

Specification Section 994

Subarticle 994-2, etc.

ORIGINATION

Date: 6-25-24

Name: Awilda Merced

Email: awilda.merced@dot.state.fl.us

COMMENTARY

To reorganize requirements into more appropriate section based on industry recommendations and internal discussions. To specify requirements applicable to non-reflective sheeting. Stated what materials are requiring rotational sensitivity testing.

INDUSTRY COMMENTS AND RESPONSES

(Please note all comments and responses are verbatim as received. The Specifications Office does not alter typos or grammar.)

BLACK = Comment **BLUE** = Specifications Response **GREEN** = Change Made to Specification

Name: Manuel Dominguez

Date: 9-12-24

COMMENT: Suggested change: Digital print systems shall include a digital printer, with appropriate software and drivers, flexible white or colored prismatic retroreflective sheeting with colorless overlay in accordance with the recommendation of the sheeting manufacturer. For all digital print systems, the Department will list the ink, base sheeting, and clear overlay on the APL. Delete:, in addition to the printer. Reasoning: It is not uncommon for digital printing inks to be qualified for use in different digital printers. Regardless of potential differences in printheads, software, curing configuration, or other characteristics of the hardware itself, the goal is to provide consistent Traffic Color output across these digital printing platforms in terms of color, retroreflectivity and durability. Since it is the printed Traffic Color output, which is tested in the qualification process, the specific printer platform which generated the Traffic Colors is essentially irrelevant. This approach is currently utilized by 3M in the 'European Technical Assessment' ETA process under the EU Construction product regulation. Different printer models using 3M 8900UV ink series are combined in one CE certificate. In other words, if two printers use the same ink, they can be qualified together.

RESPONSE: The Department requires the manufacturers to submit samples using the printers to be qualified. The annotation in the APL is a guidance for sign fabricators to use a qualified printer based on the performance of the system when tested per FDOT Spec 994. By performing test on these, the Department will ensure that changing the printer is not going to affect the final product.

ACTION TAKEN: The Department will leave the language as submitted. No changes will be made at this time.