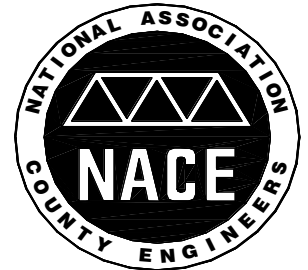


IOWA COUNTY ENGINEERS ASSOCIATION



NEWS RELEASE

Buchanan County Conducts Open House on innovative Bridges

Posted on: March 27, 2017

On Feb 7, 2017, Buchanan County Engineer Brian Keierleber, hosted delegations of road officials from the Federal Highway Administration, Iowa DOT, Illinois DOT and Peoria County, Illinois, who came to see innovative bridge design, materials and construction methods that his county has used. Buchanan County has been a consistent leader, over two decades, in trying out new forms of bridge construction.

The visitors first inspected the Amish Sawmill bridge, which was reconstructed using a new concept called Press Break Tub Girder, which used a specially shaped 'tub' formed from galvanized sheet steel to provide slab support in lieu of using I-beams. The reinforcing bars are also galvanized in this design. Next, Keierleber showcased a bridge with galvanized I-beams and two ultra-high performance concrete, UHPC, structures that do not need conventional reinforcing bars. The use of UHPC also enables accelerated construction schedules. Last, visitors inspected Buchanan County's geo-textile reinforced, no-piling needed, bridge abutments, learned about internally curing concrete, and checked out several installations where bridges have been built using retired railroad flatcars.

Buchanan County has been innovating out of necessity as it reduces what was a significant backlog of overdue structures. In the process, they've garnered national attention and consistently demonstrated a Hawkeye state can-do spirit.

#

Contact: News@iceasb.org