

# 33,000 Shoes for Pipeline

ANCHORAGE, ALASKA, November 25, 1974—American Bridge Division of United States Steel Corporation has received a purchase order of approximately \$180 million to fabricate about 33,000 pipeline shoes for the trans Alaska pipeline.

The shoes are supports consisting of steel platforms and clamps that will be used on the above ground sections of the pipeline. The contract to American Bridge was announced by Alyeska Pipeline Service Company, the firm responsible for the design, construction and operation of the pipeline.

About 382 miles of the 798 mile-long pipeline will be elevated above ground in areas where thawing of permafrost would cause erosion or other undesirable conditions.

In the above ground construction mode, the 48-inch diameter pipe will be clamped in the shoe assemblies. Each shoe will rest on a crossbeam installed between two vertical supports set in the ground. The underside of the base of each shoe will be Teflon-coated and will be free to slide on the crossbeam.

This design will permit lateral and longitudinal movement of the pipeline when caused by thermal expansion or seismic movement.

American Bridge is fabricating the shoes at four California plants—in Fresno, San Francisco, Antioch, and Los Angeles. Shipment of the shoes is to begin in February 1975 and continue for about 14 months.

American Bridge has subcontracted a portion of its contract to Owens-Corning Fiberglas Corp., of Toledo, Ohio, to fabricate the molded insulation for the shoe assemblies. The subcontract to Owens-Corning is valued at about \$9 million.

Owens-Corning previously was awarded a contract by Alyeska to supply the insulation for the above ground sections of pipe. That contract is valued at \$70 million.