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**Development of the First International Conference on Fatigue and Fracture  
in the Infrastructure**

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**Abstract**

With recent developments in research, the considerable advancements in finite element analysis and testing, and the knowledge gained by recent failures, there is considerable material that needs to be presented and shared with our colleagues in engineering, design, inspection, and research. Additionally, the turnover in staff for both owners and designers has resulted in a “knowledge gap” in the profession. Lastly, the lack of a conference focused on fatigue and fracture in the context of today’s infrastructure has led researchers at Lehigh University to the conclusion that such an event is appropriate and essential.

The objective of the conference is as follows:

*“To bring together engineers, academia, researchers and industry leaders  
in order to share and discuss the most recent efforts and state of the art  
applied to fatigue and fracture issues facing the transportation industry”*