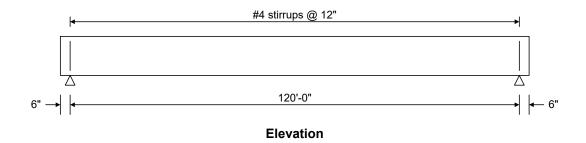
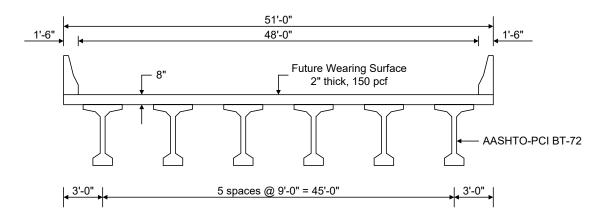
AASHTOWare BrDR 7.6.1

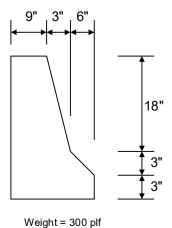
Prestress Tutorial 1

PS1 - Simple Span Prestressed I Beam Example

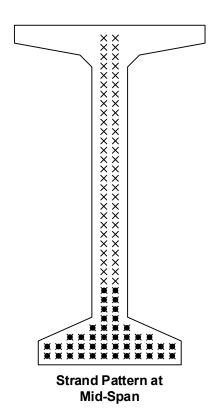


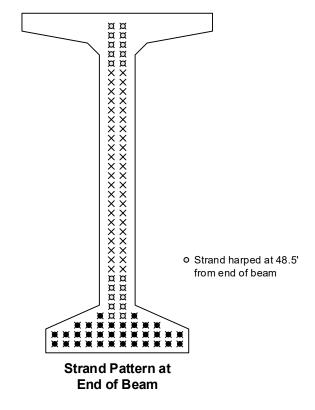


Typical Section



Parapet Detail





Material Properties

Beam Concrete: f'c = 6.5 ksi, f'ci = 5.5 ksi

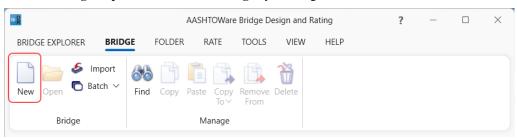
Deck Concrete: f'c = 4.5 ksi

Prestressing Strand: 1/2" dia., 7 Wire strand, Fu = 270 ksi, Low Relaxation

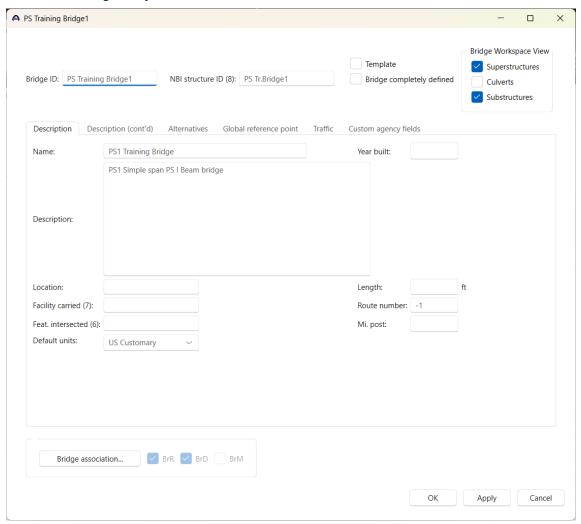
BrDR Training

PS1 – Simple Span PS I Beam Example

From the **Bridge Explorer** create a **new bridge** by clicking on the **New** button from the **BRIDGE** tab as shown below.



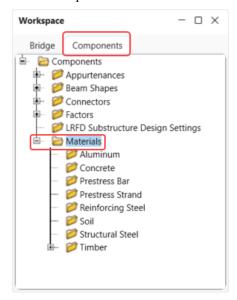
Enter the following description data.



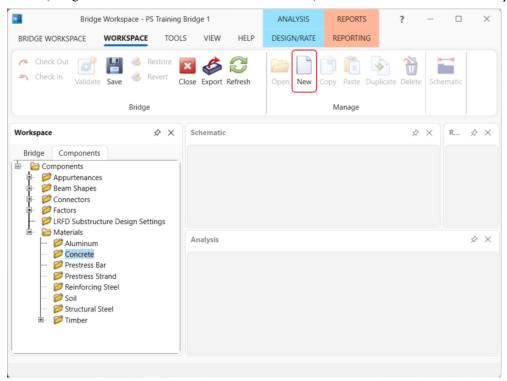
Click **OK** to apply the data and close the window.

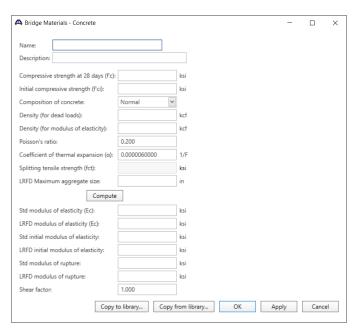
Bridge Materials

To enter the materials to be used by members of the bridge, navigate to the **Components** tab, and click on the ± button to expand the tree for **Materials**. The tree with the expanded **Materials** branch is shown below.

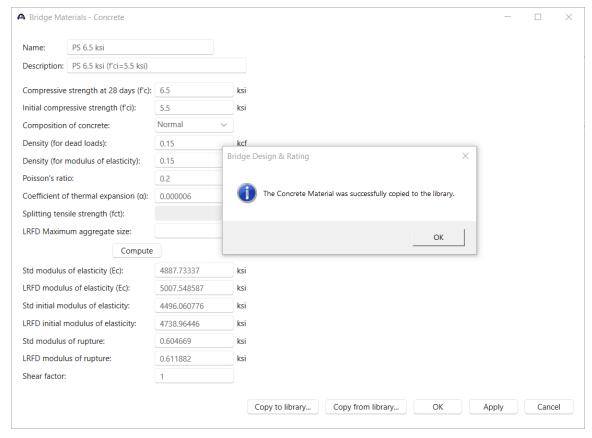


To add a new concrete material, click on **Concrete**, and select **New** from the **Manage** group of the **WORKSPACE** ribbon (or right mouse click on **Concrete** and select **New**). The window shown below will open.



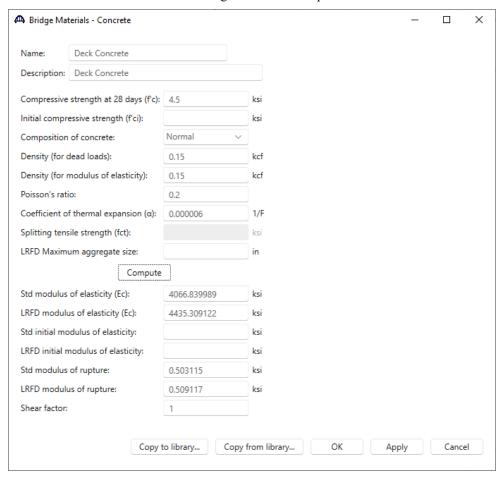


Enter the values shown above the **Compute** button and click the **Compute** button to compute the remaining values below them. Click the **Copy to library...** button to save this concrete material to the library.



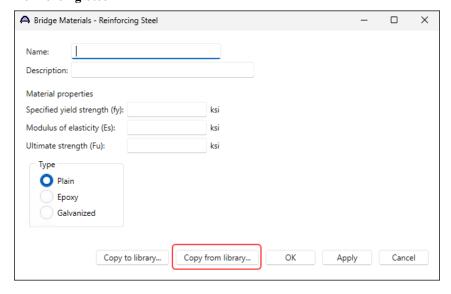
Click **OK** to apply the data and close the window.

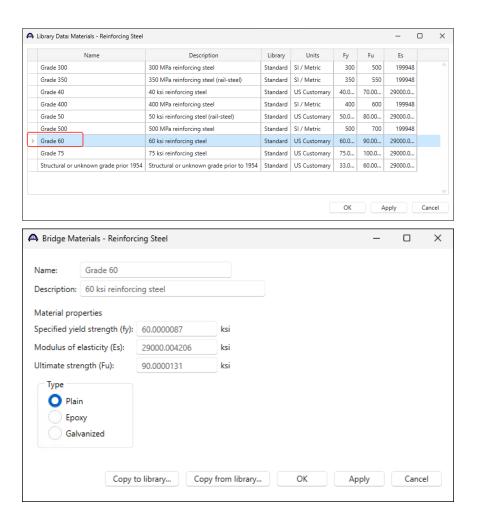
Add concrete material for the deck using the same technique. See below for deck concrete material.



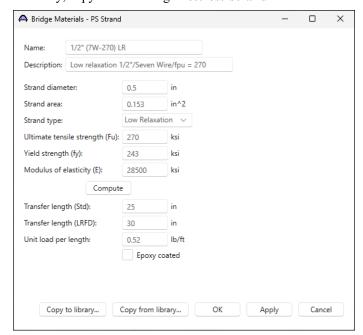
Reinforcement material and Prestress Strand material can be added by using the Copy from library option and selecting the materials shown below.

Reinforcing Steel



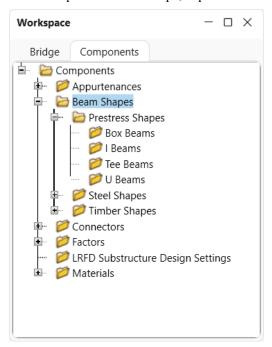


Similarly, copy the following Prestress Strand material.

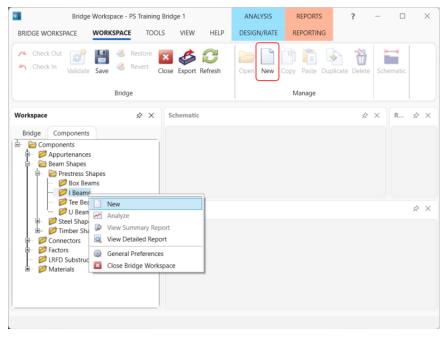


Beam Shapes

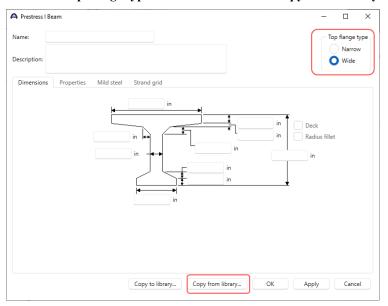
To enter a prestress beam shape, expand the tree labeled **Beam Shapes** and **Prestress Shapes** as shown below.



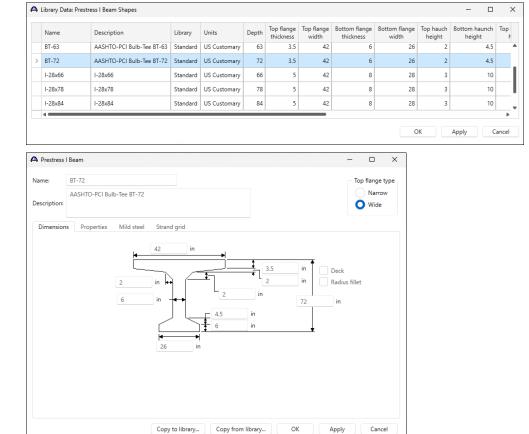
Click on the **I Beams** node in the **Components** tree and select **New** from the **Manage** group of the **WORKSPACE** ribbon (or right mouse click on **I Beams** and select **New** or double click on **I Beams** in the **Components** tree). The window shown below will open.



Select the **Top flange type** as **Wide** and click the **Copy from library...** button.



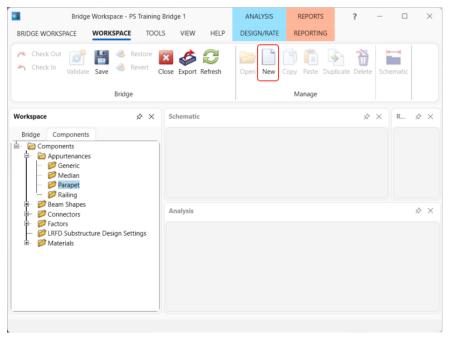
Select BT-72 (AASHTO-PCI Bulb-Tee BT-72) and click OK. The beam properties are copied to the Prestress I Beam window as shown below.



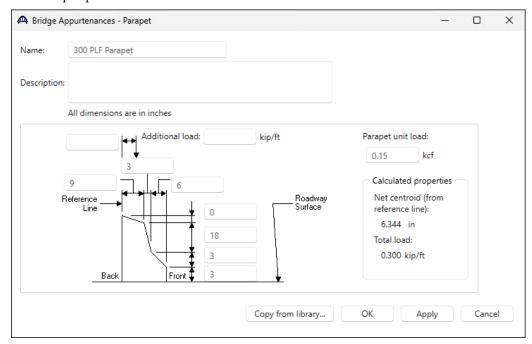
Click **OK** to apply the data and close the window.

Bridge - Appurtenances

To enter the appurtenances, expand the tree branch labeled **Appurtenances**. To define a parapet, select **Parapet** and click on **New** from the **Manage** button on the **WORKSPACE** ribbon (or double click on **Parapet** in the **Components** tree).



Enter the parapet details as shown below.

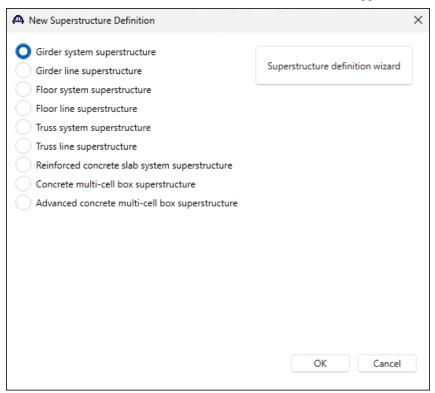


Click **OK** to apply the data and close the window.

The default impact factors, standard LRFD and LFR factors will be used. Bridge Alternatives will be added after entering the Structure Definition.

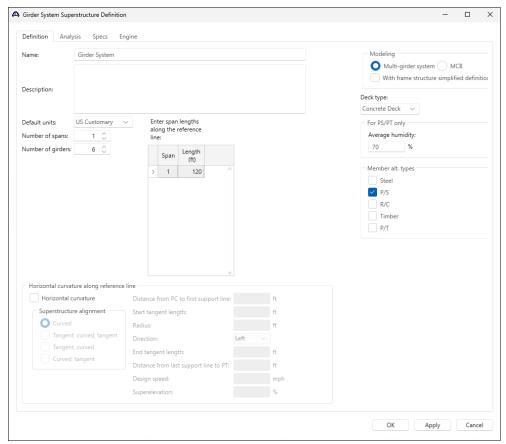
Superstructure definition

Returning to the **Bridge** tab of the **Bridge Workspace**, double click on **SUPERSTRUCTURE DEFINITIONS** (or click on **SUPERSTRUCTURE DEFINITIONS** and select **New** from the **Manage** group of the **WORKSPACE** ribbon or right mouse click on **SUPERSTRUCTURE DEFINITIONS** and select **New** from the popup menu) to create a new structure definition. The window shown below will appear.



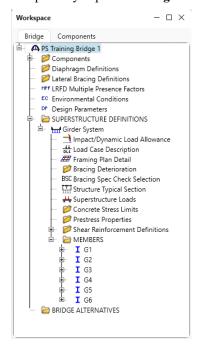
Select Girder system superstructure, click OK

The Girder System Superstructure Definition window will open. Enter the data as shown below.



Click **OK** to apply the data and close the window.

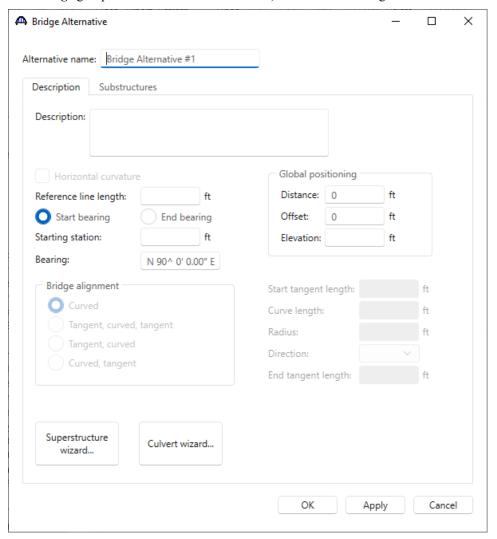
The partially expanded **Bridge Workspace** tree is shown below.



Navigate to the **Bridge Alternatives** node in the **Bridge Workspace** tree and create a new **Bridge Alternative**, a new **Structure**, and a new **Structure Alternative** as shown below.

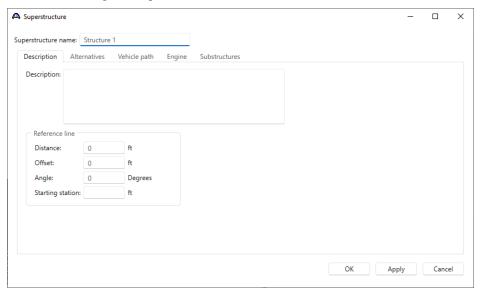
BRIDGE ALTERNATIVES

Navigate to the **BRIDGE ALTERNATIVES** node in the **Bridge Workspace** tree and create a new bridge alternative by double-clicking on **BRIDGE ALTERNATIVES** (or click on **BRIDGE ALTERNATIVES** and select **New** from the **Manage** group of the **WORKSPACE** ribbon). Enter the following data.



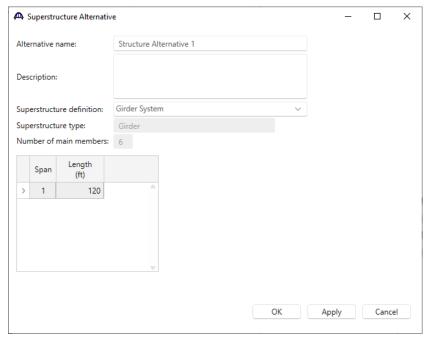
Click **OK** to apply the data and close the window.

Expand the **Bridge Alternative #1** node in the **Bridge Workspace** tree. Double-click on the **SUPERSTRUCTURES** node (or select **SUPERSTRUCTURES** and click **New** from the **Manage** group of the **WORKSPACE** ribbon) and enter the following new superstructure.



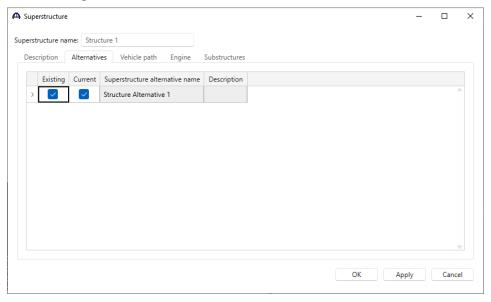
Click **OK** to apply the data and close the window.

Expand the **Structure 1** node in the **Bridge Workspace** tree. Double-click on the **SUPERSTRUCTURE ALTERNATIVES** node (or select **SUPERSTRUCTURE ALTERNATIVES** and click **New** from the **Manage** group of the **WORKSPACE** ribbon) and enter the following new superstructure alternative. Select the superstructure definition **Girder System** as the current superstructure definition for this **Superstructure Alternative**.

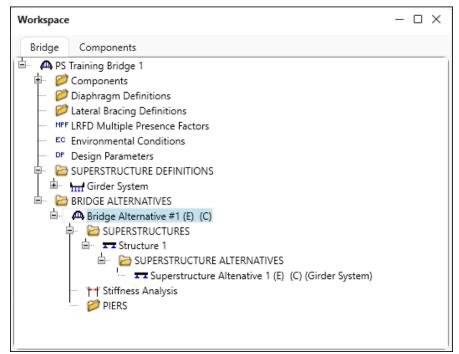


Click **OK** to apply the data and close the window.

Re-open the **Structure 1** window and navigate to the **Alternatives** tab. The **Structure Alternative #1** will be shown as the **Existing** and **Current** alternative for **Structure #1**.

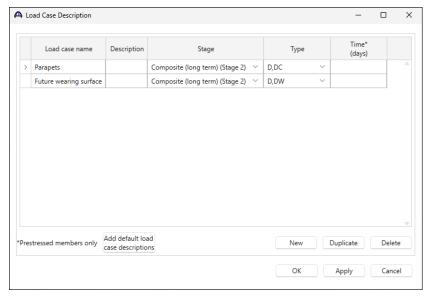


The partially expanded **Bridge Workspace** tree is shown below.



Load Case Description

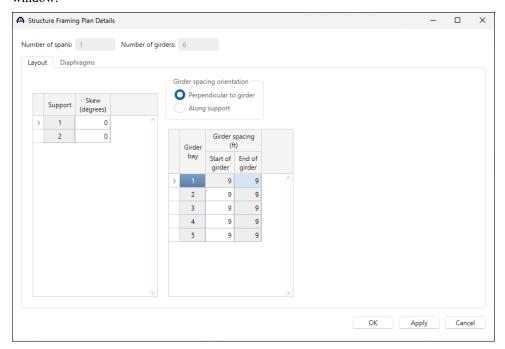
Navigate back to the superstructure definition – **Girder System**. Double-click on the **Load Case Description** node in the **Bridge Workspace** tree to open the **Load Case Description window** and define the dead load cases as shown below. The completed **Load Case Description** window is shown below.



Click **OK** to apply the data and close the window.

Structure Framing Plan Detail – Layout

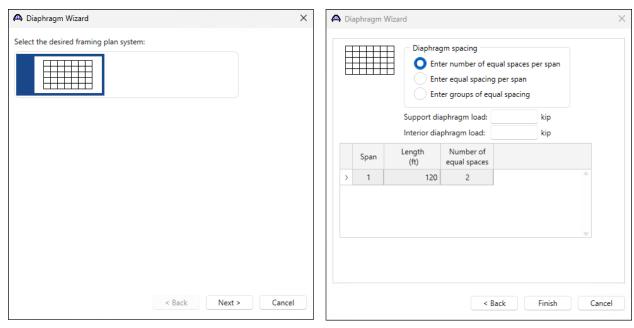
Double-click on **Framing Plan Detail** in the **Bridge Workspace** tree to describe the framing plan in the **Structure Framing Plan Details** window. Enter the data as shown below and click **Apply** to apply the data and not close the window.



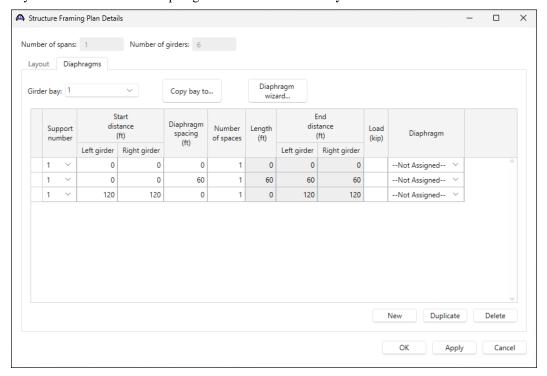
Last Modified: 7/29/2025

Structure Framing Plan Detail – Diaphragms

Switch to the **Diaphragms** tab to enter diaphragm spacing. Click the **Diaphragm wizard...** button to add diaphragms for the entire structure. **Select the desired framing plan system** and click the **Next** button. Enter the following data on the window shown below.



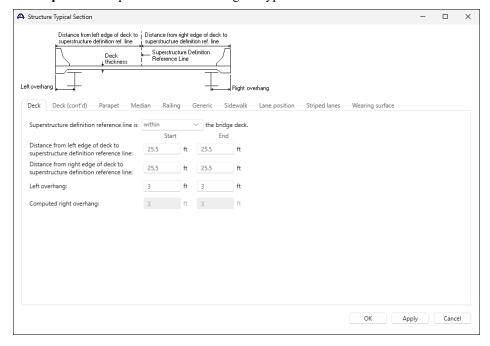
Click the **Finish** button to add the diaphragms. The **Diaphragm Wizard** will create diaphragms for all the girder bays in the structure. The diaphragms created for **Girder bay 1** are shown below.



Click **OK** to apply the data and close the window.

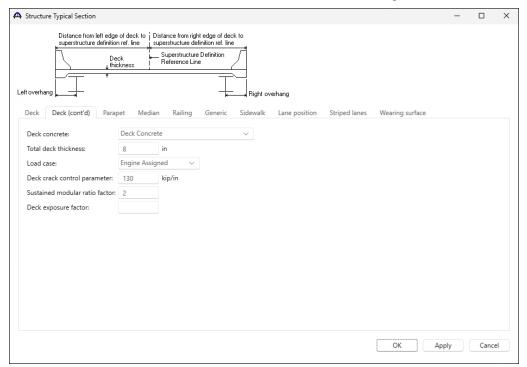
Structure Typical Section - Deck

Next define the structure typical section by double-clicking on **Structure Typical Section** node in the **Bridge Workspace** tree. Input the data describing the typical section in as shown below and click **Apply**.

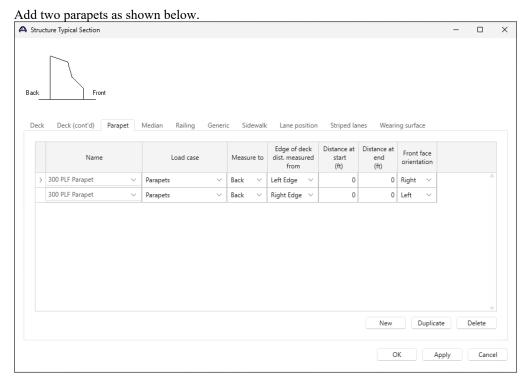


Structure Typical Section – Deck (cont'd)

The **Deck (cont'd)** tab is used to enter information about the **Deck concrete** and the **Total deck thickness**. The material to be used for the deck concrete is selected from the list of bridge materials. Enter the data as shown below.

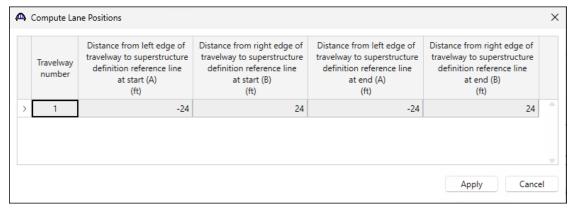


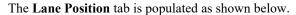
Structure Typical Section – Parapets

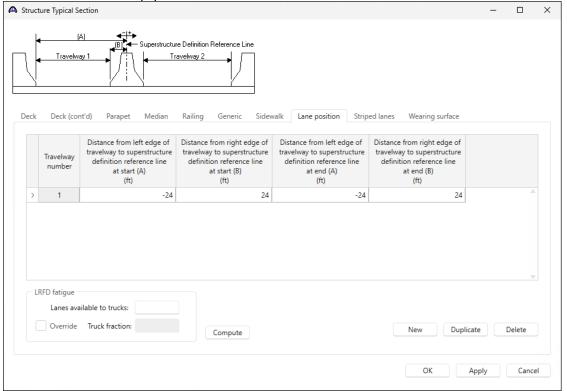


Structure Typical Section – Lane Positions

Select the **Lane position** tab and use the **Compute...** button to compute the lane positions. A window showing the results of the computation opens. Click **Apply** to apply the computed values.

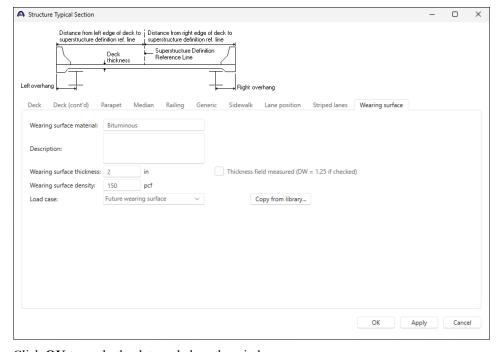






Structure Typical Section – Wearing surface.

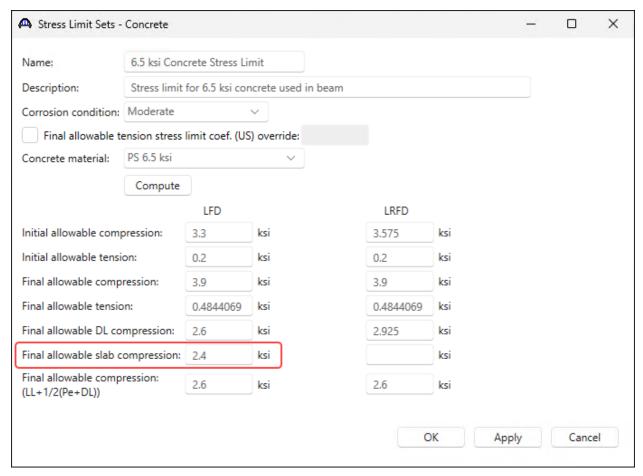
Enter the data shown below.



Click **OK** to apply the data and close the window.

Concrete Stress Limits

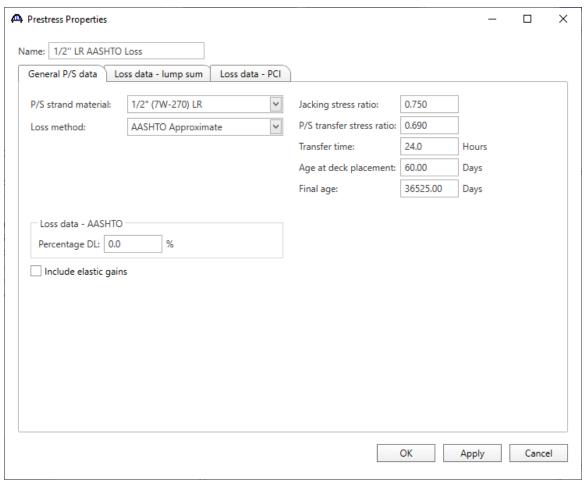
A Stress Limit defines the allowable concrete stresses for a given concrete material. Double click on the Concrete Stress Limits node in the Bridge Workspace tree to open the Stress Limit Sets – Concrete window. Enter data shown above the Compute button, select Moderate for the Corrosion condition and select the PS 6.5 ksi concrete material from the drop-down menu of the Concrete material. Click the Compute button. Default values for the allowable stresses will be computed based on the Concrete material selected and the AASHTO Specifications. A default value for the Final allowable slab compression is not computed since the deck concrete is typically different from the concrete used in the beam. Enter the value shown below for the LFD Final allowable slab compression.



Click **OK** to apply the data and close the window.

Prestress Properties

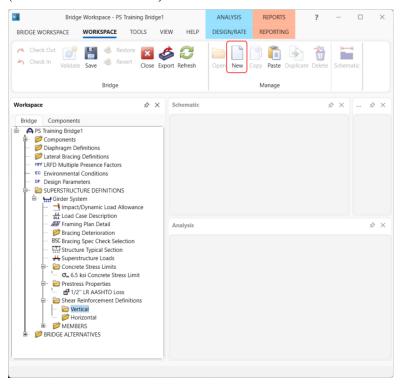
Double click on the **Prestress Properties** node in the **Bridge Workspace** tree to open the **Prestress Properties** window. Define the prestress properties as shown below. Since the **AASHTO Approximate** method is used to compute the losses, only the information on the **General P/S data** tab is required.



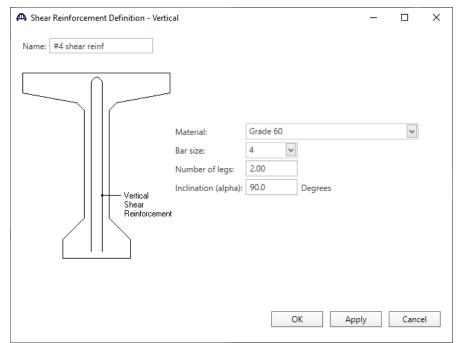
Click **OK** to apply the data and close the window.

Shear Reinforcement

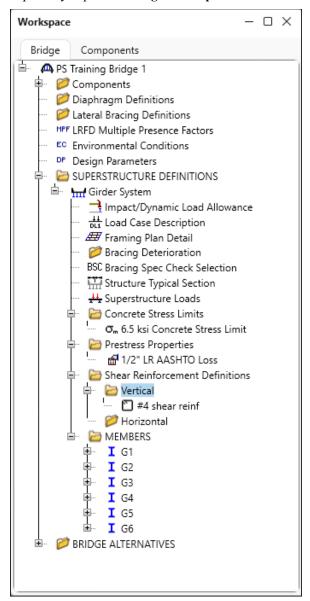
Define shear reinforcement to be used by the girders. Expand the **Shear Reinforcement Definitions** on the **Bridge Workspace** tree, select the **Vertical** node and click on **New** from the **Manage** group of the **WORKSPACE** ribbon (or double click on **Vertical**).



Define the stirrup as shown below. Click **OK** to apply the data and close the window.

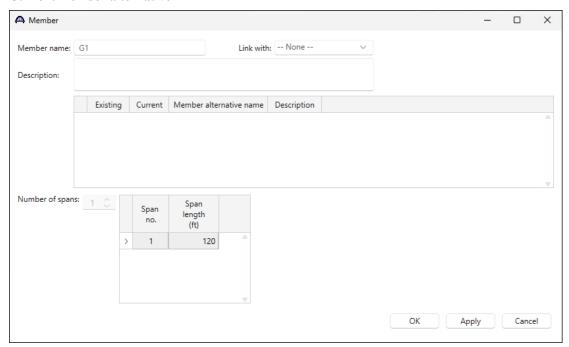


A partially expanded **Bridge Workspace** is shown below.



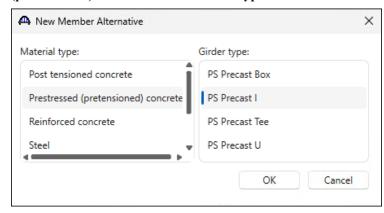
Describing a member:

The **Member** window shows the data that was generated when the structure definition was created. No changes are required in this window. The first Member Alternative created will automatically be assigned as the **Existing** and **Current member alternative** for this Member.



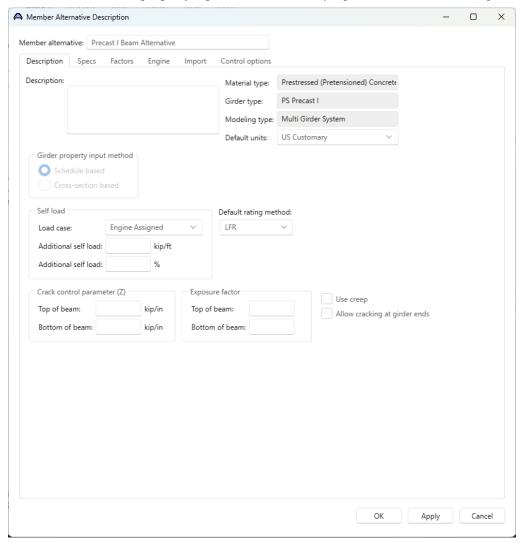
Defining a Member Alternative

Double-click on MEMBER ALTERNATIVES in the Bridge Workspace tree for member G1 to create a new member alternative. The New Member Alternative window shown below will open. Select Prestressed (pretensioned) concrete for the Material type and PS Precast I for the Girder Type.



Click **OK** to close the window and create a new member alternative.

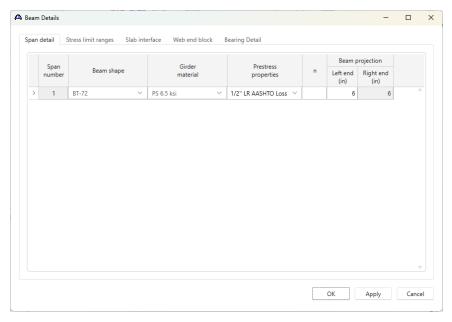
The **Member Alternative Description** window will open as shown below. Enter the data as shown below. The **Schedule based Girder property input method** is the only input method available for a prestressed concrete beam.



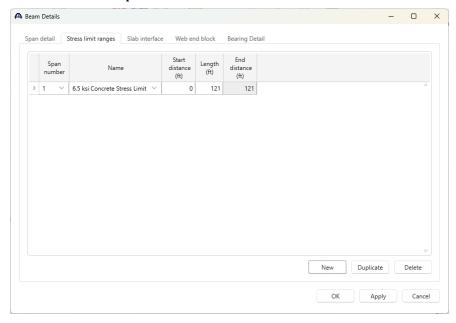
Click **OK** to close the window and create a new member alternative.

Beam Details

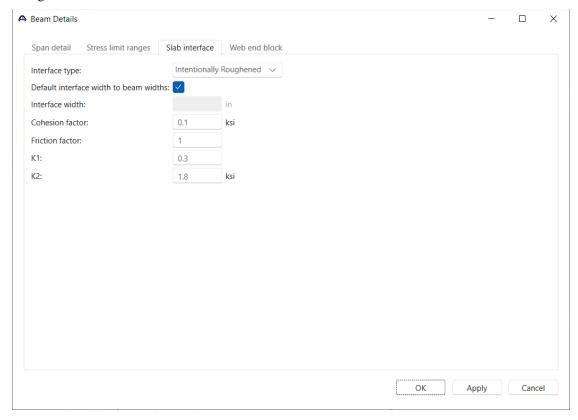
Expand the newly added member alternative in the workspace. Next describe the beam by double clicking on the **Beam Details** node in the **Bridge Workspace** tree. Enter the data in each tab of the **Beam Details** window as shown below.



Navigate to the **Stress limit ranges** tab and enter data as shown below. Note that the **Stress limit ranges** are defined over the entire length of the precast beam, including the projections of the beam past the centerline of bearing which were entered on the **Span detail** tab of this window.



Navigate to the Slab interface tab and enter data as shown below.



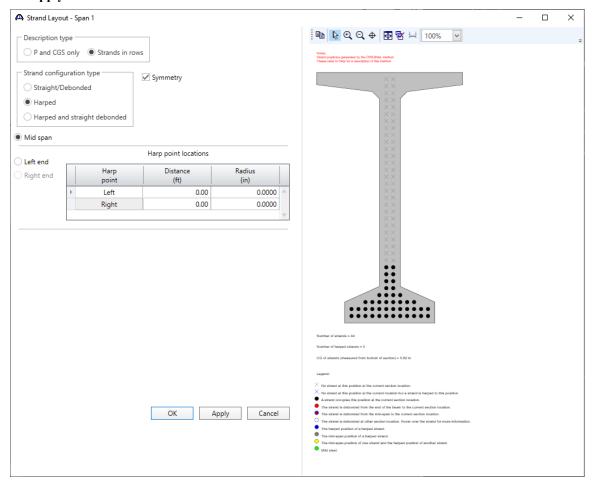
Click **OK** to apply the data. The following window shows up. Click Yes to continue. This applies the data in the **Beam Details** window and closes it.



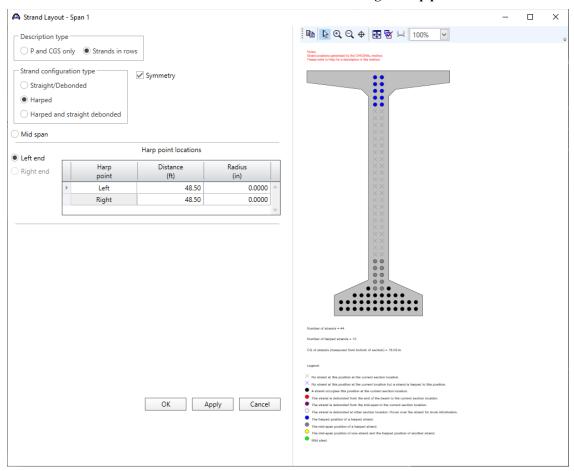
Strand Layout

Expand the tree under **Strand Layout** and open the **Span 1** window. Use the **Zoom** buttons on the right side of this window to shrink/expand the schematic of the beam shape so that the entire beam is visible.

Select the **Description type** as **Strands in rows** and the **Strand configuration type** as **Harped**. The **Mid span** radio button will now become active. Strands can now be defined at the middle of the span by selecting strands in the right hand schematic. Select the bottom 44 strands in the schematic so that the CG of the strands is 5.82 inches and click the **Apply** button.



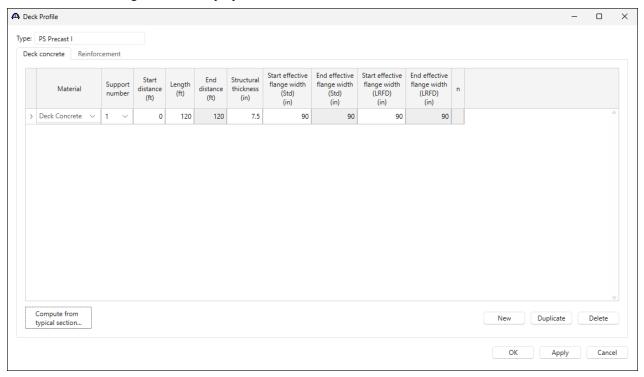
Now select the **Left end** radio button to enter the following harped strand locations at the left end of the precast beam. Place the cursor in the schematic view on the right side of the screen. The strands can be defined at the left end of the span by selecting strand locations in the right hand schematic. Select the top 10 strand locations in the schematic so that the CG of the strands is 18.09 inches. Also enter the **Left** and **Right Harp point** distances as shown below:



Click **OK** to apply the data and close the window.

Deck Profile

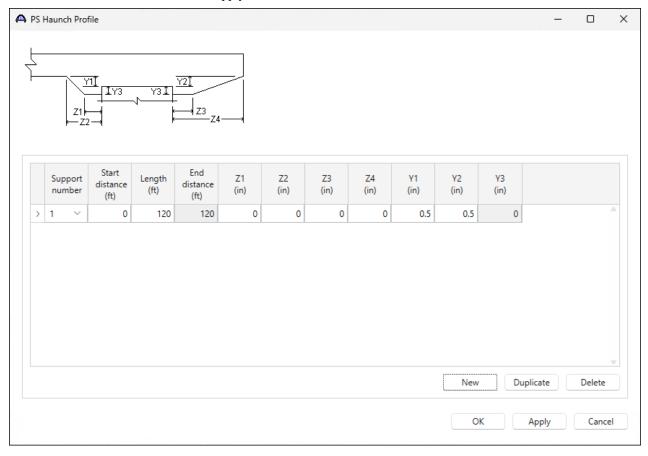
Next open the **Deck Profile** window by double-clicking the **Deck Profile** node in the **Bridge Workspace** tree and enter the data describing the structural properties of the deck. The window is shown below.



No reinforcement is described. Click **OK** to apply the data and close the window.

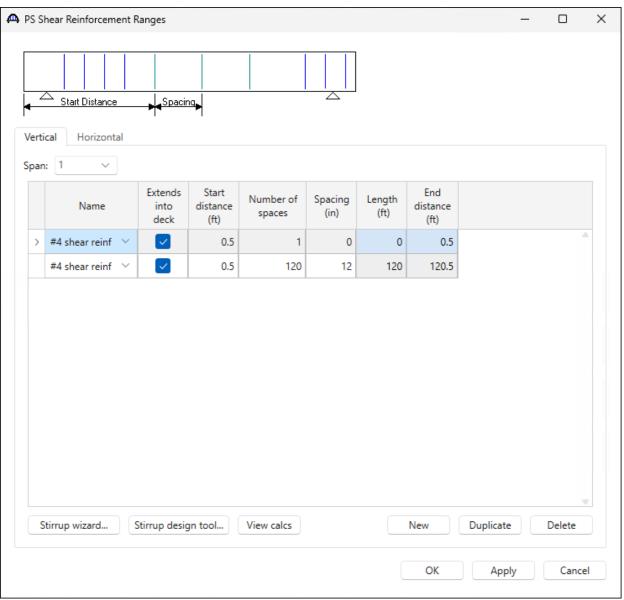
Haunch Profile

The haunch profile is defined by double-clicking on the **Haunch Profile** node in the **Bridge Workspace** tree. Enter data as shown below and Click **OK** to apply the data and close the window.



Shear Reinforcement Ranges

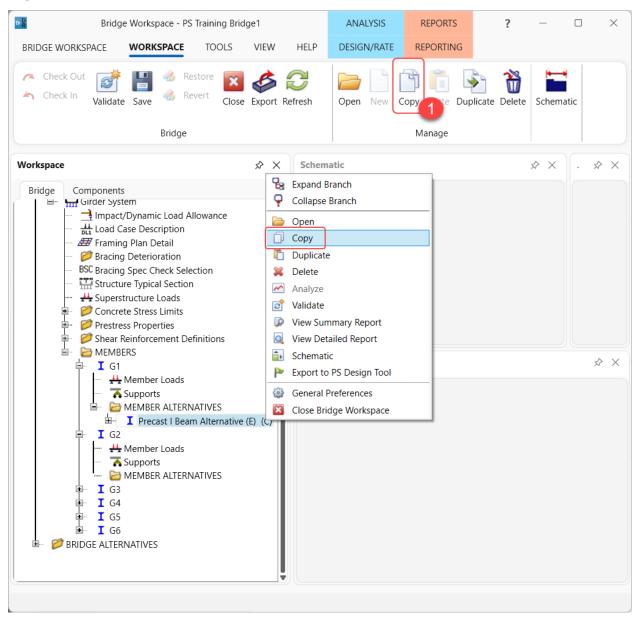
Double-click on the **Shear Reinforcement Ranges** node in the **Bridge Workspace** tree to open the **PS Shear Reinforcement Ranges** window. The shear reinforcement ranges are entered as described below. The vertical shear reinforcement is defined as extending into the deck on the **Vertical** tab of this window. This indicates composite action between the beam and the deck. Data does not have to be entered on the **Horizontal** tab to indicate composite action since that has been defined by extending the vertical bars into the deck.

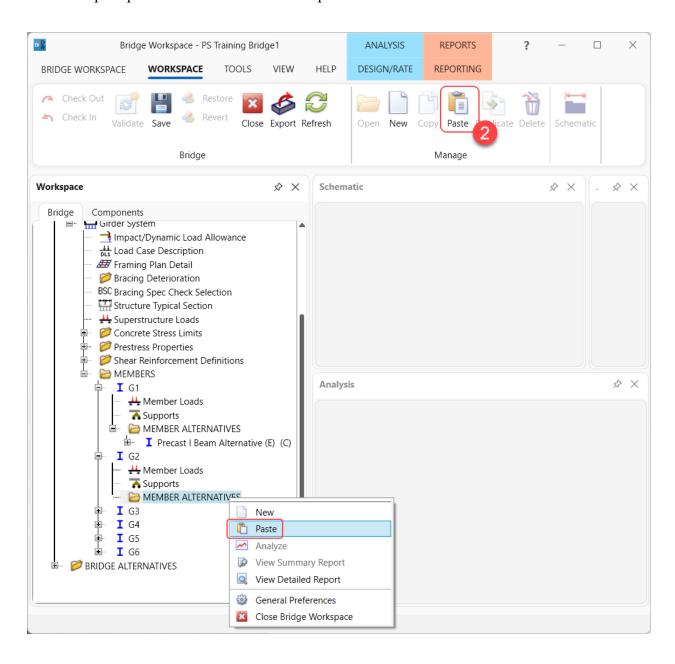


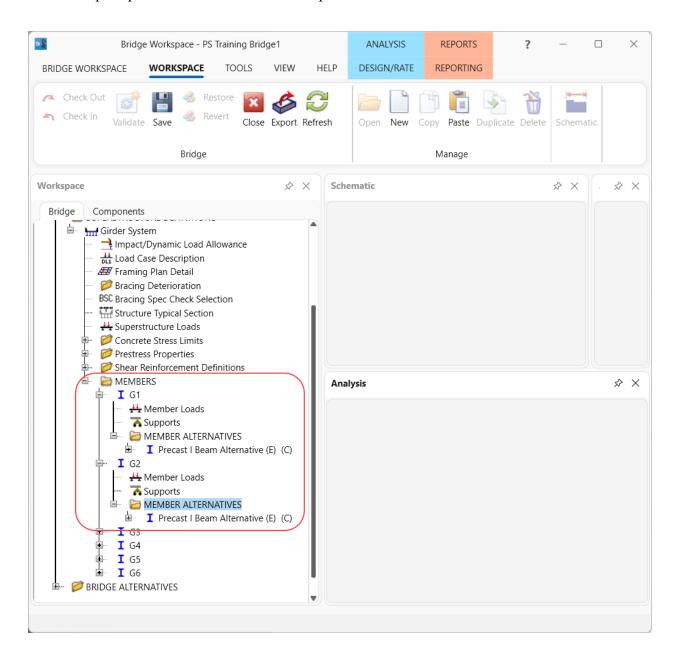
Click **OK** to apply the data and close the window.

Live Load Distribution

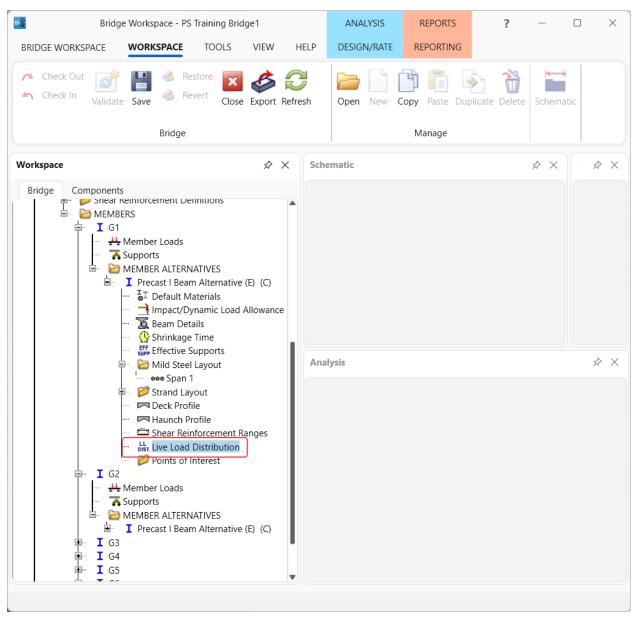
To compute the LRFD live load distribution factors, the interior girder adjacent to exterior girder must be defined. BrDR uses the beam shape assigned to this member alternative and the beam shapes assigned to the adjacent member alternatives to compute the distribution factors. If the **Compute from typical section...** button is used on this window without the adjacent girder defined, BrDR will throw a warning message indicating that since beam shapes are not assigned to adjacent member alternative, BrDR cannot calculate the distribution factors. In this case, the factors will have to be manually entered. For this example, copy the **Precast I Beam** member alternative of member **G1** and paste to **G2** as a member alternative.



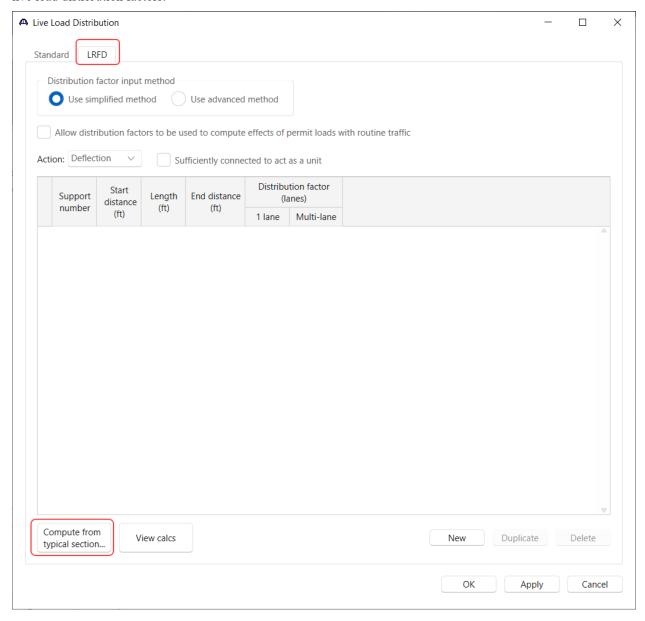




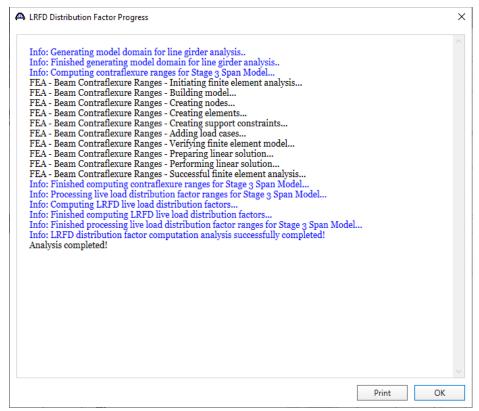
Double click on the Live Load Distribution node in the Bridge Workspace tree for member G1 to open the Live Load Distribution window.



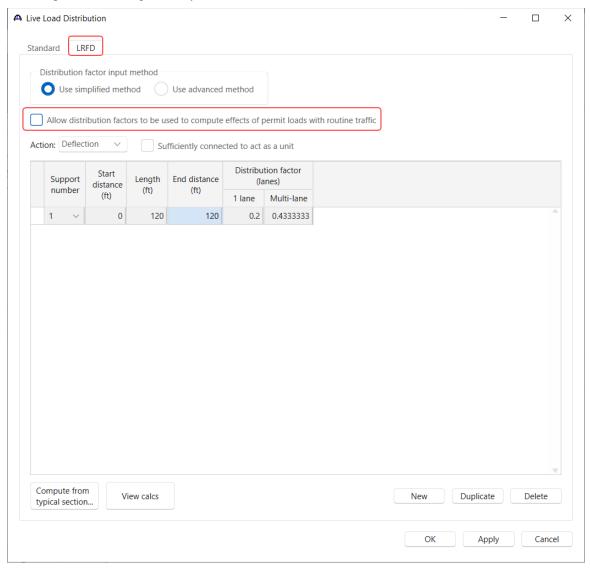
Navigate to the **LRFD** tab of this window. Click the **Compute from typical section . . .** button to compute the LRFD live load distribution factors.



The LRFD Distribution Factor Progress window opens as shown below.



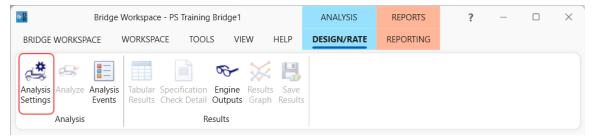
Once the analysis is complete, click **OK** to close this window. The **Live Load Distribution** window is now populated with the distribution factors. Uncheck the **Allow distribution factors to be used to compute effects of permit loads** with routine traffic checkbox and click **OK** to apply these factors and close the window. If these are left blank, BrDR will compute them during the analysis runtime.



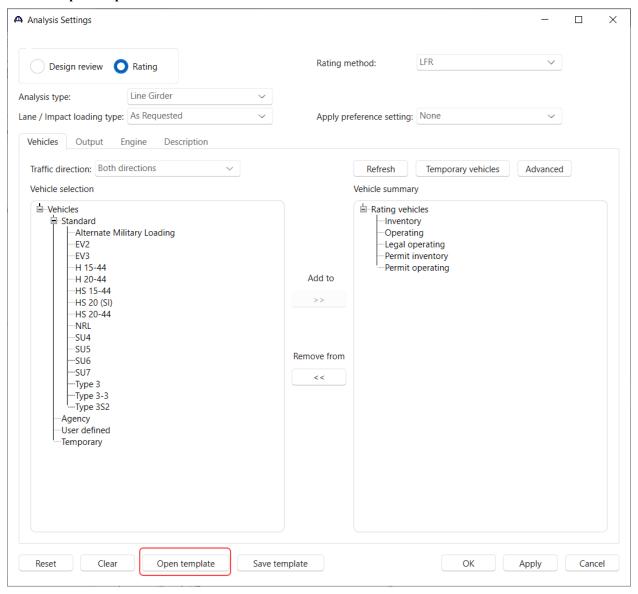
The description of an exterior beam for this structure definition is complete.

LRFR Analysis

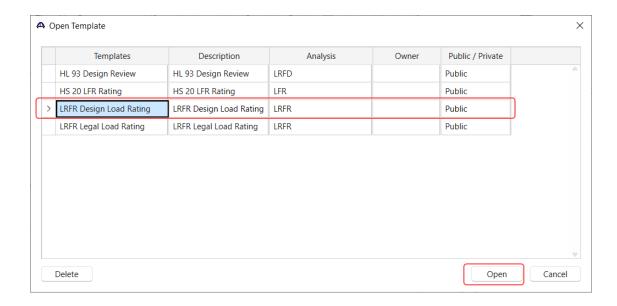
The member alternative for girder G1 can now be analyzed. To perform an LRFR rating, select the Analysis Settings button on the Analysis group of the DESIGN/RATE ribbon.



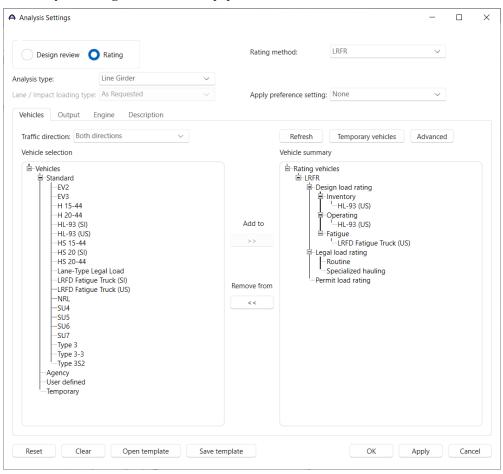
Click the **Open template** button.



Select the LRFR Design Load Rating to be used in the rating and click Open.



The Analysis Settings window will be populated as shown below.



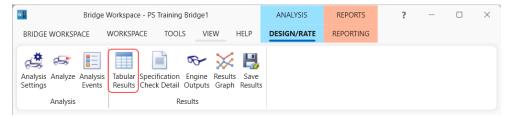
Click **OK** to apply the data and close the window.

Tabular Results

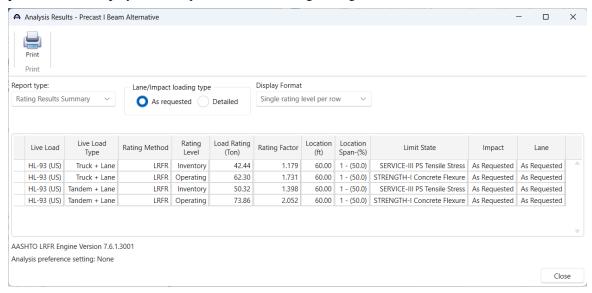
With member alternative **Precast I Beam Alternative** for member **G1** selected, click the **Analyze** button on the **Analysis** group of the **DESIGN/RATE** ribbon to perform the rating.



When the rating is finished results can be reviewed by clicking the **Tabular Results** button on the **Results** group of the ribbon.

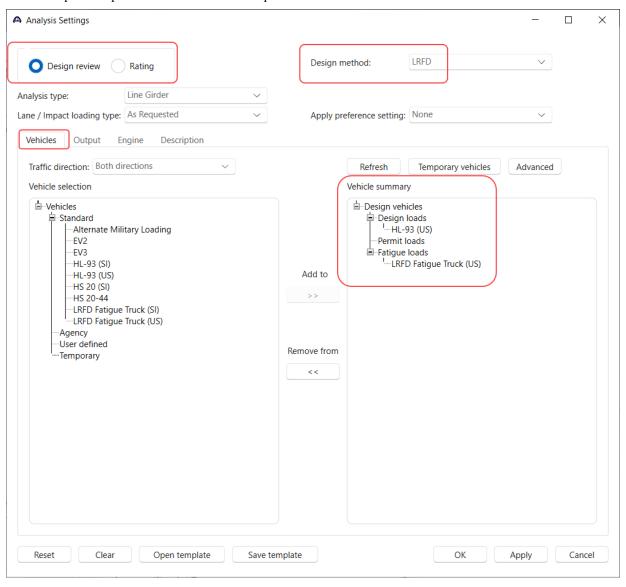


The window shown below will open. Select **Rating Results Summary** as the **Report Type** and **Single rating level per row** as the **Display Format** option to have the ratings arranged as shown below.



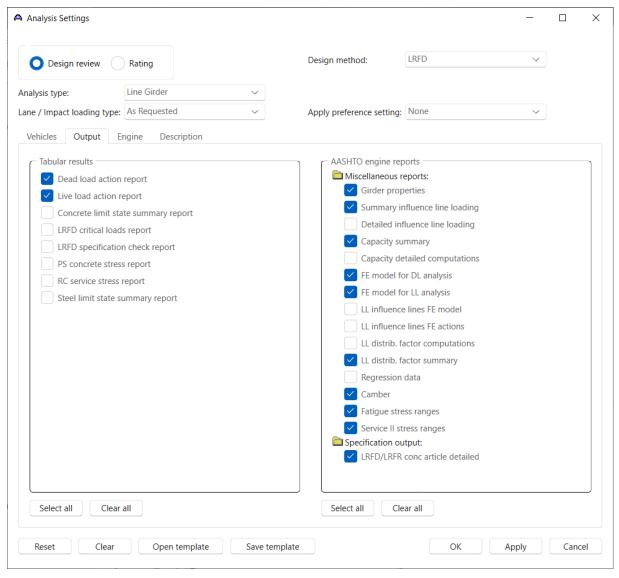
LRFD Design Review

An LRFD design review of this girder for **HL93** loading can be performed by AASHTO LRFD. To perform an LRFD design review, enter the **Analysis Settings** window as shown below or select the **HL 93 Design Review** template from the Open Template button as shown in the previous section.:



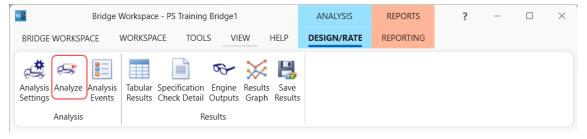
Analysis Settings - Output

Navigate to the Output tab and enter the Analysis Settings as shown below.



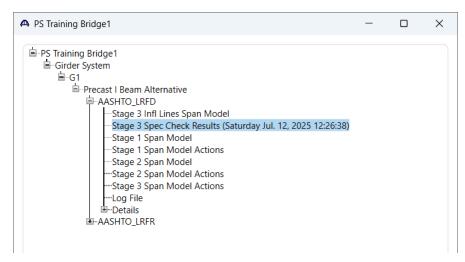
Engine Outputs

Next with member alternative **Precast I Beam Alternative** for member **G1** selected click the **Analyze** button on the **Analysis** group of the **DESIGN/RATE** ribbon to perform the design review.



AASHTO LRFD analysis will generate a spec check results file. Click the **Engine Outputs** button from the **Results** group of the **DESIGN/RATE** ribbon to open the following window.





To view the LRFD spec check results (shown below), double click on the **Stage 3 Spec Check Results** under the AASHTO LRFD branch in this window.

The following file opens.

