

# Preserving Movable Bridges

Northeast Bridge Preservation Partnership

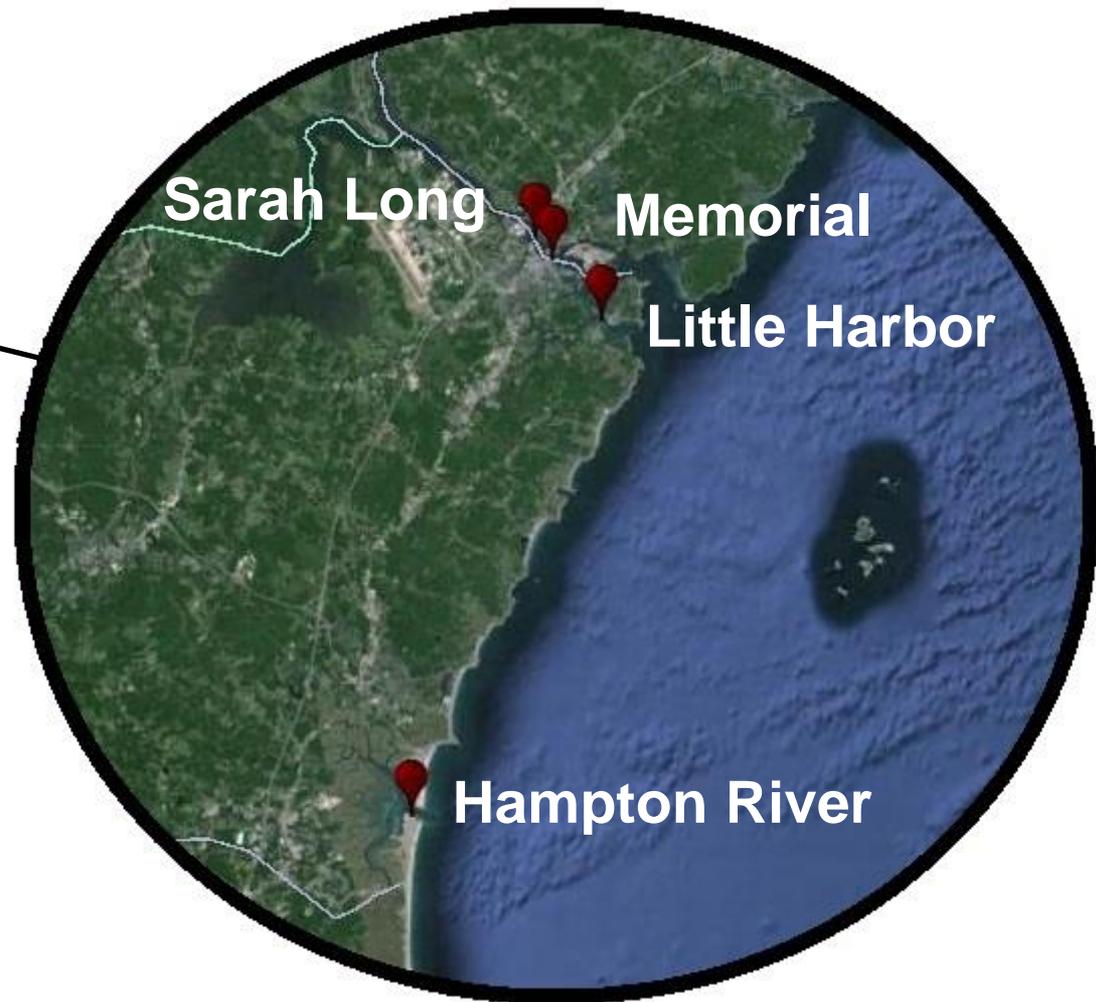
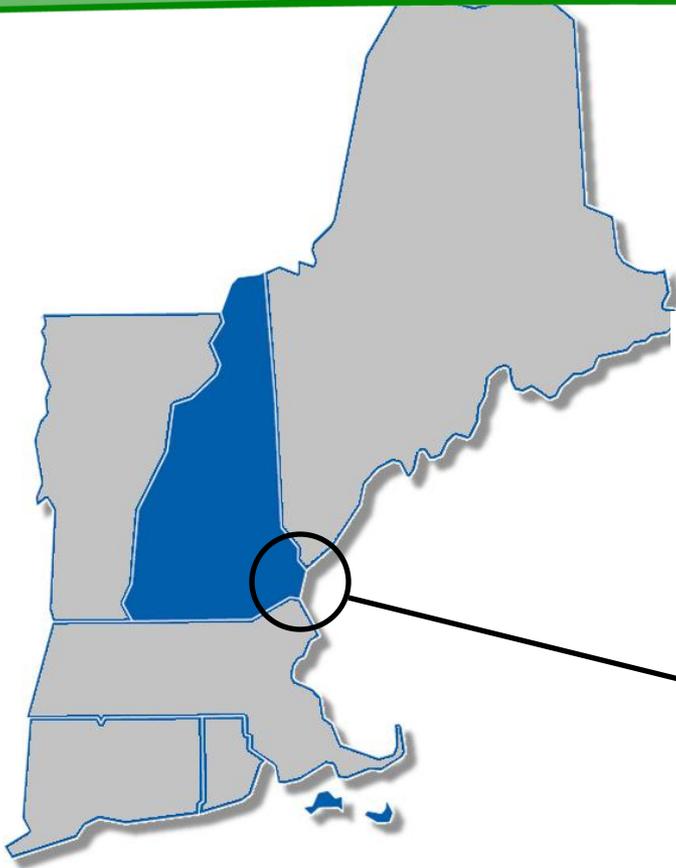
September 24, 2013

Steve Johnson

Assistant Administrator, Bureau of Bridge Maintenance  
New Hampshire DOT



# New Hampshire's Movable Bridges



# Lift Bridge Elements

## Standard Bridge Components

- Structural Steel
- Bridge Decks
- Bridge Rail
- Bearings
- Expansion Joints
- Abutments/Piers



# Lift Bridge Elements

## Building Components

- Roofing
- Siding
- Windows
- Doors
- Stairs
- Utilities
- HVAC



# Lift Bridge Elements

## Mechanical Components

- Gears
- Motors
- Wire Ropes
- Sheaves
- Drums
- Emergency Generators
- Brakes
- Jib/Bridge Cranes
- Barrier Gates
- Shafts
- Span Locks



# Lift Bridge Elements

## Electrical Components

- Computers
- Limit Switches
- Relays
- Transformers
- Traffic Lights
- Fans
- Unit Heaters
- Navigation Lights
- Cameras



# Little Harbor Bridge

Single Leaf Bascule – Built 1942

Span 38' (32' clear)







## OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

1. Park truck clear of lift span at counterweight end.
2. Close bridge to traffic.
3. One man to act as flagman at Wentworth end of bridge.
4. Remove wooden walk way covers at breaking point of lift section- (if installed).
5. Release hand locking lever on the North end of the lift.
6. Turn on master switch.
7. Turn on the two magnetic controllers.
8. Check hand brake for full OFF position.
9. To raise bridge, press UP button.  
Bridge will stop automatically in the full UP position.  
Stop at any time with the STOP button.
10. To lower bridge, press the DOWN button.  
(Bridge will automatically stop before fully seating.)
11. To fully seat, hold in electric brake release while truck is driven on to lift span. (Weight will seat it so that locking lever may be engaged.)
12. Turn off master switch and secure the bridge.
13. See operators manual for:
  - A. Operation on one motor.
  - B. Maintenance
14. Hand brake is to be used if electric brake fails.
15. Lift will automatically lock with a power failure.

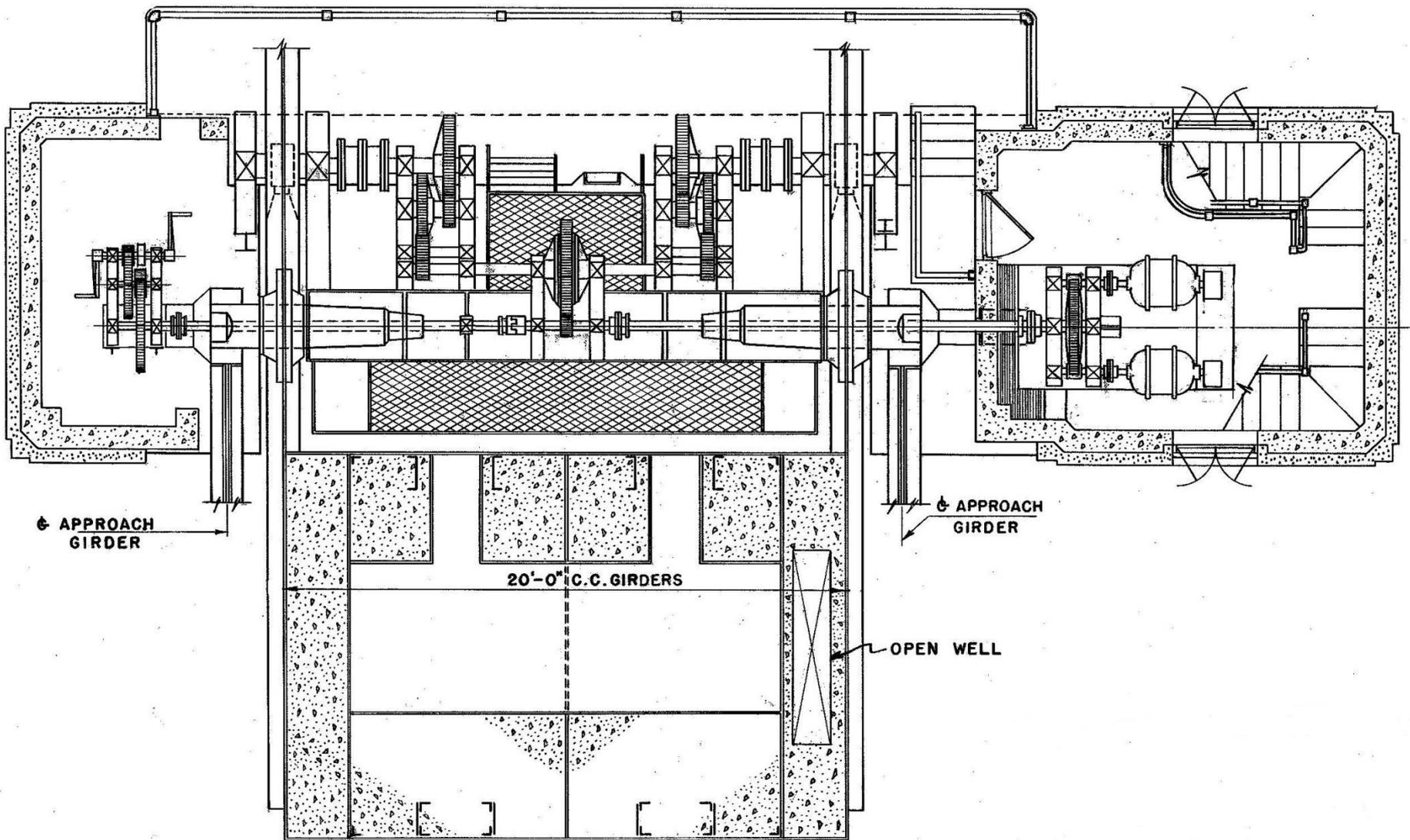
# Hampton Harbor Bridge

Single Leaf Bascule – Built 1949

Span – 65.5' (51' Clear)



# Equipment Plan



SECTION PLAN

# Mechanical Works



# Gear Wear



# Sarah Mildred Long Bridge

Tower Drive Vertical Lift – Built 1940

Span 224' (200' clear) Vertical Clearance 135'

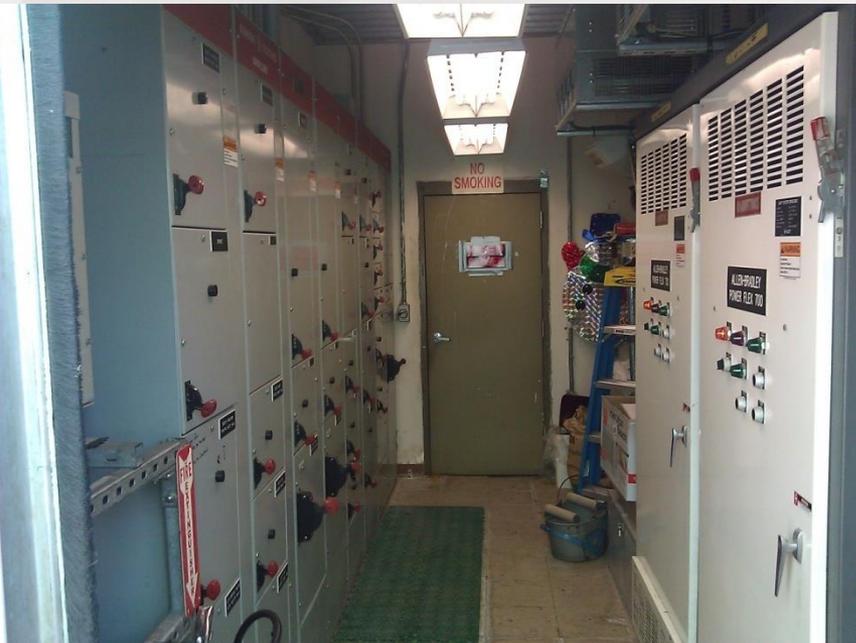


# Machinery in Tower





# Electrical components



# Limit Switches -- Inexpensive, but can be a big problem

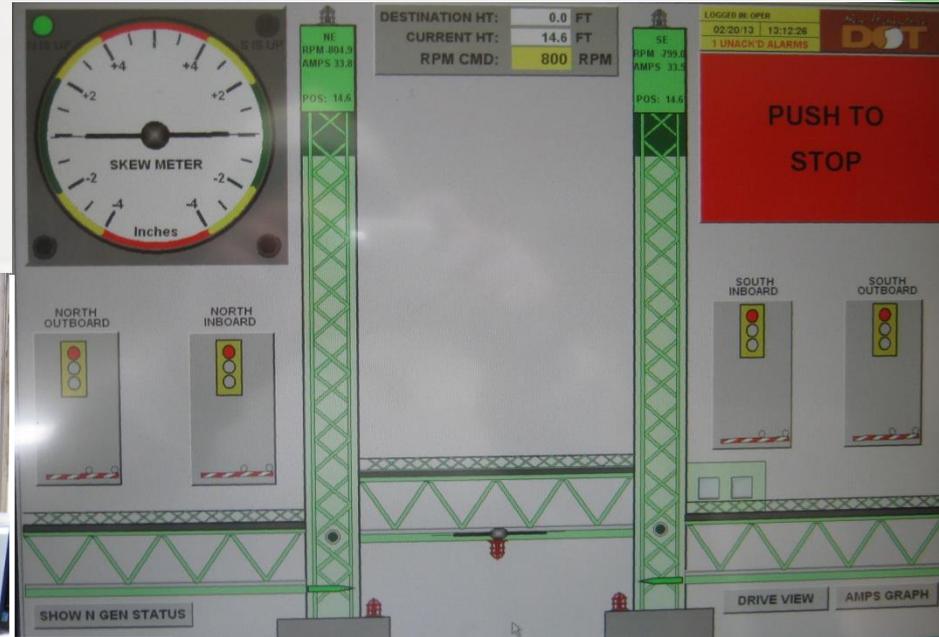




# Concord ..... We have a problem!



# Operator's Dilemma



## Sarah Long bridge stuck in up position

By Jim Haddadin

jhaddadin@fosters.com

Thursday, January 24, 2013

PORTSMOUTH — The Sarah Mildred Long Bridge could remain closed for several days as crews from the N.H. Department of Transportation attempt to maneuver the stuck span down into place.

The drawbridge's center span became dislodged Wednesday during a test run, according to NHDOT spokesman Bill Boynton. The bridge's truss was damaged in the process, leaving the span stuck about a foot above the water.

Traffic was kept moving on the bridge main span overnight, and

Repairs were under way using torches

"This is a challenge to fix it," Boynton

# You Never want to be the Headline!!

## Crews race to fix Sarah Long Bridge *Bridge gets stuck during test*

UPDATED 8:10 AM EST Jan 25, 2013

Text 3

## Tugboat captain: Sarah Long Bridge closure hurts business

Photo 1 of 1 | Zoom Photo +

BUY PHOTO \$10



Tankers can't pass through the Sarah Mildred Long Bridge while it's under repairs, and it's causing tension for commerce on the Piscataqua River.

Deb Crum file photo

### TODAY'S MOST VIEWED ARTICLES

Rocker restores historic Kittery, Maine home - 2/27/2013

Prostitution trial jurors shown

video. @Wright -

Police: 2/26/2013

High cost salaries

Coast Guard was hurt

Principa - 2/26/2013

## Sarah Long Bridge reopening for traffic

7:05 PM, Jan 27, 2013 |

0 comments



Bridge repair work Saturday, courtesy New Hampshire DOT

PREMIUM CONTENT

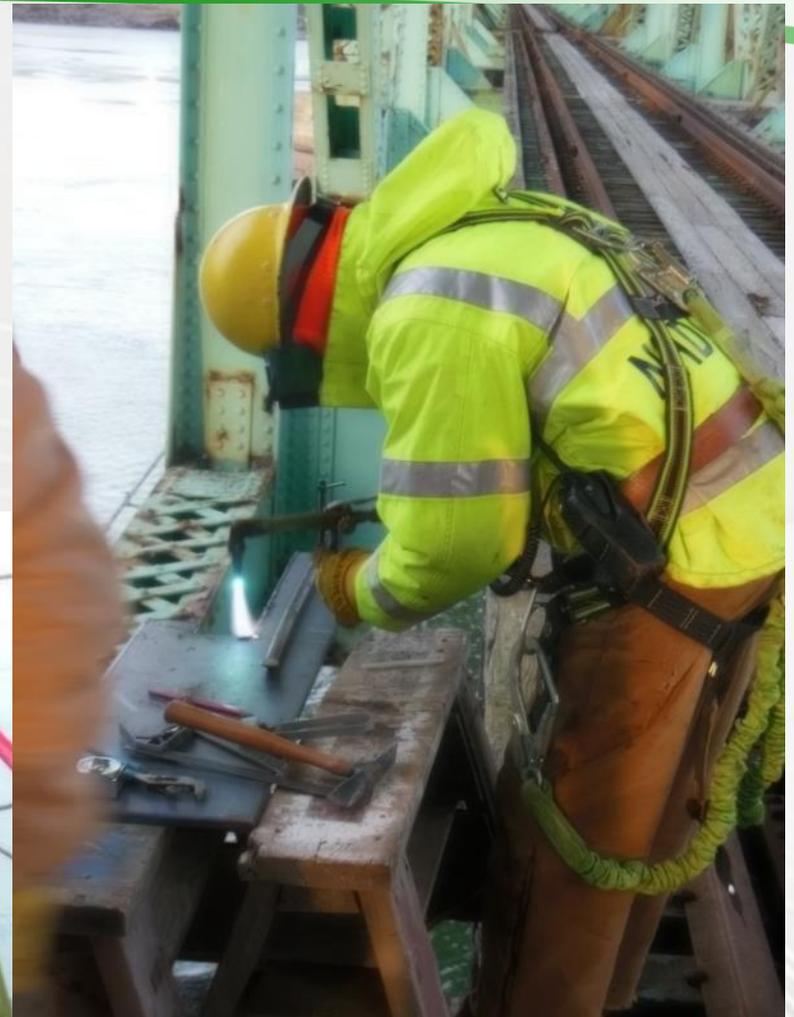
Workers are working in



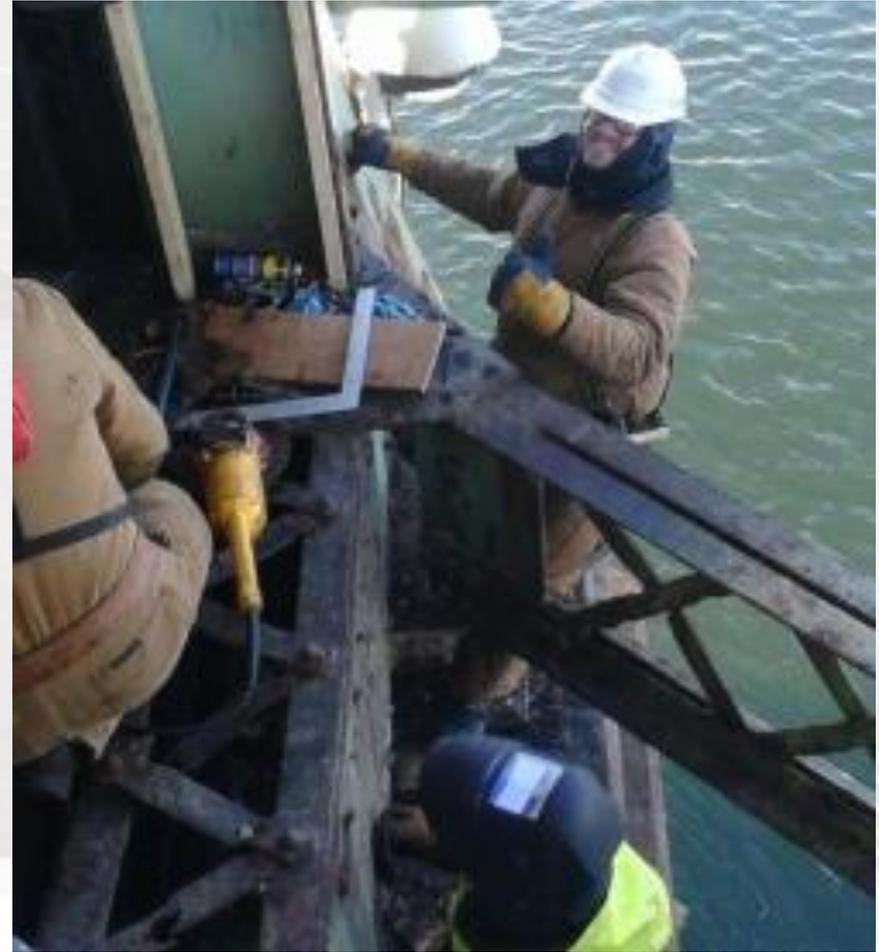
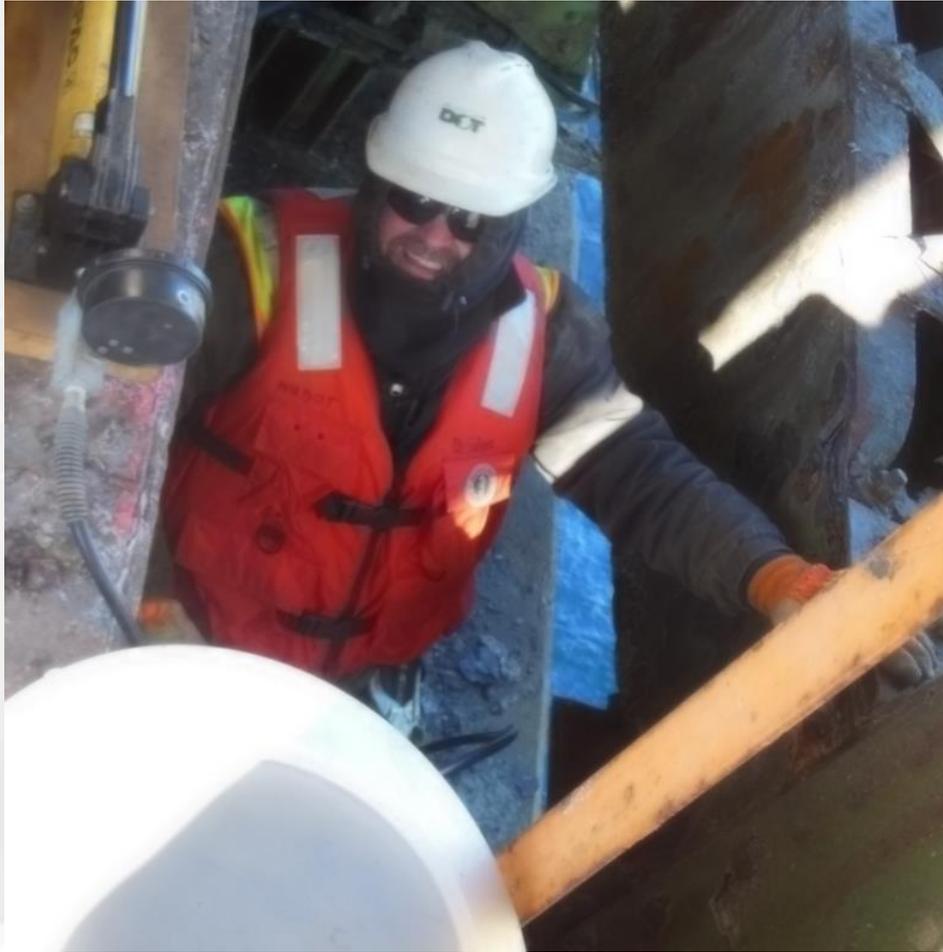
# Realigning the Arms & Drilling the New Members



# Field Fabrication of Shims and Connection Plates



I think these guys like the cold



# April Fools?



# Old Memorial Bridge

Vertical Lift Bridge – Span Drive Built 1922

Span 297' (275' clear) Vertical Clearance 150'





PISCATAQUA RIVER BRIDGE INTERIOR OF MACHINERY HOUSE VIEW LOOKING NORTH FEB. 5 1923 No 160



PISCATAQUA RIVER BRIDGE INTERIOR OF MACHINERY HOUSE LOOKING SOUTH FEB. 5 1923 No 159





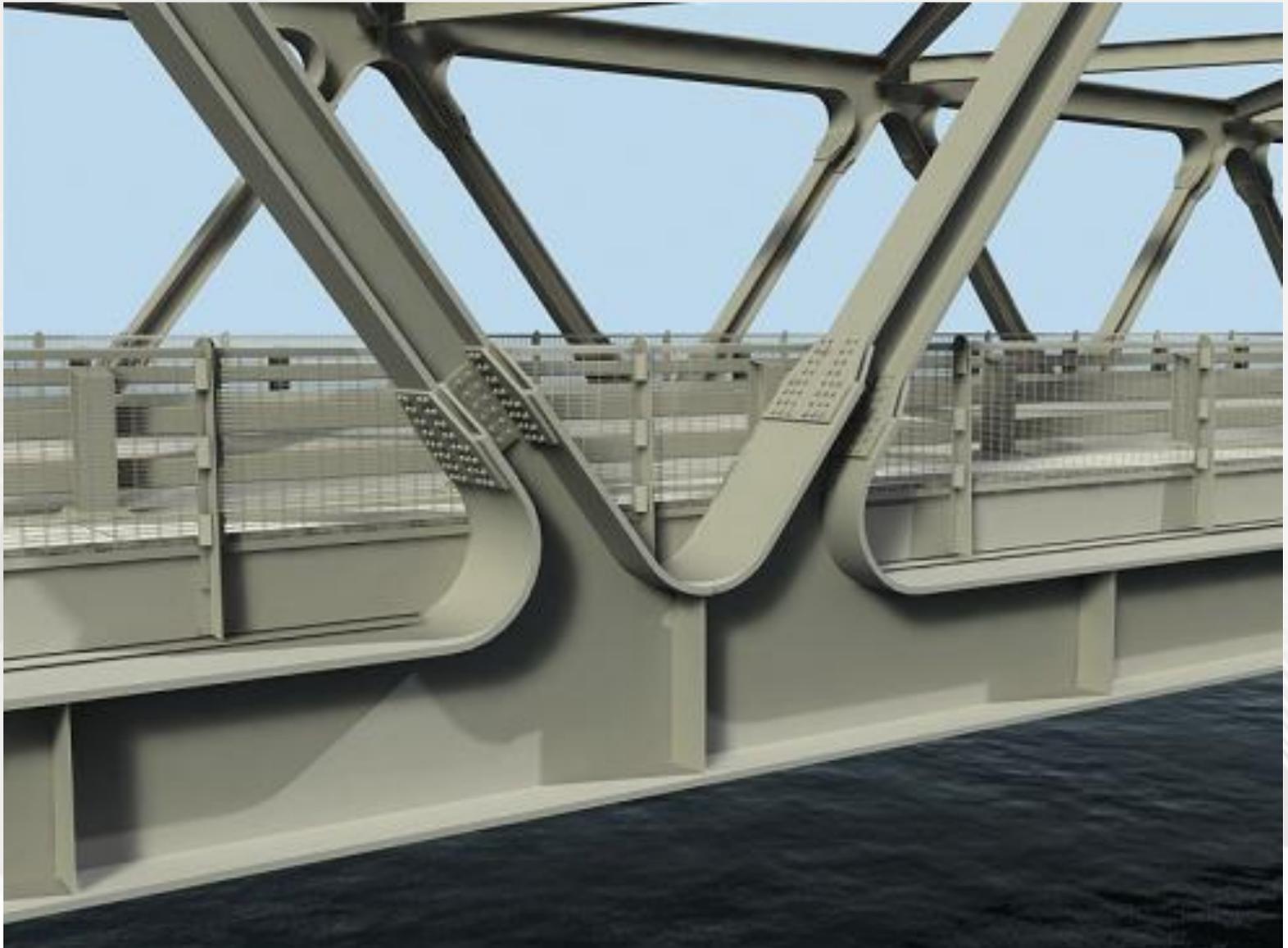
# New Memorial Bridge

Vertical Lift Bridge – Span Drive Built 2013

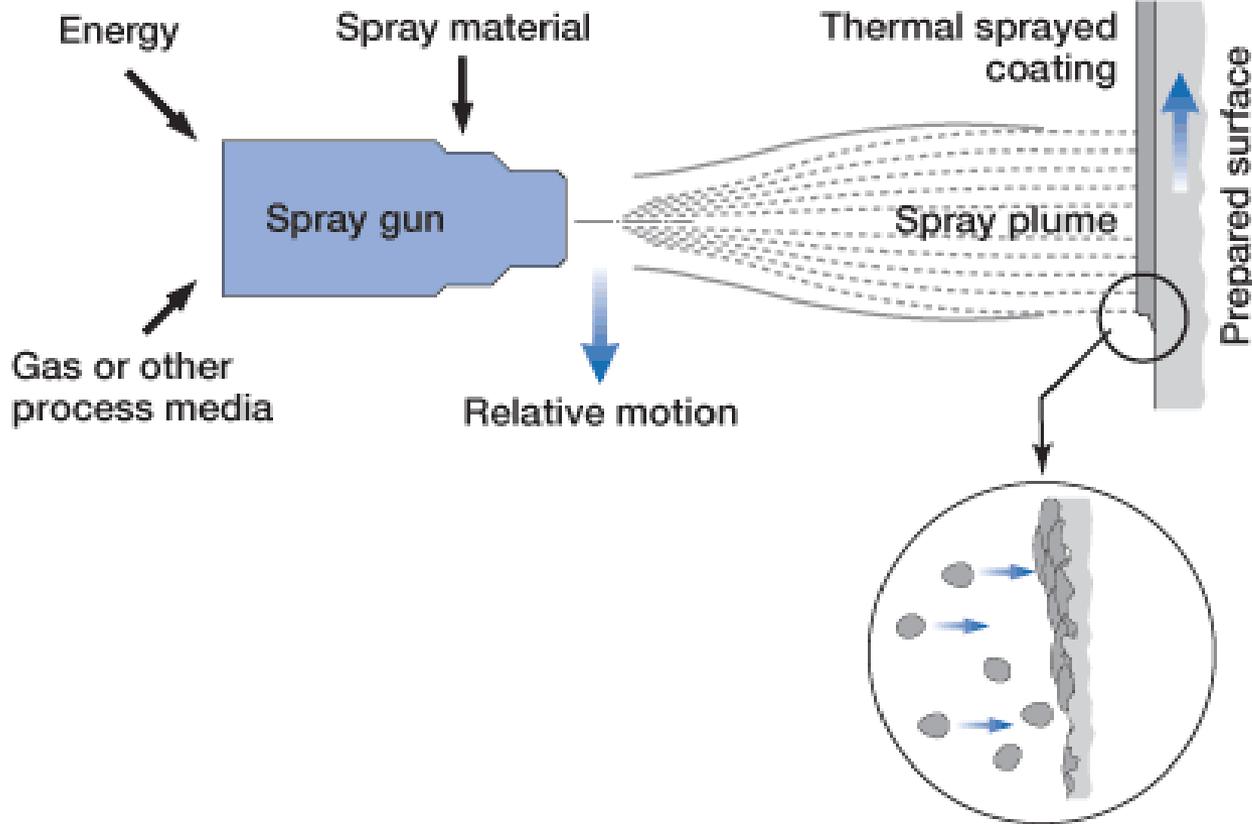
Span 297' (274' clear) Vertical Clearance 150'







# Metallizing Process





# Maintenance Access



# Questions ?

