Steel-Wood Composite Bridge

The Steel-Wood Composite Bridge was developed in the Ministry of Transportation of Ontario, Canada. It consists of longitudinal girders of steel and a composite decking of wood planks, or laminates, that are laid parallel to the girders and are post-tensioned laterally. This virtually solid wood deck is made composite with the steel girders by means of specially formulated "shear bulkheads." It not only transmits the wheel loads to the girders but also takes part, with the girders, in the longitudinal bending action of the bridge, thereby making the design of the girders highly economical. In performance, a steel-wood composite bridge is comparable to the popular steel-concrete composite bridge.

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