



# M5 Avonmouth Road Bridge

## Bristol, United Kingdom



## Project

Avonmouth Bridge is a twin box girder cantilever type bridge that spans the river Avon between junctions 18 and 19 of the M5 motorway and was opened to public traffic in 1974. Originally it was built as a three-lane highway with a cycle and footpath also attached.

The bridge is 1,388m long, 40m wide, 30m high and spans 174m over the river Avon estuary. There are eighteen spans in all, ten on the north side and eight on the south side.

The bridge was built so that traffic travelling to and from the south-west of England could bypass the city of Bristol. An increase in traffic necessitated widening and strengthening the bridge in the 1990's to cope with the extra load imposed on it. In 2002, a painting programme was undertaken to completely repaint the external surfaces of the bridge. Sherwin-Williams was asked to supply a Highways Agency compliant anti-corrosion coatings system for the project that would protect the steelwork for a minimum period of 20 years to first maintenance.

**Substrate:** Steel blast cleaned to Sa2½.

**Requirements:** 20 years external corrosion protection.

**Specification:** Transgard™ TG111V2 (Zinc phosphate primer/buildcoat), Transgard™ TG112 (Epoxy MIO buildcoat), Transgard™ TG169 (Sheen acrylic urethane topcoat).

**Area Coated:** Approximately 110,000m<sup>2</sup> of structural steelwork.

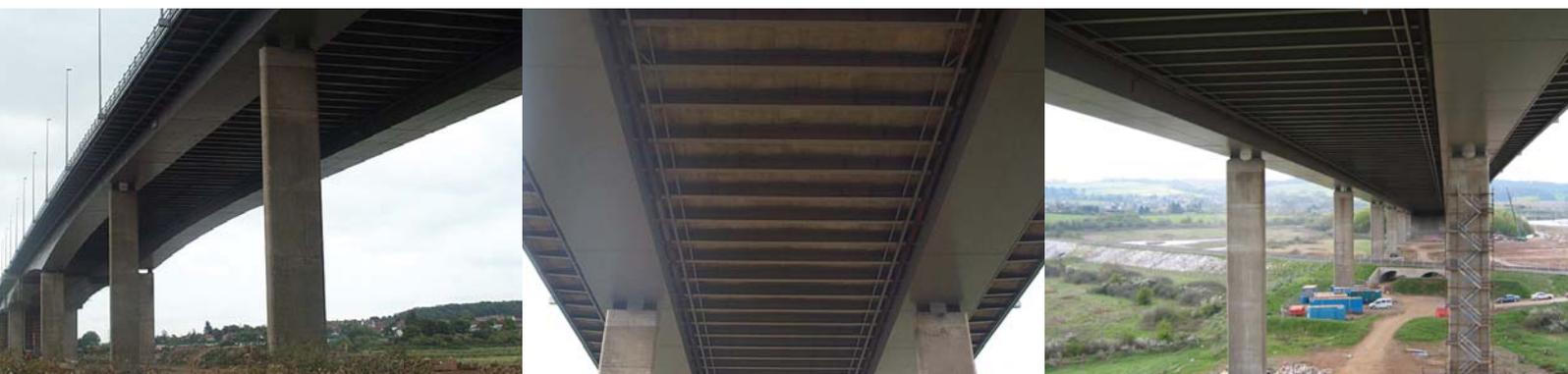
**Customer:** Interserve Industrial Services (applicator), Hyder Consulting (structural engineer) and Highways Agency (client).

## System

Sherwin-Williams worked with Interserve to provide the best and most cost-effective coating system for this bridge, supplying the paint in 200L barrels to be used in conjunction with specialist application equipment which allowed the paint to be housed safely at ground level rather than having to carry, store and mix the paint on the bridge itself.

Sherwin-Williams offered full specification/technical and practical advice from the early project stages and carried out regular site visits for the two-year duration of the project. This helped to ensure that the work was completed on time to the satisfaction of all interested parties.

Product	Highways Agency item number	Product type
Transgard™ TG111V2	HA Item No. 111	Zinc phosphate primer/buildcoat
Transgard™ TG112	HA Item No. 112	Epoxy MIO buildcoat
Transgard™ TG169	HA Item No. 169	Acrylic urethane semi-gloss topcoat



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