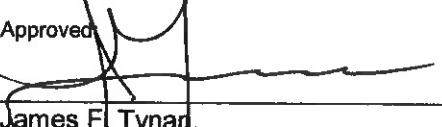


To: SUPERSEDED BY <u>EI 07-006</u> EFFECTIVE <u>9/06/07</u>		New York State Department of Transportation ENGINEERING INSTRUCTION	EI 06-016
Title: REVISIONS TO STANDARD SPECIFICATIONS SECTION 619 - CONSTRUCTION SIGNS			
Distribution: ☒ Manufacturers (18) ☒ Local Govt. (31) ☒ Agencies (32) ☒ Surveyors (33) ☒ Consultants (34) ☒ Contractors (39) ☐ _____ ()		Approved:  _____ James F. Tynan, Director, Construction Division <u>8-29-06</u> Date	

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION:

- This Engineering Instruction (EI) is effective beginning with projects submitted for the letting of 01/11/07.
- This EI does not supersede any other issuance.
- The revisions issued with this EI will be incorporated into a future update of the Standard Specifications.

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this EI is to issue revisions to Section 619 of the Standard Specifications for the use of Type IX sheeting on orange construction signs.

TECHNICAL INFORMATION:

- In order to best inform the traveling public of conditions in work zones, ASTM Type IX sheeting provides the most visible, conspicuous and legible signs.
- Research conducted by the Department shows that orange ASTM Type IX sheeting has improved visibility and legibility when compared to other available types of sheeting.
- A typical construction sign has a service life of approximately 3 years.
- The requirement for Type IX sheeting is not expected to have a significant impact on the cost of construction signs.
- §619-3.02 was updated to reflect the inclusion of warning signs W8-41 and W8-45 in the current MUTCD.

IMPLEMENTATION:

- Main Office Design Quality Assurance Bureau will insert the standard specification shelf note beginning with projects submitted for the letting of 09/07/06.
- Orange Type IX sheeting is acceptable for use on construction signs on any on-going contract at no additional cost to the State. The Engineer-in-Charge should file a copy of this EI as documentation of a change in accordance with Contract Administration Manual §104-02VI.

TRANSMITTED MATERIALS:

This EI transmits standard specification shelf note *Type IX Sign Sheeting For Construction Signs*.

BACKGROUND: A Sign Sheeting Demonstration Project was conducted, comparing various sign sheeting types used for orange construction signs. ASTM Types VIII and IX sheeting were promoted as having a wider retroreflective angularity which enables signs to be more visible and conspicuous, as well as free of blotchy appearance typical of ASTM Type VII Sheeting.

As a result of the project, the Department concluded that ASTM Type IX sign sheeting has improved visibility and legibility when compared to other sign sheeting and should be specified for Department contracts.

CONTACT: Direct questions regarding this issuance to Thomas Melander of the Office of Construction at (518) 457-6472 or via e-mail at TMelander@dot.state.ny.us.

TYPE IX SIGN SHEETING FOR CONSTRUCTION SIGNS

Make the following revisions to Volume 2 of 3 of the Standard Specifications of 2002:
Page 6-82, §619-2.02 **Delete** lines 8-11 and **Replace** it with the following:

Orange signs on rigid panels shall use fluorescent-orange Class D or ASTM Type IX sheeting.

Effective with projects let beginning on January 1, 2007, for nighttime operations and freeways with a preconstruction posted speed limit of 65 MPH, orange signs on rigid panels shall be fluorescent-orange ASTM Type IX sheeting.

Effective with projects let beginning on January 1, 2008, for freeways and other expressways with a preconstruction posted speed limit of 55 MPH, orange signs on rigid panels shall be fluorescent-orange ASTM Type IX sheeting.

Effective with projects let beginning on January 1, 2009, all orange signs on rigid panels shall be fluorescent-orange ASTM Type IX sheeting.

Make the following revisions to Volume 2 of 3 of the Standard Specifications of 2002:
Page 6-94, §619-3.02 **Delete** lines 11-35 and **Replace** it with the following:

On limited access highways, when the preconstruction posted speed limit is 50 MPH and higher, the Contractor shall have available at the contract site, sufficient BE PREPARED TO STOP (W8-41) signs, to inform oncoming traffic of stopped or very slow traffic conditions. Signs shall be placed, moved, covered, maintained and removed as necessary. Each sign shall be mounted on a temporary sign support, and each shall be equipped with a pair of warning flags conforming to the requirements of the MUTCD. Both sides of the approach shall be signed unless the median is too narrow, or if there are fewer than three lanes in the approach.

The sign shall be posted approximately 450 m upstream of the end of the queue, and when the end of the queue moves, the sign shall also be moved to maintain that spacing. If the resulting location places the sign upstream of the first warning sign for the project, the Contractor shall also furnish and place an appropriate general work zone sign. The ROAD WORK (W8-1) sign shall be placed approximately 300 m in advance of the BE PREPARED TO STOP (W8-41) sign.

Whenever a reduced speed limit for a highway work area has been legally established, the SPEED LIMIT (R2 Series) signs and, if used, the SPEED ZONE AHEAD (R2-10) or REDUCED SPEED AHEAD (R2-12) signs for reduced speed shall be supplemented by a WORK ZONE (W8-45) panel. The work zone panel shall be the same width as the speed limit sign it supplements and shall be placed on the same posts and immediately above the speed limit sign.