



*Florida Department of Transportation*

RON DESANTIS  
GOVERNOR

605 Suwannee Street  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0450

JARED W. PERDUE, P.E.  
SECRETARY

August 21, 2026

Daniel Holt, PE, PTOE  
Director, Project Delivery  
Director, Technical Services  
FHWA  
400 West Washington Street, Suite 4200  
Orlando, FL 32801

Re: State Specifications Office  
Section: 635  
Proposed Specification: **6350300 Pull Boxes, Splice Boxes, Junction Boxes, and Fiber Optic Splice Vaults**

Dear Mr. Holt:

We are submitting, for your approval, two copies of the above referenced Supplemental Specification.

The changes are proposed by Ronald Meyer to clarify that box ID plates must be installed per the box manufacturer's instructions, clarify that the Engineer must be notified if the Contractor encounters unsuitable installation locations, and remove requirements for cable installation which is covered in Section 633.

Please review and transmit your comments, if any, within two weeks (10 business days). Comments should be sent via email [daniel.strickland@dot.state.fl.us](mailto:daniel.strickland@dot.state.fl.us).

If you have any questions relating to this specification change, please call me at (850) 414-4130.

Sincerely,

Signature on File

Daniel Strickland, P.E.  
State Specifications Engineer

DS/jb  
Attachment

cc: Florida Transportation Builders' Assoc.  
State Construction Engineer

## **PULL BOXES, SPLICE BOXES, JUNCTION BOXES, AND FIBER OPTIC SPLICE VAULTS**

**(REV 8-18-26)**

ARTICLE 635-3 is deleted and the following substituted:

### **635-3 Installation.**

**635-3.1 General:** Do not install power and communication cables in the same box unless otherwise shown in the Plans. When signal or 120 volt (or greater) power is present, ground all metal covers in accordance with Section 620. Ensure metal junction boxes are grounded and bonded in accordance with the NEC Section 314.4.

Covers must be flush with the concrete apron or sidewalk. If identification plates are used on covers, install them in accordance with the box manufacturer's instructions. Ensure that boxes, concrete aprons, and adjacent or surrounding maintenance service slabs are level. Ensure fill surrounding boxes and underneath concrete is shaped and compacted with suitable equipment to a firm, uniform, smooth, even surface that is free of debris and irregularities. Stabilize surrounding areas and final grade with turf to prevent erosion. Do not install boxes in roadways, driveways, parking areas, public sidewalk curb ramps, transition slopes, within identified drainage features, or in low-lying locations with poor drainage and notify the Engineer of any unsuitable locations encountered. ~~Do not subject the cable to a bend radius less than 14 times the diameter of the cable.~~ Ensure boxes are properly sized. Neatly route wires and cables within boxes. Neatly hang slack coils on cable support hooks if present, otherwise, neatly place slack coils in the bottom portion of the box. Do not force or bend wires or cables beyond the minimum bending radius indicated by the cable manufacturer. Ensure the box lid does not bend, compress, or crimp wires or cables.

**635-3.1.1 Placement and Spacing:** Place fiber optic splice vaults or toll site pull boxes as shown in the Plans. Place pull boxes or splice boxes as shown in the Plans and at the following locations:

1. At all major fiber optic cable and conduit junctions.
2. Approximately every 2,500 feet for fiber optic cable applications in rural areas with any continuous section of straight conduit if no fiber optic cable splice is required.
3. At a maximum of 1,760 feet for fiber optic cable applications in metropolitan areas.
4. At a maximum of 500 feet for electrical applications.
5. At each end of a tunnel, and on each side of a river or lake crossing.
6. On each side of an aboveground conduit installation, such as an attachment to a bridge or wall.
7. As required for bends in the conduit per Section 630.
8. Near the base of a service pole or communication cabinet to provide:
  - a. A transition point between the fiber optic conduits extending from the fiber backbone and the conduit feeding the communication cabinet.
  - b. An assist point for the installation of fiber optic drop cable.
  - c. Storage of slack fiber optic drop cable.

**635-3.1.2 Electronic Box Marker:** Use an electronic box marker to mark the location of products buried below the finish grade surface. Ensure that the electronic box marker

is a device specifically manufactured to electronically mark and locate underground facilities. Ensure that the electronic box marker includes circuitry and an antenna encased in a waterproof polyethylene shell. Ensure that the outer shell is impervious to minerals, chemicals, and temperature extremes normally found in underground plant environments. Ensure that the electronic box marker does not require any batteries or active components to operate. Ensure that electronic box markers used to mark fiber optic cable and general telecom applications are orange in color and operate at 101.4 kHz. Ensure that the electronic box marker's passive circuits produce an RF field when excited by a marker locator to direct the locator to the marker's position. Ensure that the electronic box marker has a minimum operating range of 5 feet from the marker locator.

**635-3.2 Pull and Splice Boxes:** Install pull and splice boxes in accordance with Standard Plans, Index 635-001.

**635-3.3 Fiber Optic Splice Vaults:** Install fiber optic vaults in accordance with Standard Plans, Index 635-005.

**635-3.4 Toll Site Pull Boxes:** Install at locations shown in the Plans, according to the pull box installation instructions in this Section, except that toll site pull boxes may be installed in the maintenance pull off area.

**635-3.5 Aerial Junction Boxes:** Install aerial junction boxes in accordance with Standard Plans, Index 634-002.

**635-3.6 Mounted Junction Boxes:** Install mounted junction boxes in accordance with Standard Plans, Index 676-010. Ensure that the bottom surface of pole mounted junction boxes is a minimum of 4 feet above the finished grade.

**635-3.7 Cable Terminations:** Make cable terminations in junction boxes in accordance with Section 632. Route and form the cable to allow access to the terminal screws. Do not cover the terminal identification numbers with the cable.

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