



# Hood Canal Bridge West-Half Retrofit and East-Half Replacement Project

## Pontoon Construction at Concrete Technology Tacoma, Washington

The Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) and the contractor, Kiewit-General (K-G), are constructing 14 new east-half Hood Canal Bridge pontoons in Tacoma, Wash. at Concrete Technology Corporation's graving dock. A graving dock is a large below-ground dock from which water can be pumped out, used for building or repairing ships below their waterline.



An aerial view of the graving dock at Concrete Technology where 14 new pontoons are being constructed for the east-half of the bridge. July 2006

Using Concrete Technology's existing commercially operated facilities for pontoon construction will deliver a new east half in 2009. Kiewit-General has worked side-by-side with WSDOT since March 2005 to develop a creative plan for using existing facilities to construct pontoons for the project. The site allows the project to be more efficient by using established waterfront facilities specializing in marine construction that also provide better availability for other resources.

Four cycles of pontoons will be constructed and then floated to Todd Shipyards in Seattle, Wash. to be assembled and outfitted:

### Cycle 1

March 2006..... Start of cycle 1 pontoons (PA, PB, Q)  
January 2007 ..... Float-out of cycle 1 pontoons

### Cycle 2

February 2007 ..... Start of cycle 2 pontoons (NA, NB, YD, YE and YF)  
September 2007 ..... Float-out of cycle 2 pontoons

### Cycle 3

September 2007 ..... Start of cycle 3 pontoons (ZC, ZD, V and X)  
May 2008 ..... Float out of cycle 3 pontoons

### Cycle 4

May 2008 ..... Start of cycle 4 pontoons (U and W)  
November 2008 ..... Float out of cycle 4 pontoons

### By the numbers...

- **150 feet wide x 465 feet long**, size of Concrete Technology graving dock
- **+1,000 feet**, length of waterfront
- **14**, number of pontoons to be built at Concrete Technology
- **30,000+ cubic yards**, concrete used to make all 14 pontoons
- **70**, approximate miles that completed pontoons will travel from Concrete Technology, to Todd Shipyards to Hood Canal
- **2008, November**, date that pontoons are scheduled to be completed
- **15 minutes**, frequency of Web cam photos of pontoon construction at [www.hoodcanalbridge.com](http://www.hoodcanalbridge.com)

A bird's-eye view of the new east-half of the bridge

