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Amelia Earhart Bridge Arch Span Complete

Dozens of spectators cheered with joy Friday morning as the final piece of the arch span to the new Amelia Earhart Bridge near Atchison was secured into place.

It was secured around 10:15 Friday morning after precautionary weather delays and a safety line issue. It drew spectators from all over the region, including Jim Bowhay from Netawaka.

He's excited to have a new bridge to travel over in a few months.

(Play Audio) RT: :09

Now it's time for 800 bolts to be secured.

Construction Engineer Michelle Anschutz says there several steps remaining before opening the bridge to traffic in mid to late September.

(Audio Continues) RT: :21

The final piece displayed a tree and and American flag on top.

Anschutz says that holds an important place for the workers.

(Audio Continues) RT: :16

After the bridge is open to traffic, the old bridge will close down and be set for deconstruction in 2013.

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