## Moveable Concrete Barrier

## Flexible Positive Protection to minimize work zone congestion, increase safety \& save time \& money

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## The Cost of Congestion

- Congestion in 2009 cost \$115 Billion
- Americans traveled an extra 4.8 BILLION hours
- Americans purchased an extra 3.9 Billion gallons of fuel in 2009
- Air quality issues

- $50 \%$ of nations urban Freeways at / above capacity
- Data suggests the problem will continue to increase as economy recovers

Source: TTI, Urban Mobility Report 1-20-11 \& The Road Information Program (TRIP) 5-01

## WORLDNEWS

"Thanks to the recovery in the Chinese economy, there are a lot more trucks on the road," Mr. Zhang said. And the growth in new vehicles is "always faster than the construction of new highways."

Out on Highway 110, police have been working to reroute cars and trucks carrying food and other essential supplies. People from villages along the highway are selling instant noodles to drivers from roadside stands and, when traffic is at a standstill, walking among the vehicles to hawk their wares.

When the traffic comes to a complete stop, many drivers leave their trucks' spartan cabs, which offer few of the amenities, such as audio-video systems and sleeping bunks, common in big rigs in the U.S. Groups of drivers sit in the shade of their trailers playing cards or napping.

The root cause of the conges-
Truck driver Long Jie, who hauled a 30 -ton load of coal tion is the sharp rise in vehicle from Baotou in the mining belt traffic as more and more trucks of Inner Mongolia to Beijing, flood intercity highways moving said that a trip that normally goods from mines and factories took him three days had now to cities and ports. With freightstretched to more than a week. hauling capacity on the counMr. Long said the delays would try's overburdened rail network likely force his employer to raise constrained, more and more the price charged for deliveries. loads are moving by road.

Zhang Minghai, director of China has been investing the Traffic Management Bureau heavily to build new roads and in Zhangjiakou, a city along the expand existing ones. But it has highway's path, said he didn't struggled to keep pace with the expect the situation on the road, number of new vehicles flooding known as National Highway 110, onto the highways. Sales of midto return to nomal until around Sept. 17, when roadwork is set to finish and closed traffic lanes can reopen.

A significant portion of China's postfinancial crisis fis-cal-stimulus package has been earmarked for road building in recent years. But in the short run, all that construction is just making traffic problems worse.

Another major problem is wear and tear on Chinese roads, chewed up by trucks hauling heavy loads, especially along critical coal-transport roites such as Highway 110. Coal moves by truck along the road from Inner Mongolia-which has fewer rail links to the rest of the country to factories and power stations near Beijing.

The current gridlock is unusual, and has been worsened by construction on Beijing's outermost ring road and another highway that feeds into the capital. But even in normal times, thousands of trucks line up along the main thoroughfares into Beijing, many laden with the coal used to fire the city's power plants and furnaces. Trucks are allowed into the city center only at night.

Beijing is particularly prone to traffic jams because it is a bottleneck point. Drivers from northwest China have to navigate its rings of concentric circular highways to get to coastal ports or to head south.

Swelling numbers of passenger cars in the capital contribute to congestion in the city and its suburbs. State media on Tuesday reported that average driving speeds in the capital could drop below 9 miles an hour if the city keeps adding cars at its current rate of 2,000 a day.
-Gao Sen and Sue Feng contributed to this article.

## China's Boom Snarls Traffic In 60-Mile Jam



## MAP-21 - Performance Management

Seven goals of "National Interest", requires states and MPO's to establish performance measures and standards

- Safety
- Infrastructure Condition
- Congestion Reduction
- System Reliability
- Freight Movement and Economic Vitality
- Environmental Sustainability
- Reduced Project Delivery Delays


## Quickchange ${ }^{\text {TM }}$ Moveable Barrier



Managed Lanes


Construction

## Traditional Construction WZ Issues

- When lanes are taken, capacity is reduced \& congestion increases
- If lanes are not taken the contractor has confined - unproductive workspace
- If plastic delineation devices are used more buffer space is required to separate workers / motorists
- Result: Increased accident



## System Components



- Moveable Barrier, Transfer Machine \& VLB's
- Steel alloy hinge pin system
- Modified T-Top acts as a lifting surface
- Maximum Dynamic Deflection 53 " ( 4.4 ft ) ( 1346 mm )
- Transfer / Reset = 1 Mile in $12 \mathrm{mins}(4-18 \mathrm{ft}$ width $)$
- NCHRP-350 TL3 Barrier


## QMB Construction Applications



Partial Road Closures


Shoulder Work Inside / Outside

## Partial Road Closures



TYPICAL PEAK
One side of the road is closed \& traffic is moved to the other side. MB is used (as a "Moveable Median") to provide more lanes on the open side to managed peak demand. This provides unobstructed access to the closed side for the contractor to complete the work faster \& safer.

## St. Croix River Bridge Reconstruction Partial Closure



- Completed in one season versus two
- Construction cost savings >\$1 M*
- User-delay cost savings >\$1.5M*
- No crossover accidents during construction
- Av speed w/ MB 51 mph; versus 9 mph without MB

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## Indiana US-31 over I-465 Bridge Superstructure Replacement


> -Original plan, temporary bridge widening (Project Estimate \$6 Million) -Utilized Moveable Barrier in 2+1/1+2 pattern (Project Estimate \$4.8 Million)
> -Actual Project Bid \$4,016,316
> -MBW = \$327,640
> -\$1.2 Million savings on Proj. Estimate -Provided 2-lanes for peak traffic 2011 Honor Award for Engineering Excellence from the Indiana Chapter of the ACEC
> Stephen J. Christian \& Associates

## Doyle Drive <br> San Francisco, CA

## SR 171 Widening - Salt Lake City, UT Partial Closure - Arterial



Evaluation of Movable Barriers in Const WorkZone's,

Ken Berg, P.E. et al, TY Lin Int'I, 2010

- 2 lanes always open in peak direction using 3 lanes vs. 4
- Project finished 7 months early
- Total benefits of using MB were \$1.7 M - \$2.4 M
- Greater than 10:1 B/C


## Peoria, IL. McCluggage Bridge

Type Project: Dual Structure Redeck
Contractor: Midwest Construction


Length of Project: 1 Mile ADT: 50,000+
Innovative Strategies: Transferred traffic to one structure, providing unrestricted access for seismic retrofit and deck work. Reconfigured traffic on the other bridge w/ MTCB to accommodate AM \& PM traffic.

Results: Reduced phasing time \& cut completion time. Pos Sep traffic for improved safety. Received the FHWA Mobility and Safety Award. On time and below budget.



TYPICAL ROADWAY CONFIGURATION BEFORE CONSTRUCTION

## Contractor told by DOT: "Motorists must have 3 lanes in the peak direction at all times."

Typical 6-lane highway before widening. Must keep 3 lanes open each way to minimize queue (backuf


Alternative \#1: Work completed in three stages over two construction seasons


Stage 1: Five lanes to the right of the median barrier, one lane to the left.


Stage 2: One lane to the right of the median barrier, five lanes to the left.


Stage 3: Work zone is in the median between temporary barriers

Alternative \#2: Use costly temporary asphalt on both sides
 asphalt costs can be very expensive - Required 2 Construction seasons

Alternative \#2: Use costly temporary asphalt on both sides


Traffic is disrupted during paving. Temporary asphalt costs can be very expensive

Alternative \#3: Use Moveable Barrier to reduce costs and construction stages


QMB keeps lanes open with no (or minimal) construction, reduces construction seasons by eliminating stages

## QMB Construction Applications



Partial Road Closures


Shoulder Work Inside Outside

## Outside Shoulder Work



## Inside Shoulder Work



During peak hours, the barrier is stored on the outside or inside shoulder. During off-peak hours, the barrier is moved out to expand the work zone

## Off-Peak Expanded Workspace Outside Shoulder Work



More Lanes / Peak


Lane shifts under traffic, positively protecting workers, motorists \& haul lanes

## Minneapolis, MN I-494

- Reconstruction project on I-494 from Hwy 100 to 24th Avenue in Edina, Richfield, and Bloomington in 2012 and 2013
- Median guardrail removal \& replacement with concrete median barrier
- Adding a WB Aux. lane between Nicollet Ave. \& Portland Ave.
- 3+3, 6am - 6:30 pm daily balanced traffic, hourly traffic range 4,000-6,900



## Minneapolis, MN I-494

- User Delay Calculations:

| Location | Night Lane Closure <br> w/MCB | All Day Lane Closure <br> w/Static Barrier |
| :--- | :--- | ---: |
| I-35 to TH 77 EB | $\$ 32,350$ | $\$ 1,594,440$ |
| Penn - I-35 WB | $\$ 25,810$ | $\$ 2,767,130$ |
| I-35 - TH77 WB | $\$ 8,410$ | $\$ 1,046,270$ |

Road user cost was calculated by using a queuing model spreadsheet developed in MnDOT by following with FHWA guidance on life cost analysis. $\$ 13.93$ per person-hour for passenger cars and $\$ 17.51$ per person-hour for trucks Heavy Commercial is about $5 \%$ on the corridor

- Benefits:
- Accelerate construction time, Provide more space for construction workers, Reduce congestion, Decrease travel time for the public

TRANSPORTATION SOLUTIONS

## Wash. DC IH-395 Beltway

Type Project: Pavement Reconst.
Contractor: Cianbro Construction
Length of Project: 5 Miles ADT: 120,000 Innovative Strategies: Used MTCB for Median Replacement then employed Contraflow lane concept to keep traffic moving
 smoothly. I-395 is a critical corridor around WDC.
Results: Flexible scheduling reduced phasing time, cut congestion, Shaved 81 days (almost 3 months) off completion. Received AGC Build America Award.

## Chicago, IL. S. Lakeshore Dr.

Type Project: Widening
Contractor: Walsh / Riteway Const. 7-02
Length of Project: $1^{1 ⁄ 2}$ Miles ADT: 60,000+
Innovative Strategies: MTCB enabled the contractor to increase the size of the work space, positively protect workers / motorists and protect the haul lanes.
Results: Contractor was able to quickly reconfigure traffic lanes and provide extra inbound and outbound lanes to reduce congestion and accelerate project completion

## Moveable Barrier Construction Applications Pay-Offs

- Flexible WZ accelerates const process to reduce time \& overhead
- More lanes during peak hours reduces congestion
- Expanded workspace during off-peak hours speeds construction
- Added safety: Positive protection for workers and motorists



## Quickchange ${ }^{\text {TM }}$ Moveable Barrier System Support

## Design:

- Design Assistance
- Applications Engineering
- Design / Phasing Reviews
- Translations


## Operational Support:

- Training
- Maintenance
- Tech Rep Site Support
- 24 / 7 Trouble Shooting


## Questions?



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[^0]:    * Rush Hour Remedy, Ayres Associates

