

2017 National ABC Conference – Pre-Conference Workshops

W-03: Programmatic Approach to Accelerated Bridge Construction

Wednesday, December 6, 2017 – 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Introduction:

This workshop will discuss programmatic implementation of Accelerated Bridge Construction. The Vermont Agency of Transportation (VTrans) will present one approach to programmatic implementation with lessons learned and results. The VTrans presentation will be followed by a “Round Table” discussion of owners about experiences with programmatic implementation of ABC.

Workshop Organizer:

Kristin Higgins, P.E., Vermont Agency of Transportation

Program:

8:00 a.m.	Welcome and Introduction to Workshop	Moderator – Mary Lou Ralls, P.E.
8:15 a.m.	Accelerated Bridge Program Overview	Kristin Higgins, P.E.
8:45 a.m.	Expediting Project Delivery with ABC	Kristin Higgins, P.E.
9:30 a.m.	<i>Break</i>	
9:45 a.m.	Programmatic Implementation of ABC – Standardization, Contractor and Stakeholder Outreach, Lessons Learned	Rob Young, P.E.
10:45 a.m.	ABC Results – Cost, Schedule, and Customer Satisfaction Data	Kristin Higgins, P.E.
11:15 a.m.	Owners Round Table – Discuss Programmatic Implementation and Questions	State DOT engineers
12:00 p.m.	Adjourn	

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Speakers and Bios:

Kristin Higgins, P.E., Kristin.Higgins@vermont.gov (**Organizer**)

Kristin is Structures Program Manager for the Vermont Agency of Transportation. She began her 25-year career as a designer in the Structures section before becoming a Project Manager in 2006. In 2012 Kristin accepted the leadership post within the newly created Accelerated Bridge Program (ABP) where she oversaw the development of over 50 ABC projects. The ABP is embraced by the Vermont Legislature and continues to thrive today as an established program within the Structures section. Kristin specializes in efficient project delivery and has successfully managed several high-profile projects including Vermont's first lateral slide project in 2015. As Program Manager, Kristin continues to promote ABC as the first choice in bridge replacement for the State of Vermont with dozens of projects planned for the future.

Mary Lou Ralls, P.E., ralls-newman@sbcglobal.net (**Moderator**)

Mary Lou is an engineering consultant and principal of Ralls Newman, LLC in Austin, Texas. She is also the ABC-UTC's Director of Technology Transfer. Ralls earned BSCE and MSE degrees from The University of Texas at Austin prior to joining the Texas Department of Transportation. At TxDOT she worked in various engineering positions before being appointed the State Bridge Engineer and Director of the Bridge Division in 1999. After 20 years of TxDOT service, Ralls began consulting to advance innovative technologies including accelerated bridge construction.

Robert Young, P.E., Rob.Young@vermont.gov

Rob is a Structures Senior Project Manager at the Vermont Agency of Transportation (VTrans). He has been with the Agency for 20 years, the first 15 years as a bridge designer and the last five years as a project manager in the VTrans Accelerated Bridge Program. Rob has been integrating ABC methodologies into all aspects of project delivery, including connection details, constructability, public outreach, project special provisions, and construction schedules. Since 2008 Rob has been developing design details to meet the needs of several projects with bridge closure time frames ranging from 14 days to 50 days. Rob enjoys the challenge of finding the right size ABC tools and techniques to meet the needs of project stakeholders.