PRESS RELEASE

NEW BAY BRIDGE SAS REACHES MAJOR MILESTONE

Final Self-Anchored Suspension Span Cable Strand Hauled Into Place

Oakland, April 10, 2012 – The new Bay Bridge celebrates a major milestone this week as crews pull the final steel wire strand of what will be the single main cable for the world's largest Self-Anchored Suspension Span (SAS). A state-of-the-art hauling system – designed specifically for this operation – allowed workers to complete the unprecedented work of placing the 137 individual strands for the nearly 1-mile-long cable.

On December 19, 2011, workers began hauling the first strand of the main cable. Since then, crews have worked day and night, installing up to four strands each day.

On April 5, 2012, crews began pulling the last strand using the hauling system to pull the coiled strand from the east end of the span over the tower and down to the west end where it loops around before heading back in the same path to anchor into the east end.

Once the 137 strands are connected to the anchor rods that lock them into place, crews will begin the cable compaction process in which a compactor device squeezes the strands together to form the 2.6-foot-diameter cable. The compactor will begin at the top of the tower, compressing the strands 1.5 meters at a time. This operation is expected to begin in late-April.

The cable weighs approximately 5,291 tons and consists of 137 strands, each of which is made up of 127 high-tensile strength steel wires, for a total of 17,399 wires. The cable is the longest single looped suspension bridge cable in the world.

When completed, the cable will act like a giant sling, supporting the weight of the deck. Unlike traditional suspension bridges where the cables are anchored into the ground, a self-anchored suspension bridge's cable is anchored in the road decks.

For more information visit BayBridgeInfo.org/projects/sas-main-cable.

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Discover more info, photos and videos about the SAS Cable by scanning the QR tag.QR codes can be scanned using a smartphone or other personal media device using QR reader apps that are available online.