

EXHIBIT 9

FORM OF GUARANTY

THIS GUARANTY (this "Guaranty") is made as of _____, 20__ by _____, a _____ ("Guarantor"), in favor of the TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, an agency of the State of Texas ("TxDOT").

RECITALS

A. _____, as maintenance contractor ("Maintenance Contractor"), and TxDOT are parties to that certain Capital Maintenance Agreement of even date herewith ("Capital Maintenance Agreement") pursuant to which the Maintenance Contractor has agreed to perform, among other things, the Maintenance Services in respect of the Project. Initially capitalized terms used herein without definition will have the meaning given such term in the Capital Maintenance Agreement.

B. To induce TxDOT to (i) enter into the Capital Maintenance Agreement; and (ii) consummate the transactions contemplated thereby, Guarantor has agreed to enter into this Guaranty.

C. Maintenance Contractor is a _____. The Guarantor is _____. The execution of the Capital Maintenance Agreement by TxDOT and the consummation of the transactions contemplated thereby will materially benefit Guarantor. Without this Guaranty, TxDOT would not have entered into the Capital Maintenance Agreement with Maintenance Contractor. Therefore, in consideration of TxDOT's execution of the Capital Maintenance Agreement and consummation of the transactions contemplated thereby, Guarantor has agreed to executed this Guaranty.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the foregoing Recitals, and for other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which are hereby acknowledged, Guarantor agrees as follows:

1. **Guaranty.** Guarantor guarantees to TxDOT and its successors and assigns the full and prompt payment and performance when due of all of the obligations of the Maintenance Contractor arising out of, in connection with, under or related to: (a) the Capital Maintenance Agreement (and the exhibits, amendments, schedules and other addenda thereto, and the documents executed or to be executed in connection therewith), and (b) each and every other document and agreement executed by the Maintenance Contractor in connection with the consummation of the transactions contemplated by the Capital Maintenance Agreement (the documents described in clauses (a)-(b), inclusive, shall collectively be referred to herein as the "CMA Documents"). The obligations guaranteed pursuant to this Guaranty are collectively referred to herein as the "Guaranteed Obligations."

2. **Unconditional Obligations.** This Guaranty is a guaranty of payment and performance and not of collection. Except as provided in Section 21, this Guaranty is an absolute, unconditional and irrevocable guarantee of the full and prompt payment and performance when due of all of the Guaranteed Obligations, whether or not from time to time reduced or extinguished or hereafter increased or incurred, and whether or not enforceable

against the Maintenance Contractor. If any payment made by the Maintenance Contractor or any other Person and applied to the Guaranteed Obligations is at any time annulled, set aside, rescinded, invalidated, declared to be fraudulent or preferential or otherwise required to be repaid or refunded, then, to the extent of such payment or repayment, the liability of Guarantor will be and remain in full force and effect as fully as if such payment had never been made. Guarantor covenants that this Guaranty will not be fulfilled or discharged, except by the complete payment and performance of the Guaranteed Obligations, whether by the primary obligor or Guarantor under this Guaranty. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, Guarantor's obligations hereunder will not be released, discharged or otherwise affected by: (a) any change in the CMA Documents or the obligations thereunder, or any insolvency, bankruptcy or similar proceeding affecting the Maintenance Contractor, Guarantor or their respective assets, and (b) the existence of any claim or set-off which the Maintenance Contractor has or Guarantor may have against TxDOT, whether in connection with this Guaranty or any unrelated transaction, provided that nothing in this Guaranty will be deemed a waiver by Guarantor of any claim or prevent the assertion of any claim by separate suit. This Guaranty will in all respects be a continuing, absolute, and unconditional guaranty irrespective of the genuineness, validity, regularity or enforceability of the Guaranteed Obligations or any part thereof or any instrument or agreement evidencing any of the Guaranteed Obligations or relating thereto, or the existence, validity, enforceability, perfection, or extent of any collateral therefor or any other circumstances relating to the Guaranteed Obligations, except as provided in Section 21.

3. Independent Obligations. Guarantor agrees that the Guaranteed Obligations are independent of the obligations of the Maintenance Contractor and if any default occurs hereunder, a separate action or actions may be brought and prosecuted against Guarantor whether or not the Maintenance Contractor is joined therein. TxDOT may maintain successive actions for other defaults of Guarantor. TxDOT's rights hereunder will not be exhausted by the exercise of any of its rights or remedies or by any such action or by any number of successive actions until and unless all Guaranteed Obligations have been paid and fully performed.

a. Guarantor agrees that TxDOT may enforce this Guaranty, at any time and from time to time, without the necessity of resorting to or exhausting any security or collateral and without the necessity of proceeding against the Maintenance Contractor. Guarantor hereby waives any right to require TxDOT to proceed against the Maintenance Contractor, to exercise any right or remedy under any of the CMA Documents or to pursue any other remedy or to enforce any other right.

b. Guarantor will continue to be subject to this Guaranty notwithstanding: (i) any modification, agreement or stipulation between the Maintenance Contractor and TxDOT or their respective successors and assigns, with respect to any of the CMA Documents or the Guaranteed Obligations; (ii) any waiver of or failure to enforce any of the terms, covenants or conditions contained in any of the CMA Documents or any modification thereof; (iii) any release of the Maintenance Contractor from any liability with respect to any of the CMA Documents; or (iv) any release or subordination of any collateral then held by TxDOT as security for the performance by the Maintenance Contractor of the Guaranteed Obligations.

c. The Guaranteed Obligations are not conditional or contingent upon the genuineness, validity, regularity or enforceability of any of the CMA Documents or the pursuit by TxDOT of any remedies which TxDOT either now has or may hereafter have with respect thereto under any of the CMA Documents.

d. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained elsewhere in this Guaranty, Guarantor's obligations and undertakings hereunder are derivative of, and not in excess of, the obligations of the Maintenance Contractor under the CMA. Accordingly, in the event that the Maintenance Contractor's obligations have been changed by any modification, agreement or stipulation between Maintenance Contractor and TxDOT or their respective successors or assigns, this Guaranty shall apply to the Guaranteed Obligations as so changed.

4. Liability of Guarantor.

a. TxDOT may enforce this Guaranty upon the occurrence of a breach by the Maintenance Contractor of any of the Guaranteed Obligations, notwithstanding the existence of any dispute between TxDOT and the Maintenance Contractor with respect to the existence of such a breach.

b. Guarantor's performance of some, but not all, of the Guaranteed Obligations will in no way limit, affect, modify or abridge Guarantor's liability for those Guaranteed Obligations that have not been performed.

c. TxDOT, upon such terms as it deems appropriate, without notice or demand and without affecting the validity or enforceability of this Guaranty or giving rise to any reduction, limitation, impairment, discharge or termination of Guarantor's liability hereunder, from time to time may (i) with respect to the financial obligations of the Maintenance Contractor, if and as permitted by the Maintenance Contract, renew, extend, accelerate, increase the rate of interest on, or otherwise change the time, place, manner or terms of payment of financial obligations that are Guaranteed Obligations, and/or subordinate the payment of the same to the payment of any other obligations, (ii) settle, compromise, release or discharge, or accept or refuse any offer of performance with respect to, or substitutions for, the Guaranteed Obligations or any agreement relating thereto, (iii) request and accept other guarantees of the Guaranteed Obligations and take and hold security for the payment and performance of this Guaranty or the Guaranteed Obligations, (iv) release, surrender, exchange, substitute, compromise, settle, rescind, waive, alter, subordinate or modify, with or without consideration, any security for performance of the Guaranteed Obligations, any other guarantees of the Guaranteed Obligations, or any other obligation of any Person with respect to the Guaranteed Obligations, (v) enforce and apply any security hereafter held by or for the benefit of TxDOT in respect of this Guaranty or the Guaranteed Obligations and direct the order or manner of sale thereof, or exercise any other right or remedy that TxDOT may have against any such security, as TxDOT in its discretion may determine, and (vi) exercise any other rights available to it under the CMA Documents.

d. This Guaranty and the obligations of Guarantor hereunder will be valid and enforceable and will not be subject to any reduction, limitation, impairment, discharge or termination for any reason (other than infeasible performance in full of the Guaranteed Obligations), including without limitation the occurrence of any of the following, whether or not Guarantor will have had notice or knowledge of any of them: (i) any failure or omission to assert or enforce or agreement or election not to assert or enforce, or the stay or enjoining, by order of court, by operation of law or otherwise, of the exercise or enforcement of, any claim or demand or any right, power or remedy (whether arising under the CMA Documents, at law, in equity or otherwise) with respect to the Guaranteed Obligations or any agreement or instrument relating thereto; (ii) any rescission, waiver, amendment or modification of, or any consent to departure from, any of the terms or provisions (including without limitation provisions relating to events of default) of the CMA Documents or any agreement or instrument executed pursuant thereto;

(iii) TxDOT's consent to the change, reorganization or termination of the corporate structure or existence of the Maintenance Contractor; (iv) any defenses, set-offs or counterclaims that the Maintenance Contractor may allege or assert against TxDOT in respect of the Guaranteed Obligations, except as provided in Section 21.

5. Waivers. To the fullest extent permitted by law, Guarantor hereby waives and agrees not to assert or take advantage of: (a) any right to require TxDOT to proceed against the Maintenance Contractor or any other Person or to proceed against or exhaust any security held by TxDOT at any time or to pursue any right or remedy under any of the CMA Documents or any other remedy in TxDOT's power before proceeding against Guarantor; (b) any defense that may arise by reason of the incapacity, lack of authority, death or disability of, or revocation hereby by Guarantor, the Maintenance Contractor or any other Person or the failure of TxDOT to file or enforce a claim against the estate (either in administration, bankruptcy or any other proceeding) of any such Person; (c) any defense that may arise by reason of any presentment, demand for payment or performance or otherwise, protest or notice of any other kind or lack thereof; (d) any right or defense arising out of an election of remedies by TxDOT even though the election of remedies, such as nonjudicial foreclosure with respect to any security for the Guaranteed Obligations, has destroyed the Guarantor's rights of subrogation and reimbursement against the Maintenance Contractor by the operation of law or otherwise; (e) all notices to Guarantor or to any other Person, including, but not limited to, notices of the acceptance of this Guaranty or the creation, renewal, extension, modification, accrual of any of the obligations of the Maintenance Contractor under any of the CMA Documents, or of default in the payment or performance of any such obligations, enforcement of any right or remedy with respect thereto or notice of any other matters relating thereto,, except the notice required in Section 12.3 of the Capital Maintenance Agreement, but without diminishing TxDOT's exercise of its rights pursuant to Section 12.2.2 of the Capital Maintenance Agreement; (f) any defense based upon any act or omission of TxDOT which directly or indirectly results in or aids the discharge or release of the Maintenance Contractor, Guarantor or any security given or held by TxDOT in connection with the Guaranteed Obligations; and (g) any and all guaranty and suretyship defenses under applicable law.

6. Waiver of Subrogation and Rights of Reimbursement. Until the Guaranteed Obligations have been indefeasibly paid in full, Guarantor waives any claim, right or remedy which it may now have or may hereafter acquire against the Maintenance Contractor that arises from the performance of Guarantor hereunder, including, without limitation, any claim, right or remedy of subrogation, reimbursement, exoneration, contribution, or indemnification, or participation in any claim, right or remedy of TxDOT against the Maintenance Contractor, or any other security or collateral that TxDOT now has or hereafter acquires, whether or not such claim, right or remedy arises in equity, under contract, by statute, under common law or otherwise. All existing or future indebtedness of Maintenance Contractor or any shareholders, partners, members, joint venturers of Maintenance Contractor to Guarantor is subordinated to all of the Guaranteed Obligations. Whenever and for so long as the Maintenance Contractor shall be in default in the performance of a Guaranteed Obligation, no payments with respect to any such indebtedness shall be made by Maintenance Contractor or any shareholders, partners, members, joint venturers of Maintenance Contractor to Guarantor without the prior written consent of TxDOT. Any payment by Maintenance Contractor or any shareholders, partners, members, joint venturers of Maintenance Contractor to Guarantor in violation of this provision shall be deemed to have been received by Guarantor as trustee for TxDOT.

7. **Waivers by Guarantor if Real Property Security.** If the Guaranteed Obligations are or become secured by real property or an estate for years, Guarantor waives all rights and defenses that Guarantor may have because the Guaranteed Obligations are secured by real property. This means, among other things:

a. TxDOT may collect from Guarantor without first foreclosing on any real or personal property collateral pledged by the Maintenance Contractor.

b. If TxDOT forecloses on any real property collateral pledged by the Maintenance Contractor:

(1) The amount of the Guaranteed Obligation may be reduced only by the price for which that collateral is sold at the foreclosure sale, even if the collateral is worth more than the sale price.

(2) TxDOT may collect from Guarantor even if TxDOT, by foreclosing on the real property collateral, has destroyed any right Guarantor may have to collect from the Maintenance Contractor.

This is an unconditional and irrevocable waiver of any rights and defenses Guarantor may have because the Guaranteed Obligations secured by real property

8. **Cumulative Rights.** All rights, powers and remedies of TxDOT hereunder will be in addition to and not in lieu of all other rights, powers and remedies given to TxDOT, whether at law, in equity or otherwise.

9. **Representations and Warranties.** Guarantor represents and warrants that:

a. it is a _____ duly *[organized][formed]*, validly existing, and in good standing under the laws of the State of _____ and qualified to do business and is in good standing under the laws of the State of Texas;

b. it has all requisite *[corporate][partnership][limited liability company]* power and authority to execute, deliver and perform this Guaranty;

c. the execution, delivery, and performance by Guarantor of this Guaranty have been duly authorized by all necessary corporate action on the part of Guarantor, and proof of such authorization will be provided with the execution of this Guaranty;

d. this Guaranty has been duly executed and delivered and constitutes the legal, valid and binding obligation of Guarantor, enforceable against Guarantor in accordance with its terms;

e. neither the execution nor delivery of this Guaranty nor compliance with or fulfillment of the terms, conditions, and provisions hereof, will conflict with, result in a material breach or violation of the terms, conditions, or provisions of, or constitute a material default, an event of default, or an event creating rights of acceleration, termination, or cancellation, or a loss of rights under: (1) *[the certificate of incorporation or by-laws][certificate of limited partnership or partnership agreement][certificate of formation or limited liability company agreement]* of Guarantor, (2) any judgment, decree, order, contract,

agreement, indenture, instrument, note, mortgage, lease, governmental permit, or other authorization, right restriction, or obligation to which Guarantor is a party or any of its property is subject or by which Guarantor is bound, or (3) any federal, state, or local law, statute, ordinance, rule or regulation applicable to Guarantor;

f. it now has and will continue to have full and complete access to any and all information concerning the transactions contemplated by the CMA Documents or referred to therein, the financial status of the Maintenance Contractor and the ability of the Maintenance Contractor to pay and perform the Guaranteed Obligations;

g. it has reviewed and approved copies of the CMA Documents and is fully informed of the remedies TxDOT may pursue, with or without notice to the Maintenance Contractor or any other Person, in the event of default of any of the Guaranteed Obligations;

h. it has made and so long as the Guaranteed Obligations (or any portion thereof) remain unsatisfied, it will make its own credit analysis of the Maintenance Contractor and will keep itself fully informed as to all aspects of the financial condition of the Maintenance Contractor, the performance of the Guaranteed Obligations of all circumstances bearing upon the risk of nonpayment or nonperformance of the Guaranteed Obligations. Guarantor hereby waives and relinquishes any duty on the part of TxDOT to disclose any matter, fact or thing relating to the business, operations or conditions of the Maintenance Contractor now known or hereafter known by TxDOT;

i. no consent, authorization, approval, order, license, certificate, or permit or act of or from, or declaration or filing with, any governmental authority or any party to any contract, agreement, instrument, lease, or license to which Guarantor is a party or by which Guarantor is bound, is required for the execution, delivery, or compliance with the terms hereof by Guarantor, except as have been obtained prior to the date hereof; and

j. there is no pending or, to the best of its knowledge, threatened action, suit, proceeding, arbitration, litigation, or investigation of or before any Governmental Authority which challenges the validity or enforceability of this Guaranty.

10. Governing Law; Venue. The validity, interpretation and effect of this Guaranty are governed by and will be construed in accordance with the laws of the State of Texas applicable to contracts made and performed in such State and without regard to conflicts of law doctrines except to the extent that certain matters are preempted by Federal law. Guarantor consents to the jurisdiction of the state of Texas with regard to this Guaranty. The venue for any action regarding this Guaranty shall be Travis County, Texas.

11. Entire Document. This Guaranty, together with the CMA Documents, contains the entire agreement of Guarantor with respect to the transactions contemplated hereby, and supersedes all negotiations, representations, warranties, commitments, offers, contracts and writings prior to the date hereof, written or oral, with respect to the subject matter hereof. No waiver, modification or amendment of any provision of this Guaranty is effective unless made in writing and duly signed by TxDOT referring specifically to this Guaranty, and then only to the specific purpose, extent and interest so provided.

12. Severability. If any provision of this Guaranty is determined to be unenforceable for any reason by a court of competent jurisdiction, it will be adjusted rather than

voided, to achieve the intent of the parties and all of the provisions not deemed unenforceable will be deemed valid and enforceable to the greatest extent possible.

13. Notices. Any communication, notice or demand of any kind whatsoever under this Guaranty shall be in writing and (a) delivered personally, (b) sent by certified mail, return receipt requested, (c) sent by a recognized overnight mail or courier service, with delivery receipt requested, or (d) sent by facsimile or email communication followed by a hard copy and with receipt confirmed by telephone to the addresses set forth below (or to such other address as may from time to time be specified in writing by such Person:

If to TxDOT: Texas Department of Transportation
Major Projects Office
7721 Washington Ave.
Houston, TX 77007
Attention: Mr. Eddie Sanchez, P.E.
Telephone: (713) 866-7036
Facsimile: (713) 802-5889

With copies to: Texas Department of Transportation
Office of General Counsel
125 East 11th Street
Austin, TX 78701
Attention: John J. Ingram, Esq.
Telephone: (512) 463-8630
Facsimile: (512) 475-3070

If to Guarantor: _____

Attention: _____
Telephone: _____
Telecopy: _____

Either Guarantor or TxDOT may from time to time change its address for the purpose of notices by a similar notice specifying a new address, but no such change is effective until it is actually received by the party sought to be charged with its contents.

All notices and other communications required or permitted under this Guaranty which are addressed as provided in this Section 13 are effective upon delivery, if delivered personally or by overnight mail, and, are effective five (5) days following deposit in the United States mail, postage prepaid if delivered by mail.

14. Captions. The captions of the various Sections of this Guaranty have been inserted only for convenience of reference and do not modify, explain, enlarge or restrict any of the provisions of this Guaranty.

15. Assignability. This Guaranty is binding upon and inures to the benefit of the successors and assigns of Guarantor and TxDOT, including the Corporation, but is not assignable by Guarantor without the prior written consent of TxDOT, which consent may be granted or withheld in TxDOT's sole discretion. Any assignment by Guarantor effected in accordance with this Section 15 will not relieve Guarantor of its obligations and liabilities under this Guaranty.

16. Construction of Agreement. Ambiguities or uncertainties in the wording of this Guaranty will not be construed for or against any party, but will be construed in the manner that most accurately reflects the parties' intent as of the date hereof.

17. No Waiver. Any forbearance or failure to exercise, and any delay by TxDOT in exercising, any right, power or remedy hereunder will not impair any such right, power or remedy or be construed to be a waiver thereof, nor will it preclude the further exercise of any such right, power or remedy.

18. Bankruptcy; Post-Petition Interest; Reinstatement of Guaranty.

(a) The obligations of Guarantor under this Guaranty will not be reduced, limited, impaired, discharged, deferred, suspended or terminated by any proceeding, voluntary or involuntary, involving the bankruptcy, insolvency, receivership, reorganization, liquidation or arrangement of the Maintenance Contractor or by any defense which the Maintenance Contractor may have by reason of the order, decree or decision of any court or administrative body resulting from any such proceeding. TxDOT is not obligated to file any claim relating to the Guaranteed Obligations if the Maintenance Contractor becomes subject to a bankruptcy, reorganization, or similar proceeding, and the failure of TxDOT so to file will not affect Guarantor's obligations under this Guaranty.

(b) Guarantor acknowledges and agrees that any interest on any portion of the Guaranteed Obligations which accrues after the commencement of any proceeding referred to in clause (a) above (or, if interest on any portion of the Guaranteed Obligations ceases to accrue by operation of law by reason of the commencement of said proceeding, such interest as would have accrued on such portion of the Guaranteed Obligations if said proceedings had not been commenced) will be included in the Guaranteed Obligations because it is the intention of Guarantor and TxDOT that the Guaranteed Obligations should be determined without regard to any rule of law or order which may relieve the Maintenance Contractor of any portion of such Guaranteed Obligations. Guarantor will permit any trustee in bankruptcy, receiver, debtor in possession, assignee for the benefit of creditors or any similar person to pay TxDOT, or allow the claim of TxDOT in respect of, any such interest accruing after the date on which such proceeding is commenced.

19. Attorneys' Fees. Guarantor agrees to pay to TxDOT without demand reasonable attorneys' fees and all costs and other expenses (including such fees and costs of litigation, arbitration and bankruptcy, and including appeals) incurred by TxDOT in enforcing, collecting or compromising any Guaranteed Obligation or enforcing or collecting this Guaranty against Guarantor or in attempting to do any or all of the foregoing.

20. Joint and Several Liability. If the Guarantor is comprised of more than one individuals and/or entities, such individuals and/or entities, as applicable, shall be jointly and severally liable for the Guaranteed Obligations. If more than one guaranty is executed with respect to the Maintenance Contractor and the Project, each guarantor under such a guaranty shall be jointly and severally liable with the other guarantors with respect to the obligations guaranteed under such guaranties.

21. Defenses. Guarantor shall be entitled to the benefit of all defenses available to the Maintenance Contractor under the Capital Maintenance Agreement except (a) those expressly waived in this Guaranty, (b) failure of consideration, lack of authority of the Contractor and any other defense to formation of the Contract, and (c) defenses available to the

Maintenance Contractor under any federal or state law respecting bankruptcy, arrangement, reorganization or similar relief of debtors. Action against Guarantor under this Guaranty shall be subject to no prior notice or demand except for the notice provided in Section 12.3 of the Capital Maintenance Agreement, without diminishing any rights TxDOT may exercise pursuant to Section 12.2.2 of the Capital Maintenance Agreement.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, Guarantor has executed this Guaranty as of the date first written above.

a _____

By: _____
Name: _____
Title: _____

By: _____
Name: _____
Title: _____