



Bridge scoops steel award

THE East Taupo Arterial has done it again, scooping a prize for the construction of the Waikato River bridge.

The bridge has won the Bridge and Structural category in Steel Construction New Zealand Awards for Excellence Steel Construction 2011.

Judges praised the significant structure which was a part of the \$110 million arterial project. The Waikato River Bridge is the second only and the largest network arch bridge constructed in New Zealand, at some 150m long.

The project team worked together to provide an elegant, iconic and cost-effective solution in the face of cultural and physical challenges, the project was selected for its demonstration of best practice, outstanding teamwork, application of sustainability principles, great safety management and innovation as well as the projects distinctive looks.

The arterial also won the coveted New Zealand Planning Institutes Best Project Award for its planners, Opus International Consultants and the Taupo District Council in March this year.

The 440m long Contact Energy Bridge, the second of the significant steel bridges of the arterial project, which was delivered by the same team, was also recognised at the awards as one of the three finalists.