Florida Department of Transportation

JEB BUSH
GOVERNOR

605 Suwannee Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0450

JOSÉ ABREU
SECRETARY

May 24, 2005

MEMORANDUM

TO: District Structures Design Engineers
(Gerard Moliere, Rod Nelson, Keith Shores, John Danielsen, Neil Kenis, Kim Saing, Jose Rodriguez, Agnes Spielmann)
District Geotechnical Engineers/Coordinators
(Terry Puckett, Chandra Samakur, Sam Weede, Juan Castellanos, Kathy Gray, Wing Heung, Scott Arnold)
District Directors of Production
(Chris Smith, Larry Parks, Tommy Barfield, Gerry O'Reilly, Noranne Downs, Javier Rodriguez, Donald Skelton, Nancy Clements)
District Construction Engineers
(Jon Sands, Tim Ruelke, Steve Benak, Jennifer Olson, Frank O'Dea, Mark Croft, Brain McKishnie, William Sears)

FROM: FOR William N. Nickas, State Structures Design Engineer
FOR Ananth Prasad, State Construction Engineer

COPIES: Bob Greer, Brian Blanchard, Robert Robertson, David O'Hagan, David Sadler, Clay McGonagill

SUBJECT: **Temporary Design Bulletin C05-05**
DCE Memorandum No. 12-05
Retaining Wall Systems Interim Standards Index Nos. 5040, 5045, 5110 and 5140

REQUIREMENTS

For projects let between June 1, 2005 and January 31, 2006, the Permanent Retaining Wall Systems shown in Interim Standard Index Nos. 5040 & 5045, and the Temporary Retaining Wall System shown in Interim Standard Index Nos. 5110 & 5140 may be submitted by the Contractor for project specific approval, provided the following criteria are met:

1. Interim Standard Index Nos. 5040 (Hilfiker Square Panel) or 5045 (T&B Square Panel) may be utilized when the site conditions qualify these wall systems in accordance with Exhibit 30-A of the Plans Preparation Manual (Volume I) and all project specific aesthetic requirements can be met;

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2. Interim Standard Index No. 5140 (Hilfiker Temporary Wire Wall) and 5110 (T&B Gabion Wire Wall) may be utilized when any temporary MSE retaining wall system is depicted in the plans at a designated location.

Furthermore, Interim Standard Index No. 5110 may also be utilized on projects with letting dates after January 18, 2005 when the above criteria are met and the shop drawing submittal is accompanied with the attached letter dated January 18, 2005 from Mr. Bob Greer to T & B Structural Systems, Inc., allowing use of T&B's Gabion Wire Wall.

Shop drawings must be submitted for approval in accordance with the usual requirements of Interim Standard Index No. 5000 and Section 5 of the Specifications.

Interim Standard Indexes may be viewed or downloaded from the Roadway Design Office website at the following URL:
www.dot.state.fl.us/rddesign/Design%20Standards/Standards.htm

BACKGROUND

Due to patent irregularities between T & B Structural Systems, Inc. and Hilfiker Retaining Wall Systems, the wall systems provided by the combined efforts of these companies under Design Standard Index Nos. 5021 and 5120 where discontinued from use subsequent to the October 2003 letting. Refer to Temporary Design Bulletin C03-11 and Construction Memorandum No. 27-03 for additional background information.

The T&B's Gabion Wire Wall is a temporary retaining wall system that was approved for use on FDOT projects under Interim Standard Index No. 5110 and was implemented on FDOT projects by the Design Standards Modifications effective July 1, 2005. T&B's permanent wall system and both of Hilfiker's permanent and temporary wall systems will be listed in the Design Standards Modifications effective January 1, 2006. The Design Standards Modifications are posted 6 months prior to the effective letting dates to allow designers the opportunity make necessary changes to the Contract Plans.

COMMENTARY

Resolution of the patent irregularities between these T & B Structural Systems, Inc. and Hilfiker Retaining Wall Systems has resulted in the development of separate retaining wall systems by each of these vendors.

IMPLEMENTATION

Interim Standard Index No. 5110 should be considered an approved retaining wall systems for all FDOT projects effective for lettings after January 18, 2005. Interim Standard Index Nos. 5040, 5045 and 5140 should be considered approved retaining wall systems for all FDOT projects effective for lettings after June 1, 2005. If a Contractor chooses to consider the use of these retaining wall systems, then the EOR for the wall

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control drawings in the Contract Plans will need to evaluate if these retaining wall systems are appropriate for the designated location, prior to submission of any shop drawings. At the sole option of the Department, a $0.00 Change Order may be issued to add the Contractor's proposed wall system to the Contract. No other Contract adjustment is necessary for the implementation of this requirement.

Interim Standard Index No. 5110 was included in the July 2005 Design Standards Modifications and Interim Standard Index Nos. 5040, 5045 and 5140 will be included in the January 2006 Design Standards Modifications. FDOT projects beginning with the January 2006 letting will not require additional consideration after this time since all appropriate wall systems should be listed in the Contract Plans.

This Temporary Design Bulletin/DCE Memorandum will expire on January 30, 2006.

CONTACT

Steven J. Nolan, PE
Structures Design Engineer
(850) 414-4272
steven.nolan@dot.state.fl.us

WNN/AP/sjn

Attachment

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Tallahassee, FL 32399-0450

JOSÉ ABREU
SECRETARY

January 18, 2005

T & B Structural Systems, Inc.
Attention: Mr. Tom Taylor
Engineered Structures
637 West Hurst Blvd.
Hurst, Texas 76053

Re: Temporary Retaining Wall System
T & B Structural Systems, Inc.
Gabion Wire Wall
Index No. ~~5130~~ 5110

Dear Mr. Taylor:

The Florida Department of Transportation is pleased to inform you that Temporary Gabion Wire Retaining Wall System Index No. ~~5130~~ has been approved, effective for lettings beginning July 1, 2005. Index No. ~~5130~~ 5110 is scheduled to be published in the Interim Design Standards in January 2005.

Due to the complexities of issues associated with approval of this Index and the length of time it has taken to get the necessary approvals T & B Structural Systems Inc., will be allowed to bid on contracts let after the date of this letter with the condition that this letter be attached to any submittals made to the Department on such contracts.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (850) 414-4312.

Sincerely,
Florida Department of Transportation

Robert W. Greer

Robert Greer, P.E.
Director, Office of Design

JAP
Attachment
cc: Ananth Prasad, Director, Office of Construction
Brian Blanchard, State Roadway Design Engineer
William N. Nickas, State Structures Design Engineer
Robert Robertson, Assistant State Structures Design Engineer
David O'Hagan, Assistant State Structures Design Engineer

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