

# Modular Steel Detour Bridges from Acrow Lessen Impact of Multi-Year Interstate Renovation in Massachusetts

*Heavy-duty structures maintain heavy traffic during bridge replacement project on I-91*

PARSIPPANY, NEW JERSEY, USA, March 16, 2023 /EINPresswire.com/ -- [Acrow](#), a leading international bridge engineering and supply company, announced today it has designed and provided two modular steel bridges to carry traffic during major highway construction in Massachusetts. Acrow's structures were installed on Interstate 91 to reduce inconvenience to motorists during a bridge renovation project on the heavily traveled route.



Acrow Temporary Bridge over U.S. Route 5 and B&M Railroad

I-91 is a key north-south highway in the western part of New England. In the town of

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Available for rent or purchase, Acrow's rugged detour bridges save time and money and enable Accelerated Bridge Construction for priority projects.”

*Mark Joosten, Acrow President & Chief Operating Officer*

Northampton, Massachusetts, the route was completed in 1965 but despite interim repair, four functionally obsolete, structurally deficient bridges were slated for replacement. Two of the bridges carry traffic over Route 5 and tracks of the B&M Railroad and the other two over Hockanum Road, a short distance to the north. Because maintaining the route is so critical, the two temporary bridges were specified to accommodate heavy commercial and non-commercial traffic during the multi-year project.

Acrow's modular bridges were purchased by contractor J.F. White Contracting Co. and installed in the median at each

location to maintain two lanes of uninterrupted traffic flow while each set of northbound and southbound bridges are replaced in sequence. The detour structure over Route 5 and the railroad tracks consists of five spans with a total length of 500 feet and is supported on eight

Acrow towers ranging from 29 feet to 38 feet in height. The second Acrow bridge, over Hockanum Road, is a 140-foot-long clear span. Both bridges are 30 feet wide between curbs and have asphalt overlay deck surfaces. Each structure has a TL-4 guide rail system and live load of two lanes of HL-93.

The longer structure was installed with a full cantilever launch method and the bridge over Hockanum Road used a crane-assisted launch method. The bridge over Route 5 and the railroad tracks was installed in full coordination with the railroad and MassDOT and the location posed unique complexities.

The space between Acrow's structures and the existing bridges was extremely limited, and the roadway and rail track below – as well as utilities – needed to

be avoided. Acrow's launch sequence provided a seamless installation between existing bridges. Further, Acrow provided temporary support towers on skewed piers that avoided the obstacles below.

Northbound traffic was shifted to the temporary roadway and bridges in mid-May 2022. When construction on the two permanent northbound structures is complete, southbound traffic will be rerouted over Acrow's bridges during construction of the permanent southbound structures. It is expected that the temporary structures will be in place for the duration of the project, which is anticipated to be completed in 2025.

“Project owners and contractors are increasingly selecting detour bridges over other re-routing methods during construction projects,” said Nick Rotondo, Acrow's Business Development Manager – New England. “In addition to making work sites safer, modular detour bridging helps minimize work zone impact on motorists and local businesses.”

“We are delighted to be a part of these critical upgrades which ensure our transportation infrastructure is both safe and efficient,” added Mark Joosten, Acrow President & Chief Operating Officer. “Available for rent or purchase, Acrow's rugged detour bridges save time and money and enable Accelerated Bridge Construction for priority projects.”

#### About Acrow

Acrow has been serving the transportation and construction industries for more than 70 years



with a wide range of modular steel bridging solutions for permanent, temporary, military and emergency use. Acrow's extensive international presence includes leadership in the development and implementation of bridge infrastructure projects in over 150 countries across Africa, Asia, the Americas, Europe and the Middle East. For more information, please visit [www.acrow.com](http://www.acrow.com).

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Tracy Van Buskirk  
Marketcom PR  
+1 203-246-6165  
tvanbuskirk@marketcompr.com

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