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TO:

SUPERSEDED BY EI 88-031 EFFECTIVE 8/30/88

ENGINEERING INSTRUCTION

NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

SUBJECT: BRIDGE DESIGN MANUAL
STANDARD SPECIFICATIONS FOR
HIGHWAY BRIDGES

Subject Code: 7.35-1-.7.43(D)

Distribution: ☐ Main Office ☐ Regions ☒ Special

Code: EI 82-45

Date: July 6, 1982

Supersedes:

APPROVED: E. V. Hourigan

E. V. Hourigan, Deputy Chief Engineer (Structures)

All stiffener and connection plates shall be detailed for a minimum thickness of 3/8 inch. Greater thickness shall be used when required by the bridge design.

Make the change from a minimum thickness of 5/16 inch to 3/8 inch in Section 1.7.43(D)(2) of the Standard Specifications for Highway Bridges upon receipt of this instruction, and review all work being done under your direction to assure conformance with this requirement. Page NY 178 of the Standard Specifications will be revised to reflect this change at the time of the next general revision of the Specifications.

This change was made because of extensive cracking of minimum thickness intermediate stiffeners at the completion of automatic welding on a recent bridge. This cracking will not occur when a minimum thickness of 3/8 inch is used for stiffeners and connection plates. The minimum thickness is required to absorb the heat at the same time. The efficiency of fabrication allowed by automatic welding results in a far greater saving than the very small extra cost of the additional material in the thicker plates.

This Engineering Instruction shall be distributed to those holding copies of the Standard Specifications for Highway Bridges.