Past, Present and Future of Bridge Engineering









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Director, Accelerated Bridge Construction Transportation Center (www.abc-utc.fiu.edu) Florida International University The Pont du Gard is an ancient Roman aqueduct bridge built in the first century AD to carry water over 50 km (31 mi) to the Roman colony of Nemausus (Nîmes).[3] It crosses the river Gardon near the town of Vers-Pont-du-Gard in southern France.





FIG. 15. Galileo's illustration of bending test.









sile test.



^{'10.} 10. Tensile test of wire by eonardo da Vinci.





FIGURE 1 Da Vinci's hanging basket.



The origins of many design provisions, in our bridge codes are rooted in building codes that are mainly concerned with strength.



Why Some Bridges Have Lasted More Than 100 Years?



Brooklyn Bridge (140 Years Old)



Williamsburg Bridge (120 Years Old)



St. Louis's Eads Bridge (149 years old)

Why Some Bridges Have Lasted More Than 100 Years?
Maintainable and well maintained over their 100year lives due to extreme importance or high capital replacement cost,

Adaptable to changes in functional use as well as service limit state demands and/or,
Originally overdesigned.

History Repeat Itself

Mail-Order Bridges

Mail-Order Bridges





Left: Drawing from the Berlin Iron Bridge Company's 1890 catalog. Right: Brackenridge Park Bridge, San Antonio, built by Berlin Iron Bridge Company in 1890.

Mail-Order Bridges





A prefabricated truss being assembled at Edge Moor Iron Works

Back in old days we did not have many challenges we have now



During the 30- year period between 1975 and 2005

Source: www.t4america.org



2010 — About 200,000 bridges reached their 50 year design life
By 2030 about 400,000 bridges could reach 50 years age



Construction Zones are magnet for accident



U.S. Department of Transportation Federal Highway Administration

FHWA Home | Feedback

WORK ZONE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM Image: State of the state of







The fatal crane accident on the Butte des Morts bridge in Oshkosh on July 5, 2012 killed Joseph R. Bidler, 35, of Green Bay, and seriously injured Martin de Ridder.



Bridges for Service Life Beyond 100 Years: Innovative Systems, Subsystems and Components

Lincoln

SHRP 2 | Project R19A



Closing down of some of these bridges can cost society in **millions**, even for a day and *result in economic losses even in neighboring states*



But We Also Have New

TOOLS





UHPC













88



(A) 70

Use of Robotics in ABC Construction

Historically almost every consumable used by humans have evolved and are now built or fabricated using automated processes, except construction of our infrastructure



Dutch robotic printing firm MX3D



We need to take advantage of these new Technologies









High Performance



Addition Information of Problem Processing Strategic Approvement a Feedback Decision Identifica Making

Implementation

Isolating Choice

We need to develop next generation of bridge asset management system



Please send me an email to aazizina@fiu.edu

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If you are interested to nominate individuals with significant responsibilities in bridge asset management in your agencies.

Please send your nominations by June 23, 2023

It is also time to develop next generation of bridge design and construction specifications











RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, AND TECHNOLOGY STRATEGIC PLAN

Fiscal Years 2022 – 2026 Building a Better Transportation Future for All

Conclusions:

Given number of innovative technologies that have emerged in recent years coupled with challenges we have with existing bridges, we have an opportunity to hand next generations bridge system that will be lasting as long as we use roads to travel.