

# FDOT WALKWAY

FORT LAUDERDALE, FL

*FDOT Improves Bicyclist Safety With SlipNOT® Bridge Retrofits*



## THE SITUATION

The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) is an executive agency who coordinates the planning and development of public transportation in the state of Florida. FDOT has seven transportation districts that oversee systems including roadways, air, rail, sea, spaceports, bus transit, and bicycle and pedestrian facilities.

FDOT has proactively sought to improve public safety by increasing slip resistance on expansion joint covers, subway emergency exit doors, pedestrian bridge plates, bicycle safety lanes, and vault covers. Recently, FDOT contacted SlipNOT® Metal Safety Flooring for options to improve cyclist's safety on a District 4 bridge in Fort Lauderdale, FL.

## THE SOLUTION

SlipNOT® provided FDOT with (26) pieces of 3/16" x 40-7/8" x 48" Grade 3 (coarse) galvanized steel perforated plates to create bicycle friendly lanes on the bridge. The perforated plates were bolted down over the existing grating deck, providing a durable and secure lane for bicyclists. The perforation allows drainage and since this is an outdoor application, FDOT chose a galvanized finish for corrosion resistance. The high traction SlipNOT® surface provides a safe transit way for cyclists in all weather conditions.

SlipNOT® continues to provide slip resistant solutions for FDOT projects whether it's directly through the agency or various contractors such as Steel Tech, Inc. of Charlotte, NC. Following successful installations, Steel Tech has continued to utilize SlipNOT® for innovative solutions on complex projects. David Schultz, the owner of Steel Tech Inc., said "The problem of bicycles safely traversing open steel grid bridge decks has been an ongoing issue in many areas of the country. Superimposing slip resistant perforated plates over existing open steel grid installations may prove to be a viable solution. Durability and ease of installation is the key."

## THE IMPACT

SlipNOT® plates provide increased safety for bicyclists and other bridge patrons throughout Florida with minimal disruption on bridge operations. The flexibility of SlipNOT® products allow companies such as Steel Tech Inc. the ability to creatively address complex safety and operational issues.