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Problem

The Montpelier VT Municipal Waste Treatment Plant was experiencing leaking through cracks in their concrete wastewater trough that leads to their aeration basins. The loss of liquid through the trough was causing undercutting of the soil and collapsing of the adjacent pavement. Several attempts to caulk or seal the leaks were unsuccessful.

Access to the 100 lineal feet of trough was excellent. However, flow through the trough could be stopped for only 90 minutes at a time. This meant that cleaning, prepping and coating needed to be completed in this 90-minute window.

Solution

Because of the limited time available for the project, a material that set instantly and could be returned to service within minutes of application was required. SCS provided a 100% pure Polyurea that met these criteria:

- ☑ The trough can be returned to service immediately after completion of the coating application.
- ☑ The lining is flexible (elongation over 500%), allowing it to withstand structural or thermal movement.
- ☑ Spray-applied elastomeric bridges cracks and is bonded to the surface.

Wastewater flows needed to be diverted to a pair of surge tanks to provide access to the trough. Crews were positioned with fire hoses, high-pressure guns, squeegees, shovels, blowers, torches and grinders to attack the project as soon as flows were stopped.

Results

This project was a logistics challenge due to the short window of time available to work. Specialty Coating Solutions managed the entire project and coordinated the crews to accomplish the task.

Needing only two 90-minute stoppages of flow, the entire trough was washed of grit and sediment, prepped, dried and lined with 80 mils of 100% pure polyurea.

Careful coordination of the project and use of the fast-setting polyurea produced a watertight lining in the shortest of timeframes imaginable.



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