

Temporary Structural Support During Foundation Replacement

This replacement foundation system was designed to permit the enlargement and conversion of a department store into a shopping center called Shopping Center Paulista in Sao Paulo, SP, Brazil. The system was designed to enable the facility to remain in operation during the construction process. The load from each column was transferred to a specially designed steel frame structure supported on temporary deep foundations. The column below the steel support and its old foundation was then removed. A new and deeper foundation was built and the column section that had been removed was replaced. The load was then transferred from the temporary frame back to the new and extended column. The process was rigorously controlled by computers and laser levels. Strain gage measurements were also used to maintain control during the reconstruction process.

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