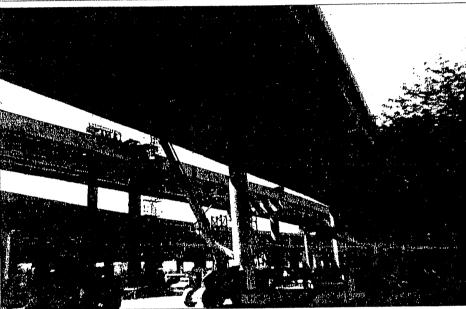
# January 2 2001 Vol. XLIV • No. 1 CONSTITUTION The Nation's Best Read Construction Newspaper... Founded 1957.'

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DeFoe workers add cross member in widening a structure on the Bruckner/Cross Bronx Expressivay Interchange Republifitation Project.

## DeFoe Shatters Incentive Ceiling on Colossal NYC Thoroughfare Job

By James C. Van Hom CEG CORRESPONDENT

Due to savvy deployment of equipment and precise project sequencing, DeFoe Corp., Mount Vernon, NY, has so far maxed out on its incentive completion bonuses on a \$200 million-plus highway rehab job.

DeFoe is the general contractor for the Bruckner/Cross Bronx Expressway Interchange Rehabilitation Project in the Bronx, NY, for the New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT). This project covers major portions of the Bruckner Expressway (1-878), the Cross Bronx Expressway, the New England Thruway (1-95), the Hutchinson River Parkway and the expressways to the Whitestone and Throgs Neck bridges.

Scope of work on the job, originally let at \$242 million,

see BRUCKNER page 120

# Supreme Cou Dismisses DBL Legal Challenge

By Tracy Carbasho

A 12-year legal battle initiated by a Colorado guardrail construction company came to a close recently, but will be remembered as a landmark civil rights case.

Adarand Constructors Inc., a family-owned guardrail, and fence contractor based in Colorado Springs, first

The federal government's practice of racial bid-rigging has caused [Adarand] to lose 60 to 100 jobs that could have brought in between \$3 million and \$6 million in revenue.

. Randy Pech Adarand Constructors Inc.

challenged the U.S. Department of Transportation's Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) programmin 1990 Adarand President Randy Pech said the federal government's practice of racial bid-rigging has caused his company to lose 60 to 100 jobs that could have broughful between \$3 million and \$6 million in revenue.

Neither Pech nor his legal counsel were surprised when the U.S. Supreme Court decided on Nov. 27 to dismus Adarand's challenge to the DOT's use of racial prefer ences in its contracting program.

see ADARAND page 116

## ARTBA Rings in 2002 By Celebrating Its Centennial Birthday

By Pete Sigmund
CEG EDITORIAL CONSULTANT

One hundred years ago, Horatio "By Gum" Earle, president of a bicyclists' association called the League of American Wheelmen, met with three other men in the Cadillac Hotel in New York City. They approved a constitution of an association of road builders that is today a major force in the transportation and construction industry.

The constitution provided for a president and three vice presidents and created castern, southern, central and western divisions. The annual membership fee was \$5. "This is not a cheap

affair and cheap members will not be tolerated," Earle wrote. At the time of the Feb. 13,

At the time of the Feb. 13, 1902, meeting, only 14,000 cars
— which farmers dubbed the "red devils" — were registered in the United States. The country

included millions of bioycles. Both the early motorists and the cyclists were mired in mud

especially on country lanes.
The meeting founded the American Road Makers (ARM);

see ARTBA page 124

# WY Contractor Races Through \$242M Rehabilitation Project

BRUCKNER from page 1

includes:

Replacement of 1.1 million sq. ft. (102,193 sq m) of reinforced concrete deck on 14 multi-stringer steel structures:

 Repairing and resurfacing of 4 mi. (6.4 km) of on-grade roads;

· Replacement of bridge and overpass superstructures:

· New super- and sub-structures on three spans on the Cross-Bronx:

• Installation of an intelligent smaffic system (ITS);

· Maintenance and protection of traffic

Providing construction coordination and management services, including inspection, to NYS-DOT are HAKS Engineers PC. New York City.

The project, according to NYSDOT, was planned so that it combines several projects into one, thereby reducing time and impact on the surrounding communities and motorists.

Also, the timeline on the project aims to minimize the effect on the communities and motorists. As Bob Colella, general superintendent of the Bruckner project of DeFoe, explained, This contract has 16 incentive/disincentive milestones in it, in terms of completion of each sophase. If we finish ahead of the scheduled milestone date, we get a bonus, depending on how much ahead we are, to a maximum amount. If we finish on time, we get the contracted amount: If we get behind, we are penalized for each late day. So far we have achieved the maximum allowable bonus for each milestone.

Completion of this job, which started in June 1999, was originally, set for May 2003, but DeFoe is at least 75 percent there already. On three previous segments of the mammoth project, DeFoe completed one in 50 percent of budgeted time, a second a year early, and a third 11 months ahead. On the final, and biggest roadway segment, the actual thterchange of the Bruckner and Cross Bronx, anticipated completion has now moved up to November, 2002. However, Colella said they are aiming at finishing concrete work and having roads open by this coming "winter, with final completion by May 2002.

We are on track to finish ahead of schedule, and, even though there are extras added since the original award, there are also underruns. We will probably come in dollar-wise under the original award."

The original Bruckner Interchange, according to Colella,

was completed in 1971 and, at \$50 million (1970 dollars), was one of the most expensive and complex highway jobs built in the United States at the time. The Bruckner Interchange was built to 1960's steel structural standards and has suffered deterioration after 30 years of pounding traffic and proximity to the salt air of Long Island Sound may not have helped, either.

Colella said, "We are remov-

ing and replacing the concrete decks, reinforcing bearings to meet seismic loads, and widening certain areas on the viaducts for extra lanes, requiring new foundations and new columns,

"At the start of the project, DeFoe drove 1,000 new concrete-filled monotube friction piles to support new and rebuilt roadways. On the westbound Cross Bronx, they cut out 800 ft. (243 m) of steel and replaced steel cross hammerheads with concrete, and replaced and stiff-

ened the long steel spans.
Continued Colella, "While some steel replacement is necessary, we can use many of the existing steel structures, rehabilitating and reinforcing them." The basic soundness of the Bruckner, he noted, testifies to good maintenance practices.

DeFoe also replaced and repayed on-grade roads on the Hutchinson River Expressway, the Cross Bronx and the approaches from the Whitestone and Throgs Neck bridges. Caterpillar and Komatsu hydraulic excavators handle excavation

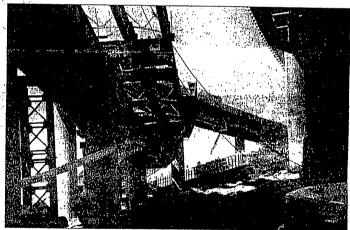
or re-excavation - where

"One of the more interesting parts of the job was on the ramp that feeds the Bruckner Expressway from the Cross Bronx - we couldn't shut it down for the entire time it took to rehab it, six months, so we designed and built a temporary bridge to handle all the traffic while we redid the permanent structure. This temporary bridge had to connect two existing structures which vibrated independently of each other, so the connecting bridge actually 'bounced' two ways." The temporary bridge used four longitudinal steel beams topped with open steel grating, like that used on drawbridges, welded to them.

DeFoe makes extensive use of staged construction to keep traffic moving and make the best use of time and resources. On one stretch of elevated roadway, for example, Caterpillar and John Deere crawler and wheel excavators with hydraulic hammers chiseled out old roadway; crews torched away old steel plates and

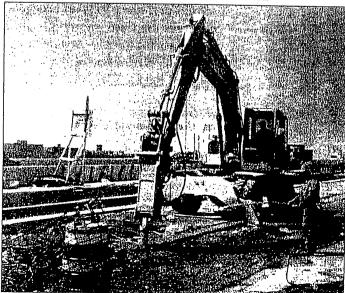
A Caterpillar hydraulic backboe removes old concrete paving and excavates subbase for a new

approach ramp to the on-grade section of Bruckner/Cross Bronx Expressivay Interchange Rehabilita-



DeFoe workers adds cross mem-ber in widening a structure on the Bruckner/Gross Bronx Express-way Interchange Rebabilitation Project.

Caterpillar wheeled backhoe with a hydraulic bammer breaks up old concrete deck on the Bruckner Interchange as a workman boses down the impactpoint to reduce dust



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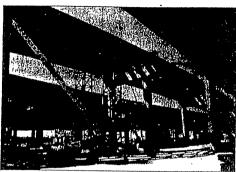
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## **DeFoe Fast Tracks NYC Highway Jobs**

BRUCKNER from page 120



Aerial list equipment plays a major role in the rehabilitation of steel spans and installation of new concrete decks of the Bruckner/Cross Bronx Expressivay Interchange Rehabilitation Project. Here, DeFoe workers finish up one span while another (foreground), has permanent metal concrete forms in place, DeFoe also makes extensive use of temporary steel tower supports.

rebars, other crews welded new cross-braces and steel replacement parts, while concrete crews follow, installing rebars and permanent metal concrete forms. Concrete pouring followed closely.

Colella explained they deploy lots of hydraulic lifting equipment. "This is a big Condor job — we have as many as 30 aerial lifts on the job. We also use cherry pickers and 35-ton hydraulic cranes.

The biggest cranes, however, were used to handle the new steel beams 500-ton (450 t) capacity Krupp hydraulic truck cranes with 200 ft. (60 m) of booms, for precision work inside and between

piers and girders.
Normally DeFoe works one shift a day, with 300 people on the job. They will work nights and weekends, straight through if necessary, when the project: requires complete shutdown of a roadway, and go into overtime to hit an early completion date. Colella noted the bonus could be double the cost of addition-

al labor.

CEG

Although DeFoe may not have as high a public? profile as several other New York City area contractors, the firm has a long, solid history of public works contracting. Colella noted the company, which is privately held, specializes in bridge and highway rehabilitation work, so it's well-equipped for the Bruckner, one of the biggest highway rehab jobs in the northeast - and well-positioned to reap the benefits of finishing almost a year ahead of schedule,"

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