



## **Vortex Recognized as a Finalist for ACG Excellence in Partnering**

On April 9th, 2011 in Newport Beach, CA, Vortex was recognized as a finalist for the Association of General Contractors Award for Excellence in Partnering. The Honda Wharves Rehabilitation project in Richmond, CA, which was a collaboration among Honda Automotives, Auto Warehousing, Port of Richmond, TransDevelopment Group, and Vortex, was one of three finalists for the award presented by AGC of California. This prestigious award recognizes the top companies in the industry that have demonstrated successful partnerships and collaborations to improve construction projects.

As part of Honda Motors's desire and strategic decision to distribute up to 150,000 vehicles annually into California and the Western US, they chose the Port of Richmond's old historic Point Potrero Marine Terminal as the location to build a new \$40 million port and rail infrastructure facility.

Vortex Marine Construction performed the marine construction portion of the improvement work, which included the structural rehabilitation and upgrade of a World War II era ship berth. This improvement was necessary to accommodate two modern "Pure Car; carrier vessels.

Vortex crews worked directly with the project's design engineers and port operators, coming up with solutions to build the project more safely and efficiently and ensure minimal impact on ongoing Port operations. Furthermore, partnering was used to find the most economical construction approaches to rehabilitate a 65-year-old structure to the latest engineering and seismic requirements.

Due to the commercial imperatives of opening the facility as quickly as possible for ship discharges, the berth redevelopment was phased to allow operations to commence before final completion of the work.

The scope of work included extensive wharf deck repairs and overlay, new bull rail, underdeck spall and crack injection repairs, jacketing and repairs of existing concrete foundation piles, construction of new bearing piles, construction of new transverse reinforced concrete girders, and installation of new a new fender and mooring system.

From the time that Vortex negotiated the final contract with the developer (TransDevelopment Group) until project completion, the concept of partnering was a common theme among all project stakeholders. On a daily basis throughout this time frame, personnel from all the project stakeholders actively communicated with one another in a continued effort to ensure the success of the project and minimize interference and impact to ongoing port operations.

For an overview of the project selected for the award, watch the video on YouTube.

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