

Florida DOT Pipe Advisory Group

Meeting Minutes - March 16, 2010

Attendees

Bielski, Ben - Metal Culverts, Inc.	Larson, Bruce - ISCO Industries
Blanchard, Brian - FDOT	Lattner, Tim - FDOT
Blastic, Paul - Snap Tite	Lepley, Donald - Hanson
Bohn, Greg - ADS	Malerk, Tom - FDOT-SMO
Botts, Jerry - Botts Consulting Group, LLC	McGrath, Tim - SGH
Burnette, Bill - Contech	Parades, Mario - FDOT
Burns, Rick - Botts Consulting	Park, Jim - ADS
DeJesus, Angel - Hanson	Pennington, Dale - Metal Culverts, Inc.
Heimann, Thomas - FDOT-SMO	Pickett, Jim - Quality Culvert
Hite, Jeff - Cemex	Pluimer, Michael - PPI
Hogan, Al - ACPA	Sadler, David - FDOT
Holdener, Doug - Cemex	Sickels, Jon - ADS
Hsuan, Grace - Drexel University	Simmons, Ron - FDOT-SMO
James, Justin - Contech	Steinmann, Paul - FDOT
Kanzlenar, John - Contech	Toliver, Tim - Advanced Pipe Systems
Kerr, Bob - ISCO Industries	Tone, William - Tone Marketing
Kessler, Richard - FDOT-SMO	Tyner, Carl - Quality Culvert
Kurdziel, John - ADS	Wetzel, Bridgett - FDOT-SMO
Langley, Robert - FDOT-SMO	Rick Renna - FDOT

- *Welcome from Chief Engineer Brian Blanchard*

Mr. Blanchard presented an overview of DOT's fiscal status, mentioning possible legislative sweeps of DOT's trust funds to help balance Florida's sagging budget. He stated that a second Federal government stimulus looks like it will not occur. Mr.

Blanchard encouraged ongoing open discussions with stakeholders such as is practiced at the PAG meeting

- *Construction Issues*

- Statewide Resilient Connectors (Rick Renna) – resilient connectors are being considered for statewide usage as the primary method for connection of drainage pipes to drainage structures. Standards, specifications, and guidance will be developed to target entrance angle limitations, size limitations, and other design and implementation concerns. A statewide task team will be created with the PITG involved to represent pipe types
- Laser Ring Inspection Improvements (Paul Steinman) – Reports will be standardized in 2010 to provide consistency for contractors and CEI. Larry mentioned that the laser ring specification will be changed to narrow equipment variability and improve measurement repeatability. Training for CEI and operators will be developed; FDOT is rejecting some reports due to lack of clarity. The Department is planning field verification via independent lab or at the SMO. DOT is purchasing laser ring for QA. Cool vision has sent in a protocol for calibration; FDOT is waiting for others to do the same.
- Pipe Repair Matrix (Paul Steinman) – The pipe repair matrix was rolled out in February. It is not an excuse for improper installation; engineering judgment is still required when selecting pipe repair methods. Paul noted that pipe manufacturers' representatives are not always using the matrix or using it correctly when recommending pipe repair solutions to contractors. Use the matrix document to avoid wasteful, repetitive rejection of repair methods. The Department will add to matrix as new methods become available. URL for matrix is below:
<http://www.dot.state.fl.us/construction/ContractorIssues/PipeMatrix/MatrixMain.shtm>
- Pipe Joint Design Details (Paul Steinman) – please send pipe joint designs to the SMO; this is required in the Specifications.
- Field deflection Creep Data (Rick Renna) – no data has been obtained yet. Dave Sadler asked district constructions again for data two weeks ago. We will continue to seek field data on pipe deflection creep shortly after installation.
- Other Construction Issues (Paul Steinman)
 - 100% vs. 95% SPD for pipe backfill – Past concerns with differential settlement between RCP and the surrounding pavement led to the higher requirements for RCP; this historical assumption needs to be justified. Also, will the compaction effort of achieving 100% SPD cause injury to flexible pipe?
 - Sediment must be removed so we can see the full joint – every joint, the entire joint, is to be videoed by panning the joint. The Department is rejecting video inspections that do not have a clear view of the entire joint.
 - Reminder - Gutter drain joints are now at the water tight joint requirement of 5 psi.

- *Status of HDPE Pipe Protocol*

- Error in OIT Calculations (Rick Renna) - The Department made an error in the target service temperature that will result in a revised target time for the Class II HDPE OIT testing. An e-mail from Rick Renna outlining the Department's response to this error and reports explaining the accompanying technical issues was distributed to PAG members and is attached below:



Changes in
Antioxidant Testing fr

Angel DeJesus, FCPI, and Bill Burnette, Contech, among others, expressed concern that the Department was compromising its level of safety with HDPE pipe and suggested that we discontinue 100-year usage until this issues is resolved. Rick Renna responded by citing the significant conservatisms remaining as discussed in the above document, saying that the Department has an obligation to offer recourse to industries when a change in specification, especially when caused by a Department error, requires them to revamp or re-test their product.

- Status of HDPE Pipe Final Protocol Research (Mario Paredes) – Final report from Dr. Hsuan is under review and will be released April 19th. A round robin on the long term modulus testing will be engaged in May with final protocol ready in August.

- *Pipe Research Projects & Initiatives (Rick Renna)*

- NCHRP 20-07(264) – moving along slowly
- NCHRP 14-19 – moving along slowly
- Joint AASHTO Task Force on Pipe Issues – first teleconference will be in April
- Autogenous Healing Research Project is in the literature review stage. Progress reports are posted at <http://www.dot.state.fl.us/rddesign/dr/Advisory-Groups.shtm>.
- Pipe Time Dependent Creep Research Project had open house this morning. Progress reports are posted at <http://www.dot.state.fl.us/rddesign/dr/Advisory-Groups.shtm>.

Meeting adjourned at 3 pm