## Indiana Department of Transportation

#### Ground Penetrating Radar Bridge Deck Testing Randy Strain



- Resource International, Inc. is in the process of completing our first contract of non-destructive bridge deck testing using ground penetrating radar.
- The contract included testing for 230 bridge decks.

• The bridges were selected by the INDOT Bridge Asset Engineers and Bridge Inspection Supervisors.







DETERIORATION - 33090 NB BRIDGE DECK

Color	Percent	Area (S.F.)
100 million (1990)	0.1	7.5
	1.1	171.9
	10.5	1611.6
	19.3	2951.9
	69.0	10585.5

DETERIORATION - 33090 SB BRIDGE DECK

Color	Percent	Area (S.F.)
100	0.7	147.4
100	0.9	196.9
	7.6	1563.6
	21.5	4441.4
and the second	69.3	14310.6

Bridge deck constructed in 1994 – 25 year old bridge deck Deterioration just over 10%





- In order to obtain a 28 day yield strength of 4000 psi 658 pounds of cement is used in the mix design.
- Indiana is known for its' Indiana Limestone, also know as Bedford Limestone.
- Bedford Indiana has been noted to have the highest quality quarried limestone in the United States.
- Wonderful product for building products.
- Not a great stone for obtaining a high strength concrete.



- It appears that building a bridge deck with an overlay may not provide additional protection to the deck. The shrinkage cracks from the deck seem to extend into the overlay.
- Our best protection with our current mix design is to allow the shrinkage cracks to form and the provide protection with a polymeric concrete bridge deck overlay.
- Designing a concrete mix to overcome the shrinkage cracks increases the cost of the concrete by about four and a half times.



• 41-42-5935 BSBL



DETERIORATION - 14790 SB BRIDGE DECK			
Color	Percent	Area (S.F.)	
	3.7	226.3	
	6.0	363.2	
	28.5	1735.7	
	32.1	1957.8	
	29.7	1812.5	

- 9.7% highly deteriorated
- 38.2% total deterioration
- 48 year old deck
- 24 year old 2<sup>nd</sup> overlay
- Structure is programmed to be rehabilitated in 2020. The inspector rated the deck a low 6 by notation and recommend the deck be replaced.



#### **Preliminary statistical findings**

- Bridges with approximately 10% deterioration should be considered to be in fair condition.
- Bridges with approximately 10% 20% deterioration may require further testing.
- Bridges with grater than 20% deterioration should be considered in poor condition.



The relation between percent deterioration and percent patching is not a one to one correlation.

This graph is an approximation of the relationship.



When and how often should testing be done?

- The deterioration appears to be minor in bridge decks less than twenty years old
- The deterioration in latex overlays appears to follow very closely to the same time line.
- The bridge inspectors can not accurately determine the condition of the bridge decks by visual inspection. A large amount of the deterioration is simply not visible.
- Using NDT at the appropriate time line can assist in the proper evaluation of the bridge deck.



- INDOT Bridge Inspectors can use the NDT results to more accurately rate bridge decks.
- Percentage of deterioration does not directly correlate to bridge deck patching.
- Ground penetrating radar is a valuable tool for screening bridge decks.
- The correlation of deterioration percentage to patching has not been accurately determined.



- In 2019 we would like to use different methods of NDT and perform quality assurance on the bridge desks tested.
- Perhaps in order to minimize traffic disruption, the touch based NDT might be performed on the bridge deck shoulder then the traffic lanes can be tested at highway speeds.
- Several bridge decks will be followed through the construction contract in order to obtain the correlation between percentage deterioration to bridge deck patching.
- The upper limit of deterioration needs to be identified.

