

Vandenberg Air Force Base Missile Transport Bridge

A HOCHTIEF Company

Owner

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Location

Lompoc, CA

Value

\$8,300,000

Market

Bridges

Start - Completion Dates

4/2003 - 1/2004

- A new 2,000-foot-long bridge designed for extreme missile transport loads
- Coordination with environmentalists to ensure sensitivity while working in wetlands
- Accelerated project schedule reducing contract duration by 41 percent

Project Description

Vandenberg Air Force Base is home to the nation's first photoreconnaissance satellite program, known as CORONA. Vandenberg AFB was the base from which the satellites were launched, successfully returning the first satellite photographs of earth. Recently, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers required a new bridge to transport missiles across the base.

Flatiron constructed a new 2,000-foot-long bridge designed for extremely heavy missile transport loads through the base's environmentally sensitive wetlands. The project team overcame numerous environmental and archaeological challenges and utilized the utmost sensitivity while working in the wetlands.

Due to the necessary high-level of cooperation with on-site environmentalists and archaeologists, military officials estimated the project would last just under two years. The project team, however, accelerated the schedule and successfully completed the bridge in just 424 days.

Company Role

Flatiron was responsible for approximately 90 percent of the civil work required for this project and performed all earthmoving, bridge construction, asphalt paving and approach work.

Awards

- National Associated Builders and Contractors – Eagle Award for Public Works/ Environmental, 2004
- San Diego Chapter Associated Builders and Contractors – Excellence Award (top honors), 2004
- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers South Pacific Division – Military Construction Project of the Year, 2004

