

Structural Steel Project Profile

Plate Girder Bridges

McAdam Railway Bridge *McAdam • New Brunswick • Canada*



NB Southern Railway's (NBSR) McAdam rail line stretches across the province of New Brunswick and is a highly used set of tracks. In 2010, Ocean Steel supplied three fully shop-assembled railway bridges to the line, as well as all required anchor bolts and some custom machined bearing/shoe plates. The total project weight was 29.5 tons of steel with the bridges weighing in at 8.5, 15 and 6 tons respectively.

The McAdam bridges provided two key challenges. Firstly, Ocean Steel had to fabricate all of the members as plate girders, from fracture-critical, grade 50 weathering steel. The fracture-critical component added some additional steps in all processes, including: detail-

ing; material procurement; fabrication; and quality inspection. Assembly provided the second challenge. The installation of the machined shoe plates required special attention. Each plate had a custom taper machined into it, to account for the slope of the existing bridge piers. Getting the taper correct was critical to ensure proper alignment once they were installed.

Tonnage: 35
Customer: NB Southern Railway
Owner: NB Southern Railway
Structural Engineer: AECOM
Year: 2010



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