

## **Media Advisory, 85-ton highway bridge removed from Charles Lee Powell Structural Systems Laboratory**

**October 24, 1990**

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MEDIA ADVISORY -- PHOTO OPPORTUNITY

HOW DO YOU GET AN 85-TON HIGHWAY BRIDGE OUT OF A BUILDING?

EVENT: For more than a year, scientists at the Charles Lee Powell Structural Systems Laboratory at UCSD have been jolting and shaking an 85-ton section of bridge taken from State Highway 41 near Fresno. The extensive testing was part of a Caltrans-funded project to develop better ways to reinforce and strengthen California's aging bridges.

Now, however, it's time to get rid of the 12-footwide, 60-foot-long chunk of steel and concrete to make room for other earthquake tests.

Enniss Enterprises of El Cajon has volunteered one of its giant cranes to help remove the bridge section from the building in one piece and set it temporarily in a nearby vacant lot. (On a separate date, local heavy equipment operators and fire and rescue teams are being offered the opportunity to use the enormous scrap for a training exercise simulating a bridge collapse. Eventually, the bridge will be cut into sections and taken to Enniss' concrete recycling facility.)

DATE: Wednesday--October 24, 1990

TIME: 11 a.m. to noon

LOCATION: Charles Lee Powell Structural Systems Laboratory (see attached map)

COMMENTS: The event is high visual. Two trailers (one of them lifted in by crane) will be used to roll the bridge out of the lab. Then the Enniss crane will lift the whole slab and move it several hundred yards to the south corner of Voigt Drive and old Matthews Lane.

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