



NEWS RELEASE

TO THE EDITOR
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Acrow Corporation installs first Acrow[®] 700XS[®] Bridge in South Africa

(Parsippany, New Jersey) – 15 March 2012 – Acrow Corporation, a leading international bridge engineering and supply company based in Parsippany, New Jersey, USA, is pleased to announce that the company finalized and commissioned during February 2012 with its partner, UMSO Construction (Pty) Ltd., the first Acrow Bridge crossing in South Africa.

The primary goals for this bridge crossing and road were to facilitate the regional connectivity for individuals and business commerce where little connectivity existed prior, expand prosperity for all that will use the bridge, and focus on the improvement of the rural feeder roads, which are a main building block for economic expansion. The Acrow Bridge is located at a site where no bridge existed prior. This new crossing is revolutionizing how the local communities move about. A school that was inaccessible to the broader nearby population is now accessible. What used to take hours or days to cross, will now only take moments of time.

This particular Acrow Bridge is located in Penge within the State of Limpopo and it crosses the Olifants River. The project site is south of both Botswana and Zimbabwe, and east of the city of Polokwane.

The Acrow Bridge was a part of a larger project. The project also entailed the construction of several kilometers of reliable and robust roadway through what was very challenging and rocky terrain. Much of the roadway is 8 meters wide and provides a wonderful and dependable driving experience for motorists. With low traffic volumes wanting to cross the Olifants River and a need to control costs, it was chosen to use a one lane Acrow Bridge with a 3.67 meter width of road. The overall bridge was comprised of three spans that provided a total length of bridge of 115 meters. The Acrow Bridge was shipped from the Acrow factory located in the State of Pennsylvania, United States to the project site inside of standard dry ocean containers. The Acrow Bridge was a complete structure inclusive of the roadway surface. UMSO Construction provided the concrete supports under the bridge. There were supports on each of the river

banks and two concrete supports in the Olifants River. UMSO also provided the crews, logistics, and resources needed to assemble the bridge. Acrow provided a field engineer that worked side by side with UMSO to ensure the bridge was assembled and constructed safely, correctly, and quickly.

Bill Killeen, President and CEO, stated the following, “The Acrow Companies are immensely proud to be a part of this project along with our partner UMSO Construction of South Africa. The new Acrow Bridge and roadway will achieve the expansion of personal prosperity for those that use the bridge crossing either directly or indirectly. The project attains for Acrow one of our corporate goals which is improving the rural feeder roads on the African continent. Acrow deeply believes that with 80% of the population of Africa living in the rural districts, improving the rural feeder roads needs to be paramount so that the expansion of prosperity can reach the broadest base of Africans, and with reaching this sector of the population the seeds are planted for a sustainable economic expansion. Also, local citizens and businesses can move about more easily and quickly resulting in lower transportation cost and possibilities that are unlimited. This bridge represents one more bridge added to Acrow’s list of over 500 Acrow Bridges on the African continent.”

Acrow Corporation has been servicing the transportation and construction industries for over 60 years with a full line of steel bridge products for vehicle and pedestrian applications. For more information on Acrow Corporation, and the Acrow® 700XS® Panel Bridging System, please contact Bill Killeen or visit www.acrowusa.com.



Photo 1: Method used to cross river prior to Acrow Bridge

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Photo 2: New road under construction



Photo 3: New finished road

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Photo 4: Finished Acrow Bridge across Olifants River
