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Contact: Doug Atkins,
Scaffold Manager
(503) 884-1234
Tim Justice,
Corp. Mktg. Manager
(541) 484-9437

Ivy Hi-Lift preps Hawthorne Bridge for facelift

Local access experts wrap the 88-year-old bridge in scaffolding for a major overhaul.

PORTLAND, OR—AUGUST 06, 1998—Ivy Hi-Lift, specializing in equipment and scaffold rental and sales, is one of many vendors participating in the renovation of the Hawthorne Bridge. The company's role is to erect a scaffold cage around the 88-year-old bridge so workers can operate safely while resurfacing and painting the bridge and its lift spans.

Ivy is erecting scaffolding around the bridge's East and West lift towers, which requires more than 8,300 pieces of scaffolding being assembled at heights up to 230 feet above the Willamette River. Once completed, bridge workers will ascend the scaffolded structures to make repairs, including stripping lead-based paint and repainting the bridge's surfaces. The Hawthorne Bridge's lift span runs 250 feet long and weighs 2 million pounds, while the bridge itself stretches 1,380 feet.

Ivy's crew consists of only eight workers, including an estimator, field supervisor, foreman and riggers. The men began work on July 13 and are expected to finish scaffolding the East lift tower the week of August 10. At that time, the lift span will be locked in the up position. A decision will be made then to either remove the East scaffold setup before scaffolding the West lift tower, or to scaffold the West lift tower and then disassemble both towers at the same time.

NOTE TO THE EDITOR: The Hawthorne Bridge project is a complex scaffold job. Once both lift towers are completely wrapped with scaffold, it will make for an interesting photo opportunity to accompany editorial updates on the bridge's renovation progress.

Ivy Hi-Lift is an Initial Plant Services Company headquartered in Eugene, Oregon. With 15 branches throughout Arizona, California, Idaho, Oregon, Nevada, Utah and Washington, the company rents and sells a full line of equipment including Aerial Work Platforms, Contractor & Industrial Equipment, Forklifts and Scaffolding. Additionally, Ivy provides an extensive service program that features an industry-recognized safety program dedicated to the safety of Ivy employees and customers.

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