STRUCTURES DESIGN BULLETIN 12-12

DATE: July 27, 2012

TO: District Directors of Production, District Design Engineers, District Construction Engineers, District Structures Design Engineers

FROM: Robert V. Robertson, P. E., State Structures Design Engineer

COPIES: Brian Blanchard, Tom Byron, Duane Brautigam, David Sadler, Steve Duke, Charles Boyd, Jeffrey Ger (FHWA)

SUBJECT: Bridge Welding Inspection Requirements in the Structures Detailing Manual

REQUIREMENT

Delete Structures Detailing Manual, Paragraph 5.3.D.1 and insert the following:

1. Perform non-destructive testing on welds as required by the current edition of the AASHTO/AWS D1.5 Bridge Welding Code.

COMMENTARY

The current example note shown in Structures Detailing Manual, Paragraph 5.3.D.1 requires the use of radiographic inspection for welds that must be non-destructively tested except where geometric restrictions preclude its use. The current Specification Section 460-6.2 however only refers to AASHTO/AWS D1.5 for inspection requirements for welds on non-dynamically loaded elements. In addition, Specification Section 460-6.3 requires both radiographic and ultrasonic inspection per AASHTO/AWS D1.5 for members welded using electroslag welding.

The above change to the example note shown in the Structures Detailing Manual is needed to simplify it and make it compatible with the Specifications and AASHTO/AWS D1.5. By adopting the inspection criteria that is in AASHTO/AWS D1.5, significant time and money should be saved by the Department and Fabricators with no reduction in the quality of the product to be delivered.
IMPLEMENTATION

This requirement is effective on projects not yet executed. Projects already underway should incorporate the new requirement when deemed appropriate and where minimal revision to the existing plans is necessary.

CONTACT

Dennis Golabek, P.E.
Florida Department of Transportation
605 Suwannee Street, MS 33
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0450
Phone (850)-414-4296
dennis.golabek@dot.state.fl.us

RVR/ceb