A14 Huntingdon Viaduct Strengthening

CASS HAYWARD CONSULTING ENGINEERS



Client	Cleveland Bridge for Costain for Highways England
Project Description	The 1975 prestressed concrete viaduct carrying the A14 over the East Coast Main Line and a minor road has suffered from weak half joints in the main cantilever/suspended span for a number of years. In 2003 temporary strengthening of the joints was installed in the form of rows of underslung steel box beams with design life of 12 years. A more long term solution was pursued in 2013 due to changes in investment plans and the steel box beams were replaced by deeper, stiffer and heavier I beams. Installation of the new beams to the low headroom soffit of the concrete structure was not practical with cranes and novel techniques using a combination of heavy duty trailers, scissors lifts and fork lift trucks was used.
Cass Hayward Role(s)	 Three dimensional modelling of strengthening steelwork for the 2002 contract and preparation of drawings for fabrication Temporary works design for the lifting schemes for the 2013 steelwork installation
Project Statistics	 Completed August 2013 Value £11m Beams increased in depth from 750mm to 1775mm Lifting weights of beam assemblies 21 tonnes
Special Features	 Internal anchoring steelwork in voids of concrete box girders detailed to accommodate significant variations in site dimensions and confined space working Lifting over railway possession Use of fork lift trucks Use of SPMT's with mounted with scissors lifts