Union Pacific Protects Bridge Integrity with Rigorous Inspections



Union Pacific's bridge safety starts with thousands of annual inspections. These inspections ensure the structural integrity of our bridges.

37,500 ANNUAL BRIDGE INSPECTIONS

Exceeding federal bridge inspection requirements is part of our commitment to safely move every train on our railroad. Nearly 550-member team of bridge maintenance and inspection professionals works daily to maintain bridges on our 32,000-mile network.

We have full-time bridge inspection teams and dedicated "snooper" trucks working in each of the 23 states UP operates in. We also have bridge maintenance professionals who work daily to structurally maintain our roughly 18,000 bridges.

550 BRIDGE SAFETY PROFESSIONALS

in bridge engineering, function and design to assure that all of our bridges are structurally sound and capable of bearing the weight of freight trains.

Union Pacific bridges are constructed of steel, concrete or timber using designs such as beam, truss, swing and lift spans. The height of our bridges reach up to 400 feet. Many railroad bridges were designed and constructed when freight trains were powered by steam locomotives, which are three times

heavier than modern freight locomotives.

Union Pacific bridges are inspected at least once annually by one of 30 two-person railroad bridge teams. Elevated bridge inspections include a detailed "snooper" examination conducted from a truck-mounted articulated basket crane that gives

inspectors optimum access to bridge components above and below the bridge deck.

Bridge inspectors carefully examine each component of our bridges looking for corrosion or cracks in trusses, decking, and other components. Our bridge maintenance professionals perform proactive maintenance and repairs throughout the year.

Union Pacific's bridges span roads, rivers, canyons, estuaries and other geographic features to help us efficiently deliver America's goods from fruits and vegetables, to smart phones and automobiles.

Our bridge inspection and maintenance teams are led by licensed civil engineers who supervise all bridge-related work and processes. Our civil engineers leverage their expertise



Union Pacific's bridge inspectors are responsible for a specific territory within the railroad's system. They know how many bridges they need to inspect and how often to meet federal regulations. Special inspections are made following severe weather, earthquakes and wildfires.

