Construction Signs Question and Answer

Posted: 07/02/2007

Question:
What are proper Type A Sign Supports for construction signs?

Answer:
Type A construction sign supports must meet the manufacturer’s requirements for proper post size, number of posts and post installation for the square area of sign and wind loads (Standard Specification 619-3.02(A). Manufacturer requirements are documented on Type A Sign Support Standard Sheets.

Conclusion:
Proper construction sign supports ensure signs remain in the proper orientation to be easily recognized and understood by road users and are not a road side hazard. Construction signs convey important information to motorists of regulation, warning or direction needed for a safe work site and the safe travel of the public. Signs are designed to have specific shapes, colors, graphics/words, retroreflectivity, and are mounted at right angles to the direction of, and facing, the traffic they are intended to serve and located where they are easily recognized and understood by road users.

References:

Type A Sign Support Standard Sheets are available on the internet at the following address: https://www.nysdot.gov/portal/page/portal/divisions/engineering/technical-services/technical-services-repository/alme/pages/910-1.html

NYS DOT Standard Specification §730-24

TYPE A SIGN SUPPORTS SCOPE
This specification covers the material and fabrication requirements for breakaway supports used for roadside signs.

MATERIAL, FABRICATION AND PERFORMANCE REQUIREMENTS
Post material, fabrication and performance requirements shall be in accordance with the standard sheets, the appropriate Materials Details and the procedural directives of the Materials Bureau.

BASIS OF ACCEPTANCE
Type A Sign Supports shown on the standard sheets shall be accepted based on the manufacturer's certification that its product conforms to these specifications and the appropriate standard sheets.

All other Type A Sign Supports will be accepted on the basis of their listing on the Department's Approved List of Type A Sign Supports. In addition, the manufacturer or supplier shall provide two copies of the approved Materials Details through the Contractor to the Engineer as part of the evidence of acceptability for the material at least ten days prior to the use of the product.
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Question:
Where does it say that you cannot use plywood to cover construction signs?

Answer:
Department Specification stipulates construction sign covers are high quality opaque, porous, windproof fabric dark green, brown or black in color and shall not contain any wording or images, which is secured firmly to prevent dislodging and shall be maintained in good condition to present a neat appearance and minimize distraction to motorists traveling through the work zone.

References:
Standard Specification §619-2.02 - "Construction Signs, Other Signs and Sign Covers" - Covers used to inactivate unneeded signs shall match the size and shape of the sign and shall cover the entire sign face. More than one layer of fabric may be required to prevent legibility of the sign legend to be covered. The covers shall be heavy duty, opaque material and dark green, brown or black in color.

Standard Specification §619-3.02 - "Construction Signs, Other Signs and Sign Covers" - All signs shall indicate actual conditions, and shall be removed and/or relocated, or changed immediately as required in the contract documents and as directed by the Engineer...If signs are temporarily covered, the cover shall be attached in a manner that completely covers the face of the sign...Sign covers shall be secured firmly to prevent dislodging and shall be maintained in good condition to present a neat appearance and minimize distraction to motorists traveling through the work zone...Sign covers shall contain no wording or images.

Standard Specification §645-2.02 - "Sign Covering Material" Material used to cover signs shall be of a high quality opaque, porous, windproof fabric as approved by the Engineer...The covering material shall be a single neutral color, except orange or yellow, and shall not contain any wording or images.

Standard Specification §645-3.17 - "Covering of Signs" - Signs shall be covered where indicated on the plans and/or directed by the Engineer to eliminate noncurrent, conflicting, or unneeded information...The cover shall remain in place until the time directed by the Engineer.

Standard Specification §645-5.04 - "Covering Sign Panels" - Covering construction signs will be paid under the item for Construction Signs. (§619-4.02 - "Construction Signs" - Payment for signs will be made on a lump sum basis.)