



Florida Department of Transportation

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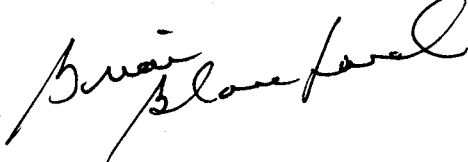
STEPHANIE C. KOPELOUSOS
SECRETARY

August 21, 2007

This Memo Has Expired

DCE MEMORANDUM NO. 16-07
(FHWA Approved: 8-21-07)

TO: DISTRICT CONSTRUCTION ENGINEERS

FROM: Brian Blanchard, Director, Office of Construction 

COPIES: David Sadler, Stefanie Maxwell, Cheryl Adams, Chris Richter (FHWA), Leslie McCarthy (FHWA), Greg Williams (FHWA), Bob Bursleson (FTBA)

SUBJECT: INITIAL RETROREFLECTIVITY FOR THERMOPLASTIC

This memo is issued to provide guidance for field personnel when inspecting thermoplastic on construction contracts.

During the evaluation of new thermoplastic products, it has been determined that retroreflectivity increases over time, when installed properly. Therefore, it may take a few weeks for the new thermoplastic to attain the initial retroreflectivity requirements in the Specifications. The retroreflectivity values in the Specifications are not intended to be interpreted as values which must be met on the day of installation. Specification 711-4.3 does not specify when the Contractor is to take the initial retroreflectivity readings or submit them to the Department, thereby giving the Contractor leeway when to do this which means it could occur after Final Acceptance.

Do not hold up granting Final Acceptance because the Contractor has not submitted initial retroreflectivity readings. However, the initial retroreflectivity readings shall be submitted within 30 days after placement of the thermoplastic striping. If initial reflectivity readings fail, treat this as a Latent Defect that will be required to be corrected by the Contractor.

The Contractor shall not be paid for the thermoplastic until both the certified quantities and retroreflectivity certification have been accepted by the Department.

If you have any questions, please contact Stefanie Maxwell at (850) 414-4314.

BB/smw