

State Highway 385: Corpus Christi, TX

Problem: Highway 385, which connects the city of Corpus Christi with North Padre Island, was originally paved with asphalt over a weak sand and gravel base. Over time, pavement settlement had created a very rough ride and unsafe driving conditions. Four overpasses on the highway had settled 6 inches in some areas. The Texas Department of Transportation was unable to afford replacing the asphalt with 12" thick concrete pavement. URETEK's high-density polymer injection process offered TXDOT a feasible, cost-effective way to regain control of one of their most headache-inducing highways.

Factors for Consideration: The deteriorated base of the highway had created serious cracking in the lanes, on the shoulder, and especially at bridge approach and departure slabs all along the 11 mile stretch of highway. TXDOT chose to use URETEK's processes because it could underseal and re-align asphalt without excavation, at a speed impossible for a rip-and-replace crew. Bridge approach and departure slabs could be restored to original ride quality and protected from further water infiltration with URETEK's Deep Injection process.

Method/Process Applied: The URETEK Deep Injection process uses a two-part polymer called URETEK 486. Injection holes are laid out in a systematic pattern to maximize the polymer's lifting capabilities. Once injected at depth, URETEK 486 expands up to ten times its liquid size, filling voids and densifying the surrounding soils.

Result: This eleven mile section of Highway 358 was completely repaired by sealing the edges of the road with URETEK 486 to ensure no further erosion of the road caused by water infiltration. Sixteen bridge approach slabs were stabilized and supported using the Deep Injection process.

Benefit: "The high-density polymer injection process saved us in the neighborhood of several million dollars," says John Hernandez of TXDOT. These cost savings were considerable, especially in conjunction with the amount of time saved and disruption averted thanks to the innovative URETEK processes. What's more, using the URETEK Method and Deep Injection process solved the settlement problems at its source: the road base.

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Pavement Lifting and Soil Stabilization.
CONTROL.**



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