommodate you.

USL Group of Companies



INDUSTRIAL, COMMERCIAL, RESIDENTIAL

PROFESSIONALS IN CONCRETE REHABILITATION, SPECIALTY WORKS AND GENERAL CONSTRUCTION

VOLUME 27

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SPECIALTIES INCLUDE:

CONCRETE REHABILITATION OF: AQUEDUCTS, BRIDGES, DAMS, TUNNELS, PARKING GARAGES, RESERVOIRS AND SILOS
 EXPANSION JOINT SYSTEMS: WABOCRETE AND JEENE
 SHOTCRETE: WET AND DRY METHODS
 PRESSURE GROUTING: CEMENTITIOUS, CHEMICAL AND BITUMEN
 WATERPROOFING SYSTEMS: HOT RUBBERIZED AND THIN ELASTOMERIC
 DRILLING & ANCHORING: DIAMOND AND ROTARY PERCUSSION
 CONSTRUCTION OF POST-TENSIONED RESERVOIRS: PRELOAD DESIGN SYSTEMS
 RENOVATIONS & NEW CONSTRUCTIONS: SWIMMING POOLS, HOUSES, DRIVEWAYS, SIDEWALKS, RETAINING WALLS, EXCAVATING AND GRADING

MTO CONTRACT 2003-2261 – STRUCTURAL REHABILITATION - HWY 401 UNDERPASS AT TREMAINE ROAD, MILTON,

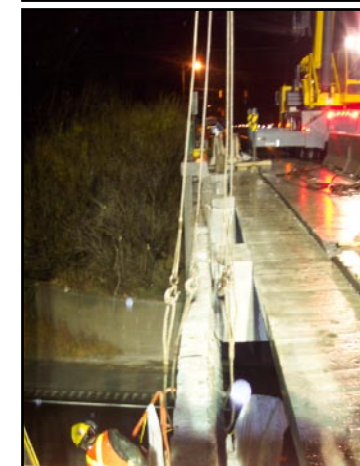
PROJECT DATE: Oct. 16, 2003 – Dec. 3, 2003
PROJECT LOCATION: Milton, Ontario
PROJECT OWNER: Ministry of Transportation
PROJECT MANAGER: Robert Coulombe
PROJECT SUPERINTENDENT: Derek Martin
PROJECT SUPERVISOR: Paul McKinnon
PROJECT CO-ORDINATOR: Angela Gougeon

PROJECT SUMMARY:

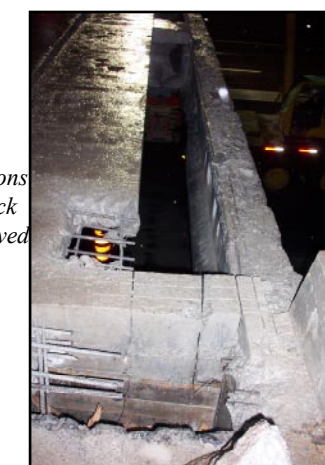
This project consisted of the rehabilitation of Tremaine Road over Hwy 401 that was originally built in 1958. The overpass was damaged by an oversized load passing underneath that severely damaged the girders west bound and east bound. USL had to install temporary traffic signals to reduce Tremaine Road to one lane to allow for our construction zone. This project required the removal of a 2.3 meter wide by 18 meter long section of the existing deck over Hwy 401 west bound to remove the damaged girder. USL subcontracted the removal of the deck and girder to Arrow Concrete Services who completed the removals in two night shifts.



Patch repair over Hwy 401 east bound



Removal of girder Hwy 401 west bound



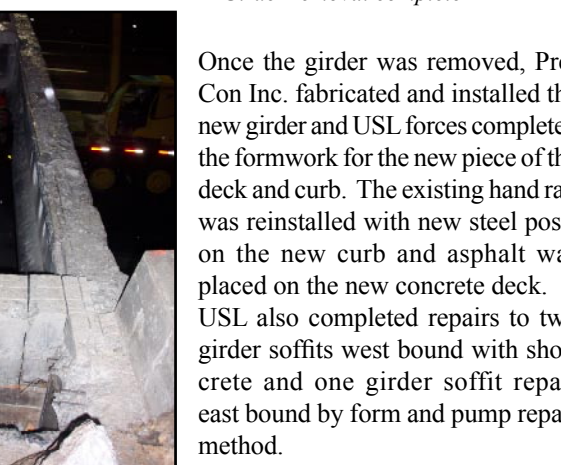
Sections of deck removed



Patch repair over Hwy 401 west bound



Girder removal complete



Once the girder was removed, Pre-Con Inc. fabricated and installed the new girder and USL forces completed the formwork for the new piece of the deck and curb. The existing hand rail was reinstalled with new steel posts on the new curb and asphalt was placed on the new concrete deck. USL also completed repairs to two girder soffits west bound with shotcrete and one girder soffit repair east bound by form and pump repair method.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

This is our last publication for 2003 and it is with pride that I look back over the past 20 years and our many successes and accomplishments. The company has grown considerably since its beginning and I thank my staff for their diligence in pursuing contracts and completing the projects in a safe and timely manner. I wish everyone health, happiness and prosperity in 2004 and look forward to the new challenges this year will bring.

We are committed to "DOING IT BETTER"

CONCREATE USL LTD. NEWS

REHABILITATION OF 3 BRIDGES - CASTOR, MORECAMBE, BEARBERRY, ALBERTA

PROJECT DATE: April – September, 2003
PROJECT LOCATION: Castor, Morecambe, Bearberry, Alberta
PROJECT OWNER: Alberta Transportation
PROJECT MANAGER: Larry Tremere
PROJECT FOREMAN: Kevin Shattler
PROJECT ADMINISTRATOR: Garry Gracher
PROJECT ENGINEER: Earth Tech/Stantec Engineering Ltd.

On March 28, 2003, ConCreate USL Ltd. was awarded the contract for the rehabilitation of three bridges located near Castor, Morecambe and Bearberry, in central Alberta. The project involved selective concrete repairs, installation of high density silica fume concrete overlays using our C450 Gomaco finishing machine, installation of new approach slabs, approach and bridge rails, new deck joints, underslung diaphragms and approach paving. The traffic was detoured during construction on the Castor and Morecambe bridges, while at Bearberry, work was completed in two stages to allow continuous traffic flow on the bridge.

PROJECT SUMMARY:



Grouting of the underslung diaphragms at Bearberry



Approach slab at Bearberry



Deck Finishing at Castor

GEO-FOUNDATIONS CONTRACTORS INC. NEWS

PERMANENT SOIL NAIL WALL, UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN ONTARIO, LONDON, ONTARIO

PROJECT DATE: August – December, 2003
PROJECT LOCATION: University of Western Ontario, London, ON
PROJECT OWNER: University of Western Ontario
PROJECT MANAGER: Daniel Lees
PROJECT SUPERVISOR: Gavin Edmunds

PROJECT SUMMARY:

When it opens in 2005, UWO's new Modular Animal Care Facility will be a 60,000 square foot, 2-storey structure built into the side of a hill. Enabling the building's construction is a 20-foot deep, 6,000 square foot permanent soil nail wall built by Geo-Foundations Contractors Inc. (GFC). This project was unique in many ways, featuring back-wall chimney drains for permanent draw down of hydrostatic pressures, and 100-year (minimum) design life soil nails. Unlike the vast majority of buried building walls, where temporary shoring allows the safe construction of a buried wall until the time that the wall can itself, in conjunction with interior walls and slabs, withstand imparted earth pressures, this building's buried south wall relies entirely on the permanent soil nails to resist all earth pressures.

GFC's crew began this project in early August with the installation of permanent instrumentation (inclinometers) and test nails for pre-production verification of soil nail wall design parameters. Three hundred nails, varying in length from 20 to 50 feet, each one proof tested, were installed in highly varied stratigraphy ranging from dense till to medium sands and water bearing soils. This project is GFC's first permanent soil nail wall installation.



Completed soil nail wall with waterproofing membrane



Installing soil nails in the south wall



Versatile drill working in the SW corner

UNDERGROUND SERVICES (1983) LTD. NEWS

MTO CONTRACT #2003-2020 HWY 401/410/403- HEART LAKE TRUNK STORM SEWER REHABILITATION, BRAMPTON, ON

PROJECT DATE: December, 2003 – March, 2004
PROJECT LOCATION: Brampton, Ontario
PROJECT OWNER: Ministry of Transportation
PROJECT MANAGER: Robert Coulombe
PROJECT SUPERINTENDENT: Derek Martin
PROJECT SUPERVISOR: Tayson Driscoll
PROJECT CO-ORDINATOR: Tony Thoms

PROJECT SUMMARY:

This rehabilitation project of the Heart Lake Trunk storm sewer, approximately 500m in length, was awarded to Underground Services (1983) Ltd. to begin in December and carry on throughout the winter season. USL was contracted by the Ministry of Transportation to back grout 176m of pipe. Corrugated steel pipe will be brought in to fit inside the existing concrete pipe. This pipe will be brought in by using a Manitou forklift with a lifting frame with each piece being 10 feet long.



USL safety coordinator in front of corrugated steel pipe



Sewer entrance

There are 56 pieces in total to be brought in and back grouted. The remaining 250m is a crack injection and contraction joint repair project. To date confined space training has been completed and environmental protection systems are being installed. The back grouting repair is to continue after the Christmas break.

PARKING GARAGE REHABILITATION, CITY OF HAMILTON, ON

PROJECT DATE: November, 2003 – March, 2004
PROJECT LOCATION: Hamilton, Ontario
PROJECT OWNER: The City of Hamilton
PROJECT MANAGER: Kevin McMurdo
PROJECT SUPERINTENDENT: James Stannard
PROJECT CONSULTANT: Read Jones Christoffersen Ltd. (RJC)

PROJECT SUMMARY:

Servicing the downtown core of the City of Hamilton, this five level cast in place parking structure has been in use since 1976. After undergoing minor rehabilitation in 2002, RJC undertook a major condition survey, followed by the formulation of a detailed phased rehabilitation program commencing on Level 1 in 2003. USL was successful on the tendering of this project which commenced in early November 2003 with scheduled completion in early March 2004.

As there is a museum located above the work area, all concrete removal was specified to be carried out by hydro-demolition and it will represent USL's first major project utilizing this procedure. Upon completion of structural slab repairs, elastomeric traffic topping will be installed to waterproof and protect the slab surfaces from moisture and chloride infiltration. A new state-of-the-art expansion joint system will be installed to allow for greater slab movement and leakage protection. The drainage system will be upgraded to prevent water ponding and to allow for additional drainage capacity.

A MESSAGE FROM OUR SAFETY COORDINATOR - GREG FRENCH

As a result of two successful tenders, USL has found itself in a position of having to conduct two confined space entry jobs with the possibility of a third when the Thorold Tunnel project resumes early next year. USL had contracted En-Safe to provide an 8 hour awareness course on confined space entry for the remediation of the Hwy 401/410/403 storm sewer. This training will be further supplemented by in-house, site specific training. USL utilized En-Safe's confined space manhole simulator. This allowed our workers to gain an understanding of what a rescue might be like.

As well as familiarization training with a number of different gas detection devices, this training will have to be repeated for the Ranney Falls job, where workers will have to enter a culvert to conduct repairs. Training is very important for these types of entries, as experience has shown that these spaces can become quite dangerous. Based on the perceived danger worker protection can be quite extensive, as you can see from the pictures of our mock demolition in the vent shaft at the Thorold Tunnel.



Pre-entry meeting for plenum confined space entry @ Thorold tunnel



Confined space - rescue simulation



Alternative rescue apparatus



Mock demolition to allow personal air quality testing