*September, 2014: The Desbach Bridge's variable depth concrete segmental superstructure crosses the Mississippi River with 508' spans. (Photo Courtesy of FIGG)*

## Dresbach Bridge Between Minnesota and Winsconsin is Under Construction

Minnesota Department of Transportation's new Dresbach Bridge replaces an existing structure that carries Interstate 90 over the Mississippi River between La Crosse, Wisconsin and La Crescent, Minnesota. This concrete segmental bridge river crossing features twin structures, which vary between approximately 66' and 45' in width and have 508-foot-long main spans. The twin wall columns, designed to support the variable-depth superstructures, have a shape that reflects the old-growth trees in the surrounding area.

Construction on the main river bridge began in the spring of 2013. The eastbound bridge is scheduled to be complete in June 2015, with the westbound bridge to follow in the spring of 2016. Construction began with the eastbound bridge pier three cantilever located on the eastern bank of the river and quickly followed with the pier two eastbound cantilever located in the river. Both are now progressing simultaneously with cantilever three 80 percent cast, and cantilever two fifty percent cast as of September 2014. All pier construction is nearly complete with pile operations finishing on the last main channel river pier. The bridge was designed by **FIGG** and is being built by Ames.

*Owner:* Minnesota Department of Transportation
*Designer:* **FIGG Bridge Engineers, Inc.**
*Contractor:* Ames Construction, Inc.
*Construction Engineering Services:* **Finley Engineering Group, Inc.**
*Construction Engineering Inspection:* MnDOT, WSB, **FIGG**
*Form Travelers for Cast-in-Place Segments:* **Schwager Davis, Inc.**
*Post-Tensioning Materials:* **Schwager Davis, Inc.**
*Bearings:* **D.S. Brown Company**
*Expansion Joints:* **D.S. Brown Company**
*Prepackaged Grout:* **US SPEC**