

1050410 CONTRACTOR QUALITY CONTROL GENERAL REQUIREMENTS
COMMENTS FROM INTERNAL/INDUSTRY REVIEW

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Alan McMillan
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Comments: (5-31-18)

The statement as written could be construed as precluding items not specifically part of the production process or final product. This would include materials, documentation, personnel certification, etc. Ironically, an inspector from the office of Materials and Research inspecting a precast concrete facility might not have the authority to review things like reinforcing steel or grout. Additionally, including the word "the" before "Department inspectors" and "inspections" is clunky and unnecessary. Ideally, the sentence would end with the word "inspections" but, failing that, the following might suffice: "Include a statement in the Quality Control Plan allowing Department inspectors access to the production facility to perform inspections in accordance with the Specifications and Contract Documents."

Response:

Blake Stallworth
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Comments: (6-8-18)

Concern regarding removing the photo and video language prior to adding it elsewhere. What written documentation will provide FDOT inspectors the authority to take photos and videos for documentation purposes during inspections. However, I understand industry has concerns regarding the current language requiring them to add a statement to their QCPs. Thus, I recommend taking out requirement for producers to add language to their QCP and just make a statement in the specification itself allowing photographs and video for documentation purposes by inspectors. Or, at the very least, concurrently provide writing somewhere (i.e. Materials Manual 5.6) allowing the department authority to take photographs or video.

Response:

Heather Gilmer
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Comments: (6-21-18)

Requiring "access" but not explicitly defining the right for inspectors to take photos means that the fabricators can prohibit the inspectors from taking photos. This will greatly inhibit the ability of inspectors to document shop issues and to communicate these issues to FDOT. It is fair to permit the fabricator to place certain limits on photos such as avoiding personnel or equipment,

blurring out when necessary, but this amounts to permitting fabricators to prohibit photography entirely and I do not think this is in FDOT's best interest.

Response:

Steve Duke
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Comments: (6-25-18)

This is totally absurd and should be immediately withdrawn for further consideration. I see no reason why we should give up this very important tool for our inspections and see no reason as to why this change was even needed or wanted by FDOT.

Response:

Tim McCullough
352-955-6681
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Comments: (6-25-18)

Specification 105 is the most important language in the all of the Construction Specifications. If you want to remove this language, every section of the materials manual should have it written prior to its removal from 105. Further, a bulletin should go out to keep the language and interpretation clear. The main reason to photograph is to record for the protective interest of Florida. Lastly, these photos have allowed our Engineers to make the best and most informed decision possible. It greatly improves the risk assessment made by the Department. It should remain in the Construction Specification and I recommend rejecting the entire language change.

Response:

Jamie Hilton
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Comments: (6-25-18)

The proposed changes are not acceptable. As third party QA working for the FDOT, being able to take photographs has become a valuable and necessary component of our daily documentation. Including photos in the daily inspection report enhances the communication. We are the eyes and ears of the Department, and why wouldn't the Department want to "see" what we are seeing? Our product is our report, and the better we can document and report to the Department, the better the information is communicated. We need to be able to take photos without seeking approval from the fabricator/contractor each time we take a photo. Too much time can be wasted tracking down the appropriate parties to seek permission when we could be using the time effectively for inspection.

Response:

Ivan Lasa
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Comments: (6-25-18)

Recommend including the language limiting the photo documentation to pre-manufactured concrete products only as it seems that it is the intent. Eliminating the ability to document with photographs all types of production will negatively affect QA on other industries. Especially those that have contracted personnel on site and rely of this type of documentation to update FDOT management.

Response:

Ray Monson
727-421-5283
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Comments: (6-25-18)

The ability of the inspectors on behalf of FDOT to document by photographs, the project progress and the nature of any deficiencies is critical to the Department's Quality Assurance role. That ability should remain explicitly stated in the Specification.

Response:

Linda Houk
352-339-0097
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Comments: (6-26-18)

It is vital to inspection documentation for third party inspectors under contract with FDOT and FDOT inspectors to take pictures and recordings for FDOT. Pictures and recordings should not include individuals' pictures, nor any fabricator proprietary processes. Defective fabrication and corrections need to be documented with pictures. Many times the project personnel at the job site depend on pictures of the fabrication process for jobsite installation. Language needs to be in the FDOT Specification to allow inspectors full access to the fabrication process.

Response:

Doug Yates
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Comments: (6-26-18)

As a Senior Quality Assurance Inspector for this and other state DOTs on structural steel bridges and sign structures, the ability to photograph the project status, and in particular any deficiencies, without the fabricator having the ability to suppress or censor the findings is essential to QA being able to accurately report our findings. The ability of your hired and assigned QA to freely see and document findings is central to their ability to perform their service. It is my personal belief and experience that there are fabricator managements that would abuse and unnecessarily restrict the use of photography to document their shortcomings. This would be a BAD idea!

Response:

Ed Moore
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Comments: (6-26-18)

Digital photography is a "must have" part of fabrications, field inspections, communication between inspectors and owners, CEIs, engineering groups, et al, who need to be made aware of certain situations (critical and otherwise). The Digital Inspection as well as the use of electronic devices, involves true QC apps and programs, which is completed on ipads, cell phones and other electronic devices, which improves the time necessary to address NCRs and RFIs My vote is NOT to make these crucial changes because of their importance as well as the possible elimination of digital and/or electronic devices access by all involved.

Response:

James Tucker
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Comments: (6-26-18)

For the proposed memorandum of spec. 105410, I think it is important to keep the ability for pictures and digital documentation. It is a way of providing a visual record for the quality of products throughout the fabrication process. In the event of non-conformances and areas of steel fabrication regarding rejection a visual/digital records to reference if there is structural failure or quality issues noted at a later date. Pictures cannot be refuted especially when included into an inspectors daily report.

Response:

Anonymous

Comments: (6-26-18)

Not allowing the inspector the ability to document items and areas deemed important whether to provide proof of compliance or of non-compliance would severely handicap the inspection

process. Images are of vital importance to illustrate the work performed daily in both shop and field. Pictures assist in documenting the events of fabrication for future review and analysis removing them from the daily inspection process would be irresponsible.

Response:

Anonymous 2

Comments: (6-26-18)

From a CEI perspective, it is not a good idea to take away the current explicit right of the Department to take pictures, videos, etc. We have seen more fabrication issues of late, and this could lead to additional issues.

Response:

Glenn Peterson
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Comments: (6-26-18)

This proposed revision eviscerates the Departments representatives ability to do their job and to document the manufacturing processes. some wise dude along time ago said that a picture is worth a thousand words. The Department representatives need to be able to photograph and or video production processes.

Response:

Jimmy Brewer
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Comments: (6-27-18)

Recommend to leave the 1050410 as is. Taking this out may be restricting the ability take pictures of misfit, incorrect welding performed, reject able welds, damage from handling or anything else that would make the product unacceptable. Proof of issues in question when it is the inspectors word vs many individuals in a shop setting or at a job site that will be that would be an on-going problem when a fabricator or contractor continues to move forward with work without corrections. There are hold points on structures that cannot or rather should not move forward without repairs or corrections made. The right to photograph or video an issue for a customer or as a means of recording and record keeping a specific issues location or orientation by the representative QA should be somewhere as a customer requirement as needed.

Response:

Rex Wright
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Comments: (6-27-18)

Taking digital photos of production welding is a very accurate way of documenting the work and it can cover the fabricator as well, before shipment to the job site. Most shops that I have been in do not have any problem with photos.

Response:

Greg Richards
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Comments: (6-27-18)

The use of photographs are a good way to document non conforming items and to document the correction process. This is a common practice in all states. Remember the FDOT is the owner and the work is per their specification and should be documented to verify conformance.

Response:

Ronald Burgess
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Comments: (6-28-18)

The proposed change to Specification "1050410 Contractor Quality Control General Requirements" does not provide adequate material or activity documentation of the production activities for the Department. Photographic documentation provides the Department with an exact duplication of the material condition or activity being performed at that moment in time. This critical piece of data enables the Department the ability to make examination review and analysis of a specific inspection, component or activity with respect to meeting Department specifications, Codes or contract documents. With out photographic documentation the Department limits its ability to analyze the condition of materials and activities to only narrative information. Using only this as its only form of documentation of Oversight and Inspection, the Departments Inspection Representative is severely limited in documenting Oversight and Inspection Activities of production facilities producing products to specifications, codes and contract documents for the Department.

Response:

Philip Dzikowski
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Craig Cavins
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Comments: (6-28-18)

The right to use photographic images during inspections is a critical tool in performing the commercial inspection services required by FDOT specifications. Photographs help record and track material traceability issues, fabrication nonconformances (NCRs) and repairs, member/bridge line assemblies, coating operations, and numerous other aspects of the welding and fabrication processes. We have often found as well that having photographs helps relay information more effectively to Engineers of Record and to Construction Engineering & Inspection personnel. This helps speed up the decision making process on items such as NCRs. If producers are concerned about processes, then just remove “process” from the section. If the right to photograph or digitally record is removed, it should not be removed before it is added to the respective Sections of the Materials Manual, else the State potentially immediately loses their right to photograph.

Response:
