

PRODUCT INNOVATION

beams to be designed without supplemental lateral bracing, resulting in fewer fabricated steel elements and field connections.

In addition to the Yield-Link connection, Simpson Strong-Tie also showcased its latest connector and fastener solutions and software, including the following:

- Strong-Drive® XL Large-Head and XM Medium-Head metal screws are load-tested and code-listed screws designed for steel-decking applications where high shear or uplift resistance is required.
- The Quik Drive® BSD200 and Quik Drive PROSDX150 auto-feed screw driving systems accelerate fastening for wide-valley nestable steel deck to structural steel members where the maximum load values of the Strong-Drive metal screws are required.
- CFS Designer™ software provides CFS Designers the ability to design CFS beam-column members according to AISI specifications and to analyze complex beam-loading and span conditions.

For more information, please visit strongtie.com.

EFFECTIVENESS OF MCI® SURFACE PROTECTION SYSTEM IN KRK BRIDGE PRESERVATION PROJECT

Krk Bridge is reinforced concrete arch bridge connecting the Croatian island of Krk to the mainland and carrying over a million vehicles per year. The longer of the bridge's two arches is the longest concrete arch in the world outside of China. Krk Bridge requires constant monitoring and maintenance due to its sensitivity. The main problem of the bridge is strong wind causing it to close as well as salt that corrodes the structure. For this reason it needs to be constantly maintained so that can live up to 36 years of its expected service life.



With the agreement of the investor, designer and contractor, it was decided that prior to beginning of the repair works an experimental study was carried with materials by five producers from Croatia and abroad. After additional field and laboratory tests, the investor selected Cortec's MCI®2020. The product met all the technical requirements of the project and in addition to its superior performance it is economical and easy to apply.

Unique feature of Migrating Corrosion Inhibitor (MCI®) is that if not in direct contact with metals, the inhibitor will migrate a considerable distance through concrete to provide protection.

Detailed visual inspection of the condition of concrete and reinforcement are performed. If the corrosion already started, MCI® 2020 is applied. Compatibility of repair mortar with migratory corrosion inhibitors Cortec® MCI® 2020 was tested and proven in laboratory in Italy.

Visit https://www.cortecvci.com/whats_new/announcements/Krk-Bridge-Preservation-5.pdf for the complete release.

INNOVATIVE BVLZ BRICK VENEER LEDGER CONNECTOR ATTACHES LEDGERS TO WOOD-FRAMED HOUSES THROUGH BRICK VENEER

Simpson Strong-Tie announced the release of the BVLZ brick veneer ledger connector kit, a code-compliant, tested solution for attaching decks to wood-framed homes that

have a brick or masonry veneer exterior covering.

While brick veneer is an exterior covering used on buildings in many parts of the country, it lacks the load-bearing properties of structural masonry and cannot support the weight of exterior structures like decks. By connecting a wood ledger to the framing through the brick veneer, the BVLZ enables decks to be safely attached to the home without the need to remove or replace large sections of the veneer. The BVLZ brick veneer ledger connector kit includes a steel ledger connector plate, a compression strut, two 14" Strong-Drive® SDWH Timber-Hex HDG tension screws and six Strong-Drive SD Connector shear screws. The BVLZ is designed so tension screws pass through the mortar into the structural framing, allowing the compression strut to transfer forces from the ledger plate to the rim joist without bearing on the brick veneer.



Fabricated from 12-gauge steel, the BVLZ connector also features a ZMAX® galvanized coating to stand up to tough exterior environments. Additional benefits of the BVLZ include:

- Code-listed, engineered design — allows for drilling through the mortar joints
- Versatile solution — accommodates a wide range of airspace and veneer thicknesses
- Non-intrusive — minimizes penetration of existing water barriers

For more information visit strongtie.com/bvlz.