



Florida Department of Transportation

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MIKE DEW
SECRETARY

September 25, 2018

DCE MEMORANDUM NO. 18-18

(FHWA Approved: 9/25/2018)

TO: DISTRICT CONSTRUCTION ENGINEERS

FROM: David A. Sadler, P.E., Director, Office of Construction

COPIES: Bob Burleson, Ananth Prasad, Brian Blanchard, Courtney Drummond, Tim Lattner, Amy Tootle, Stefanie Maxwell, Rafiq Darji, Nick Finch

SUBJECT: SPECIFICATION 544

With the release of the January 2019 Standard Specifications the Department has revised **Specification 544, Crash Cushions** to require systems listed on the Approved Product List (APL) to demonstrate compliance with the AASHTO Manual for Assessing Safety Hardware (MASH). The roll out of this specification change was intended to be supported by a similar product line as traditionally available on the APL (i.e., products of similar length and width as NCHRP 350 compliant systems). However, it is possible that project requirements may require a crash cushion system that is not represented on the APL for projects let after December 31, 2018 (e.g., Length Restrictions or Hazard Width Requirements may not be obtainable with a currently available MASH system).

Due to the product limitations described above, any project where the system requirements necessitate a crash cushion length or width as MASH compliant that is not available on the APL may use a NCHRP 350 device on the APL with approval from Central Office. Submit project specific approval requests within 60 days of product installation via email to Daniel Strickland (daniel.strickland@dot.state.fl.us) and Derwood Sheppard (derwood.sheppard@dot.state.fl.us). Provide the following information with the approval request:

- Financial Project ID Number and Contract Number
- Anticipated Date of Installation
- Number of Crash Cushions Affected
- Approximate Station and Offset Locations
- Summary of Permanent Crash Cushions Table
- Plan View Details at the Affected Locations

For all locations where a MASH system meets the project requirements and is available on the APL, that system shall be used.

Additionally, this memorandum serves as a blanket approval to process a \$0.00 contract change. Attach this memorandum and the Central Office product approval to the Work Order or Supplemental Agreement.

Should you have any questions, please contact Daniel Strickland at 850-414-4352 or Derwood Sheppard at 850-414-4334.