

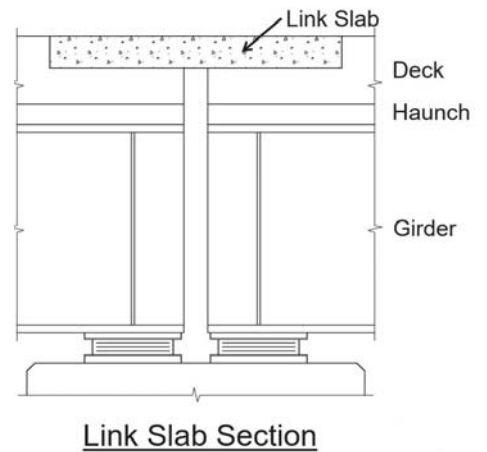
Bridge Link Slabs

Protecting Bridges and Reducing Maintenance

Traditional bridge joints often break down and allow de-icing materials to leak onto and damage the structural elements below, requiring extensive and expensive repairs. [Bridge Link Slabs](#) eliminate deck joints to reduce that damage and deterioration and the necessary maintenance.

What are the benefits?

- **Less expensive** to repair and maintain
- **Versatile implementation** for bridge rehabilitation, preservation or new construction
- Provide a **smoother ride** for drivers than traditional bridge joints



How does it work?

Bridge Link Slabs connect bridge decks together without using traditional deck joints. Link slabs are composed of reinforcing steel and [Ultra-High Performance Concrete](#) and connect simply-supported deck spans. It is designed to flex with girder deflections and transmit compressive and tensile forces through the deck in conjunction with appropriately designed bearings.



How do I learn more?

To learn more about this innovation, visit www.penndot.gov/stic or email penndotstic@pa.gov.