Water Weights

Case Study

Passenger Bridge load test on Frankfurt Airport.

May 2009
Frankfurt, Germany

Job Description

A new type, newly installed passenger bridge required proof load test of the construction. However this could have been performed using flexidams inside the bridge, the customer had reasons to choose the other option, using waterbags, hanging on the construction.

Solution

There were six lashing points at the bottom of the bridge, each to be loaded to approx 3.9 - 4.8 metric tonne. As there was not enough space using six waterbags, Water Weights suggested to combine 2x two eyelets. Using two 12t and two 5t low-headroom waterbags, and four calibrated load cells, a load could be applied very accurately.

The small size of the waterbags and other equipment allowed the water weights engineers to travel with only a normal pickup truck and small trailer.