Pedestrian Bridge Maintenance/Inspection "Manual"

Having purchased an aluminum product from REDD Team Manufacturing, you have eliminated the vast majority of maintenance concerns common to many other materials. However, even with aluminum products, periodic maintenance and inspections should be performed.

This document is being provided to recommend minimum inspection and maintenance of REDD Team Manufacturing's pedestrian bridges. Following these recommendations will help preserve the overall structural integrity, user safety and appearance of your bridge. These recommendations are not all inclusive and, depending on the location of the bridge, environmental conditions and intended use, additional procedures for inspection and maintenance may be warranted. It is the responsibility of the owner to establish requirements for and verify compliance with all field inspections and maintenance.

I. USER SAFETY

The bridge should be inspected on a regular basis to verify that all user safety related elements are in serviceable condition. Areas to inspect include:

A. All guardrails, handrails, rub rails, toe plates, fencing, pickets and other features intended for user safety should be checked to ensure they have not been structurally compromised. There should be no sharp edges, burrs, protrusions or other abnormalities that could result in bodily injury to the user.

B. Deck surfaces should be kept free of foreign objects and inspected to verify that no damage has occurred that might present a trip or slip hazard. In winter, sand can be used for traction after any snow or ice has been removed.

II. STRUCTURAL INTEGRITY

At least one inspection should be performed each year to ascertain the structural condition of the bridge. This visual inspection should include:

A. General inspection for damage that might have been caused by impact. This might include damage to the ends of the bridge from maintenance or other vehicles or, in the case of a bridge spanning a body of water, damage to the underside or bottom chords from vessel collision.

B. Welds between verticals, diagonals and chords should be inspected for any signs of cracking.

C. If timber decks are used, they should be examined periodically for decay, particularly around fasteners and where they come in contact with stringers and chords.

D. Check for any significant corrosion or pitting of aluminum surfaces. This is uncommon on aluminum structures except in areas were debris accumulates or dissimilar metals are in contact. Trapped debris in the joints of the structure could lead to crevice corrosion and should be kept clean.

E. Check abutments for any damage to include cracking of concrete, scouring from water flow, etc. Consult with foundation engineer for further recommendations.

F. Check anchor bolts for possible damage and to verify they are secure. Inspect bearing plates to verify they are functioning properly. Bearing plate bolt slots should be kept free of debris to allow for intended use as expansion joints for the bridge.

G. If the bridge contains spliced members, the bolts should be examined to verify no damage exists, excessive corrosion has not occurred to the aluminum in way of the bolt and that they are secure.

If any problems are uncovered during inspection and maintenance of the bridge, or if you have any questions regarding these recommendations, please do not hesitate to contact our main office at 800-643-1514.