

May 18, 2010

In Reply Refer To: HSSD/CC-107

Mr. Pratip Lahiri Specifications and Standards Section, POD 23 New York State Department of Transportation 50 Wolf Road Albany, New York 12232

Dear Mr. Lahiri:

This letter is in response to your request for the Federal Highway Administrations (FHWA) acceptance of a roadside safety system for use on the National Highway System (NHS).

Name of system: Type IIA Box Beam End Terminal

Type of system: End Terminal

Test Level: Modified MASH TL-3

Testing conducted by: Midwest Roadside Safety Facility

Date of request: November 10, 2009
Date of completed package: April 13, 2010
Request initially acknowledged: November 19, 2009

You requested that we find this system acceptable for use on the NHS under the provisions of the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO) Manual for Assessing Safety hardware (MASH).

Requirements

Roadside safety devices should meet the guidelines contained in the AASHTO MASH. The FHWA Memorandum "Identifying Acceptable Highway Safety Features" of July 25, 1997, provides further guidance on crash testing requirements of longitudinal barriers.

Description

The subject Type IIA End Terminal is a re-directive gating end terminal which is used with the New York State generic box beam guiderail (6 in. x 6 in. x 3/16 in. steel tube box beam). The cross section of the end terminal is identical to the generic box beam. The effective length of the Type IIA end terminal is 25 ft., 4 in., which includes a 17 ft., 11 7/8 in. shop-curved section and



8 ft., 3 1/16 in. straight section. The curved section has a radius of 35 ft. and 43 inches of the leading end of the straight section is turned down at a 1:2 slope. The end terminal requires 8 posts which are spaced approximately 3 ft. apart. Enclosure 1 shows the general layout of the New York State DOT Type IIA and details of each component.

Crash Testing

According to MASH, test 3-30 through test 3-38 are to be conducted for end terminals. The point of impact in tests 3-30, 3-31, 3-32, and 3-33 are the face of the ramped part of the end terminal. However, New York State Department of Transportation's (NYSDOT) intention is to utilize the Type IIA End Terminal at locations where the available clear zone is limited to less than 5 feet behind the leading end of the terminal (e.g., relatively tight radius driveways). Due to the flared design of the end terminal, it is unlikely that a vehicle can collide with the face of the ramped part of the system. Even if such a collision occurs and the vehicle is not contained, the vehicle will enter the hazard free area. Consequently, we agree that these four tests can be waived if the end terminal is properly installed and its use is confined to locations described.

Different variations of the Type IIA end terminal were crash tested by the Midwest Roadside Safety Facility. The variation described above and shown in Enclosure 1 was crash tested according to MASH test 3-34. The test article passed the test. Enclosure 2 shows a summary of the test results.

The point of impact for Test 3-34 is the Critical Impact Point (CIP). By definition, the CIP is where the behavior of the test article changes from redirecting the impacting vehicle to either capturing the vehicle or allowing it to gate through the system. Normally the CIP is determined through detailed analysis of the end terminal or use of relevant computer programs. However, in the test conducted, the CIP was assumed and then verified by a full scale crash test.

Test 3-35 was conducted on a variation of the final Type IIA End Terminal and the test article passed the test (Enclosure 3). The difference between this test article and the final Type IIA end terminal is that post 2 and 4 were moved to the back side of the rail for the final Type IIA End Terminal. This change is not expected to have a significant effect on the performance of the terminal and we concur that the final design would also be expected to pass the test.

A modified version of test 3-35 was also conducted on the end terminal described above because the NYSDOT staff considered the modified test more critical than the test recommended in MASH due to the fact that the end terminal is flared back rather than straight. The difference between the modified 3-35 and MASH 3-35 is the point of impact. In the former, the point of impact was upstream of the beginning of Length of Need (LON) (the fifth post in Enclosure 1) and in the latter it was the beginning of LON. The test article passed the test and Enclosure 4 summarizes the test results.

Test 3-36 is required where the end terminal is attached to rigid barriers or other very stiff features. As long as the Type IIA End Terminal is used with the New York State generic box beam guiderail, this test is not applicable.

Test 3-37 is to examine the behavior of the end terminal during reverse direction impact. This test was not performed. The reason for this is that the device is not intended to be utilized in a location that can result in a reverse direction impact. This acceptance letter is provided with recognition that the described Type IIA End Terminal <u>cannot</u> be installed in locations where there is a potential for reverse direction impacts to encounter the flared /curved portion of the end terminal, such as a median.

Test 3-38 is not required because the subject end terminal does not possess significant attenuation capability.

Findings

The system described above and detailed in the enclosed drawings is acceptable for use on the NHS under the range of conditions tested, when such use is acceptable to a highway agency, and when installed in a manner consistent with the following limitations:

- 1) The Type IIA End Terminal is limited to locations where the available clear zone is less than 5 feet behind the leading end of the terminal (e.g., relatively tight radius driveways).
- 2) The Type IIA End Terminal <u>cannot</u> be extended beyond an abrupt shoulder break such as a ditch because there is a higher potential for underride in such circumstances.
- 3) Because the Type IIA End Terminal was subjected to a reduced MASH test matrix, the use of these terminals should be supervised to ensure that they are not being placed in inappropriate locations. Also, installations shall be monitored to ensure that in-service performance results in improved crash behavior compared to box beam guiderail terminals currently in use.

Please note the following standard provisions that apply to FHWA letters of acceptance:

- This acceptance is limited to the crashworthiness characteristics of the systems and does not cover their structural features, or conformity with the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices
- Any changes that may adversely influence the crashworthiness of the system will require a new acceptance letter.
- Should the FHWA discover that the qualification testing was flawed, that in-service performance reveals unacceptable safety problems, or that the system being marketed is significantly different from the version that was crash tested, we reserve the right to modify or revoke our acceptance.
- You will be expected to supply potential users with sufficient information on design and installation requirements to ensure proper performance.
- You will be expected to certify to potential users that the hardware furnished has essentially the same chemistry, mechanical properties, and geometry as that submitted for acceptance, and that it will meet the crashworthiness requirements of the FHWA and the NCHRP Report 350.

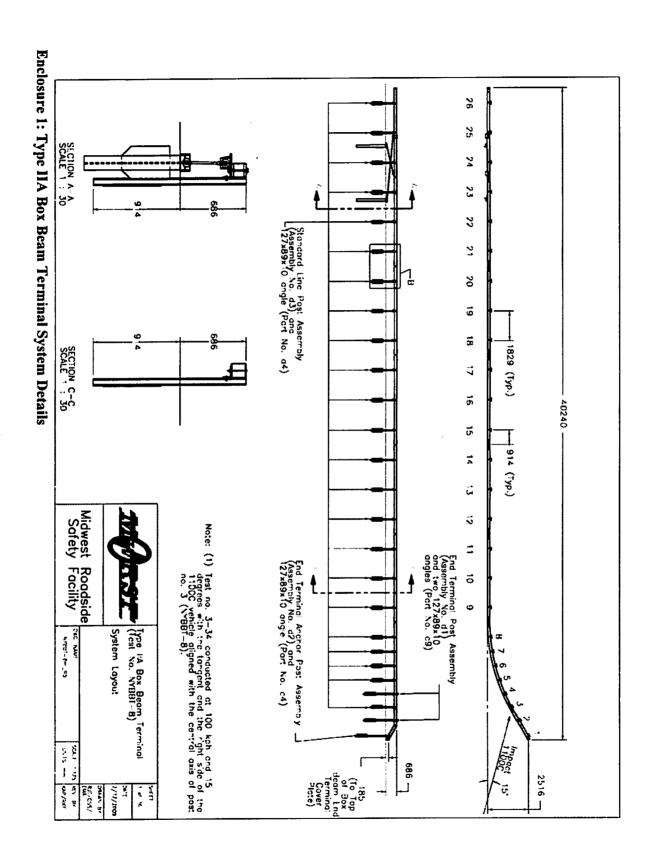
- To prevent misunderstanding by others, this letter of acceptance is designated as number CC-107 and shall not be reproduced except in full. This letter and the test documentation upon which it is based are public information. All such letters and documentation may be reviewed at our office upon request.
- This acceptance letter shall not be construed as authorization or consent by the FHWA to use, manufacture, or sell any patented system for which the applicant is not the patent holder. The acceptance letter is limited to the crashworthiness characteristics of the candidate system, and the FHWA is neither prepared nor required to become involved in issues concerning patent law. Patent issues, if any, are to be resolved by the applicant.

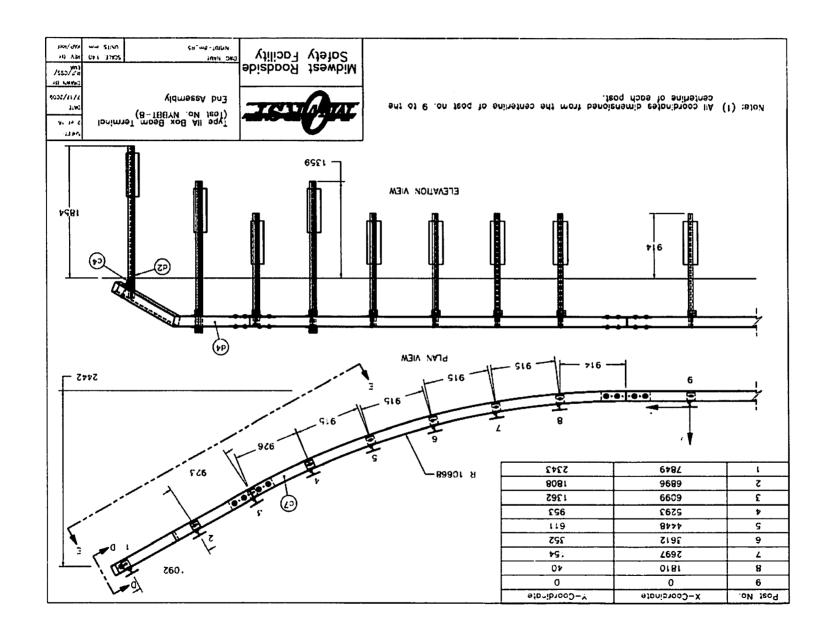
Sincerely yours,

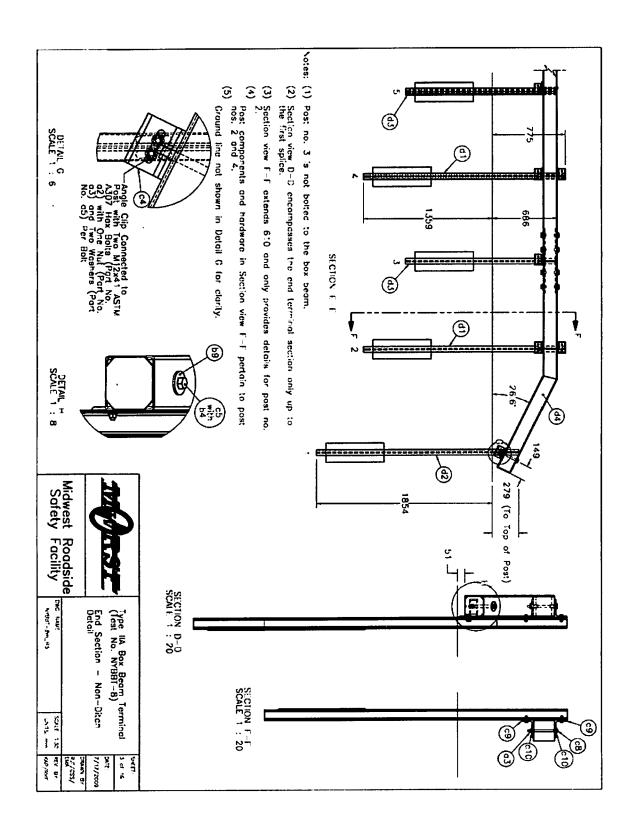
David A. Nicol, P.E.

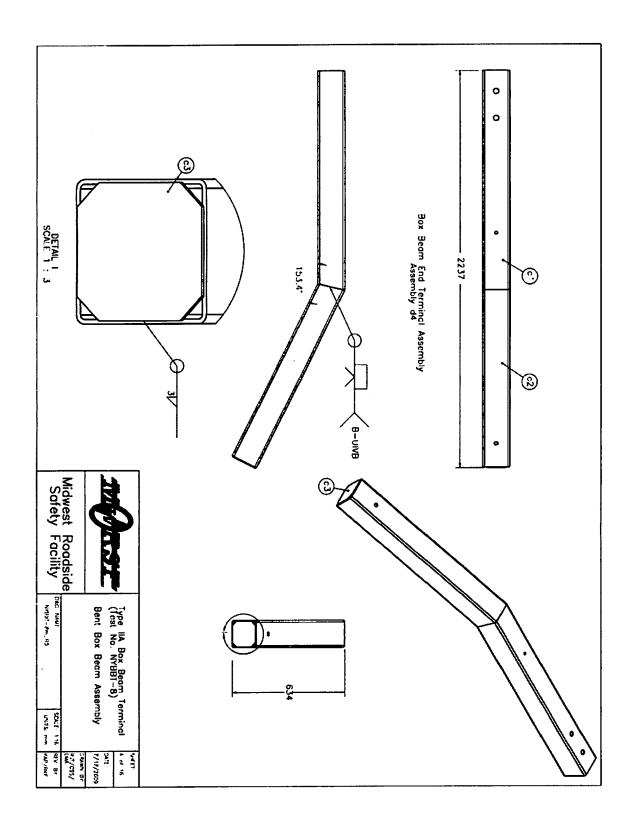
Director, Office of Safety Design

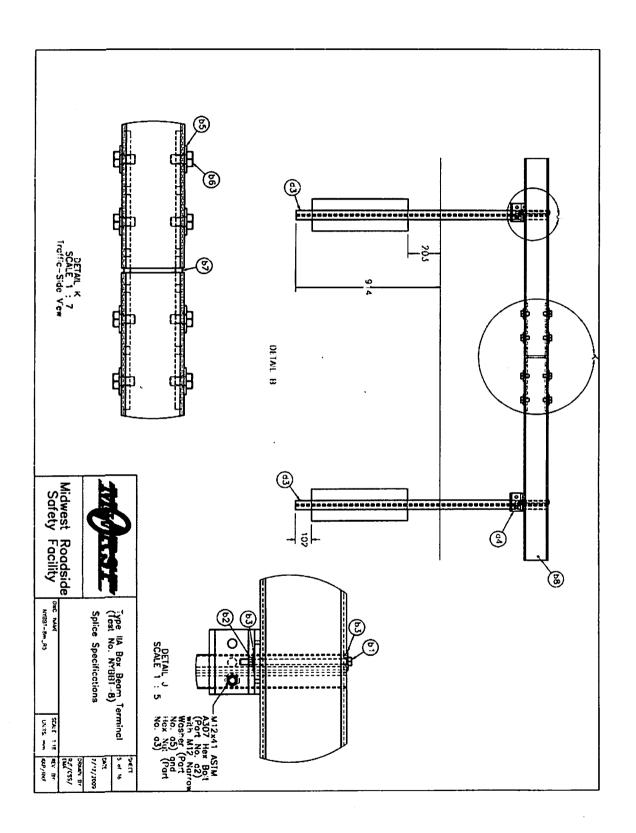
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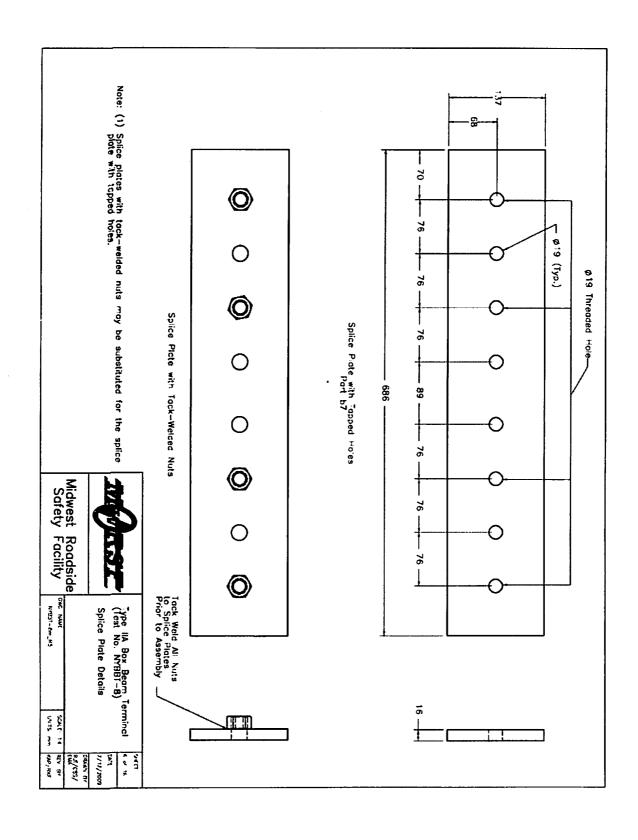


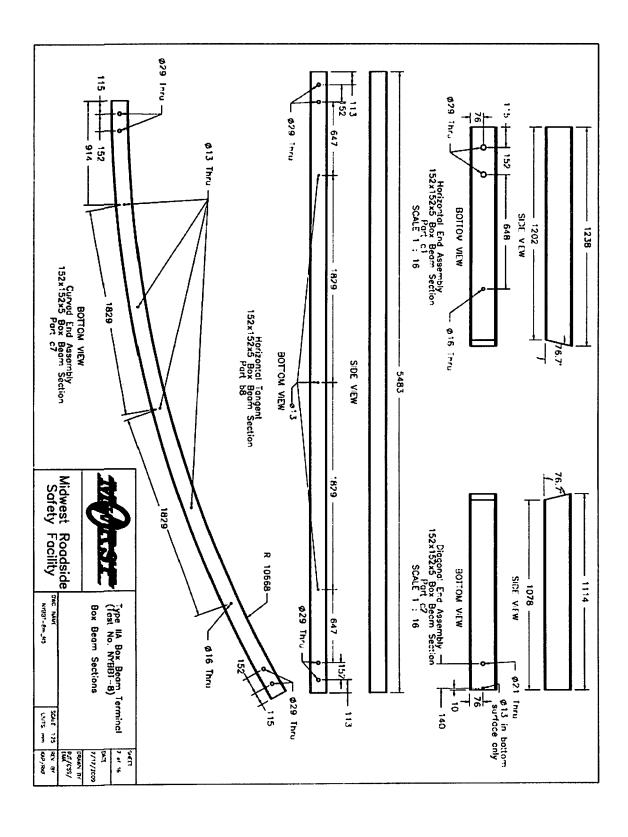


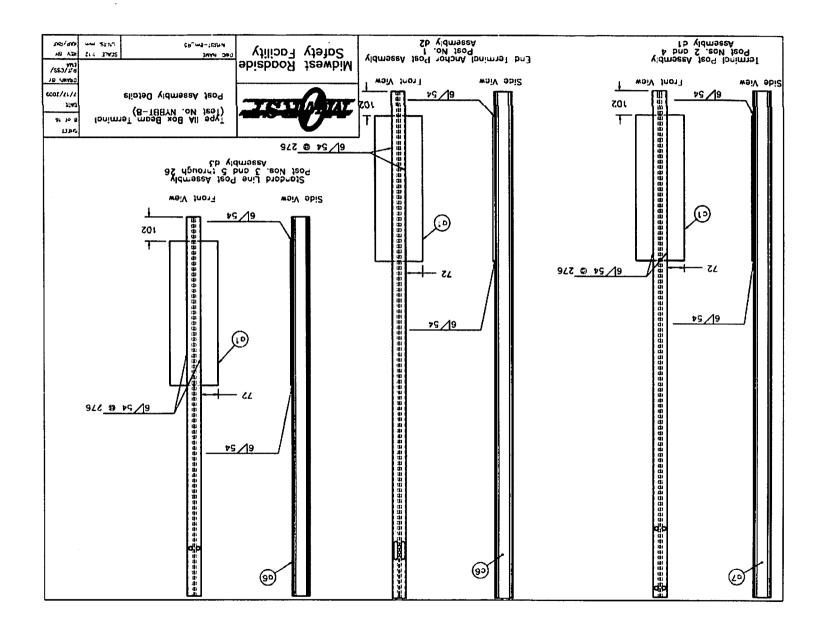


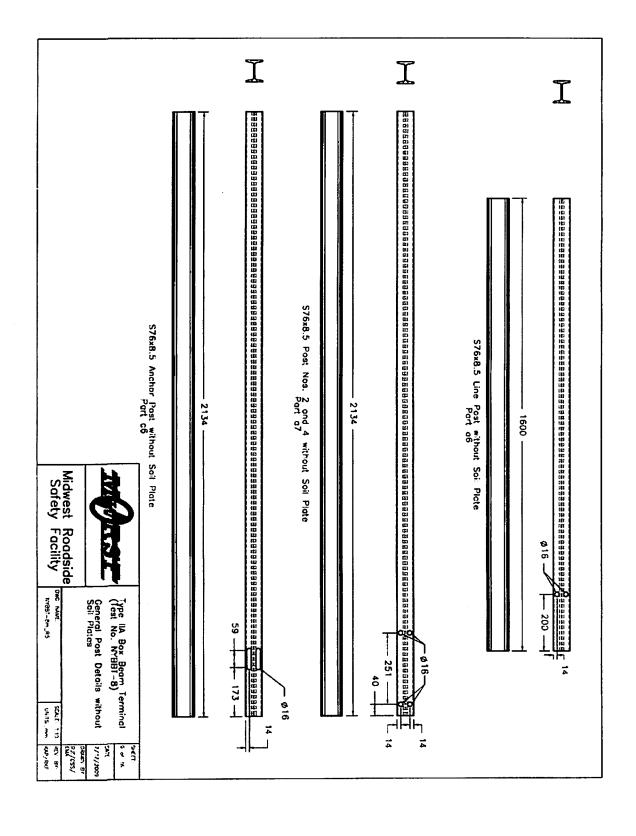


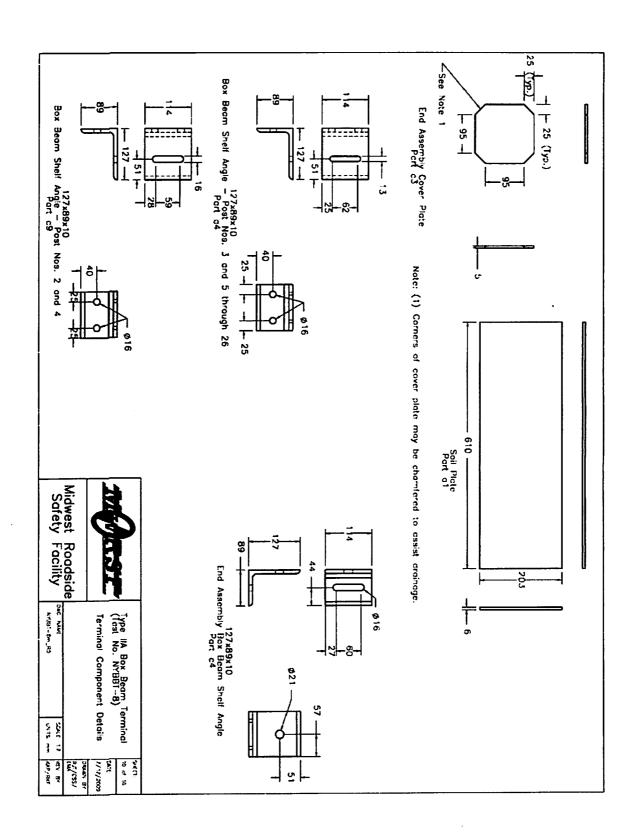


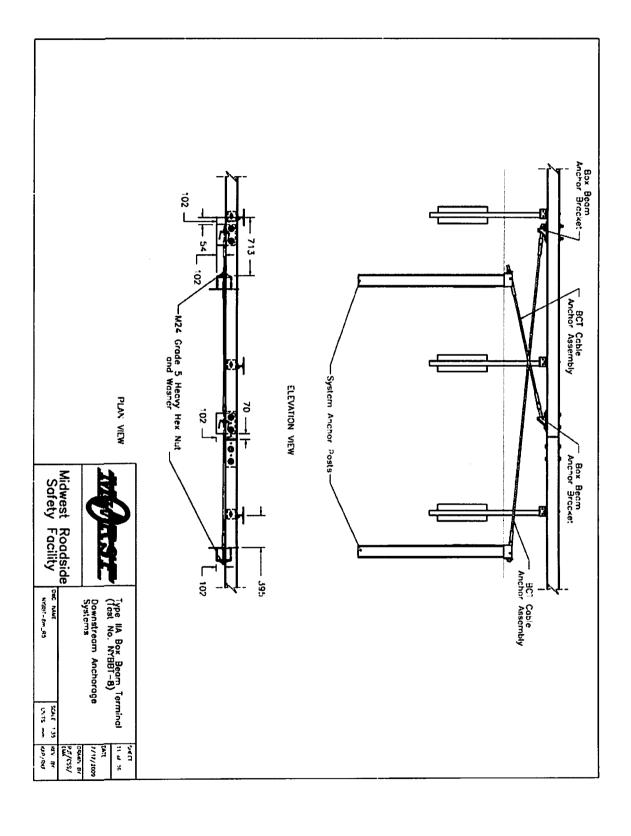


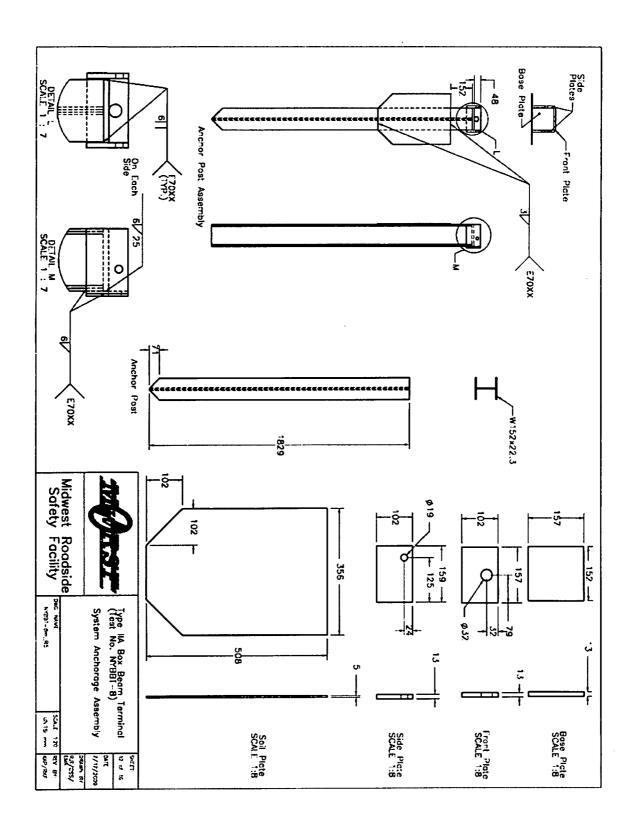


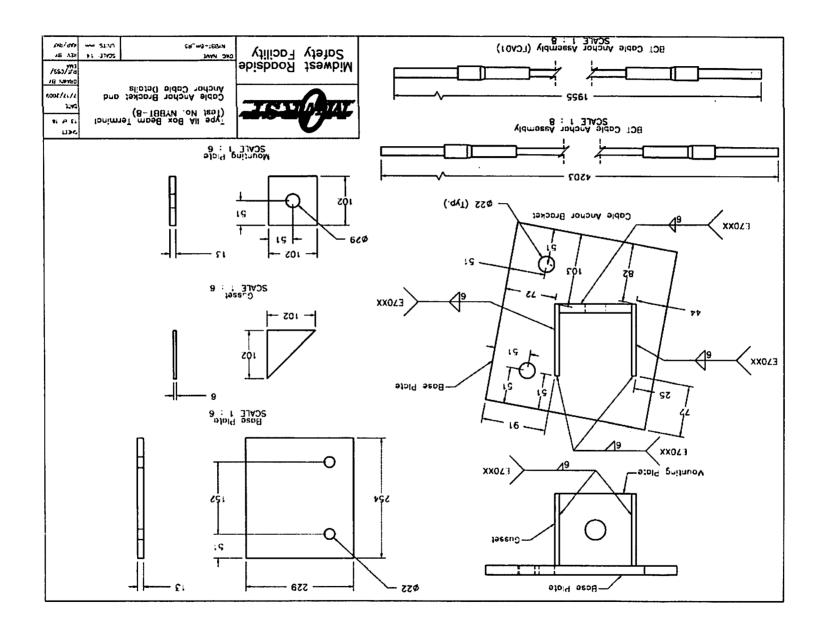












		Test No. NYBBT-B	
Item No.	Quantity	Description	Material Specifications
a1	26	6 x 203 x 610mm steel soil plate	A36 Steel
o2	29	M12 coarse thread, 41mm long hex bolt	ASTM A307
n3	31	M12 hex nut	ASTM A307
04	23	127 x 89 x 10mm box beam shelf angle	A36 Steel
a5	31	M12 narrow washer	ASTM A307
a6	23	S76 x 8.5, 1600mm long post	A36 Steel
a7	2	S76 x 8.5, 2134mm long post	A36 Steel
ь1	22	M10 coarse thread, 191mm long hex bolt	ASTM A307
b2	22	M10 hex nut	ASIM A307
bS	44	M10 wide washer	ASIM ASO7
b4	1	M20 hex nut	ASTM A307
b5	56	M20 wide washer	ASTM A325
b6	56	M20 coarse thread, 38mm long hex bolt	ASTM A325
b7	14	686 x 137 x 16mm splice plate	A36 Steel
ь8	6	152 x 152 x 5mm by 5483mm long box beam	ASIM A500 Grade B
ь9	1	M20 wide washer	ASTM A307
c1	1	End assembly bent 152 x 152 x 5mm box beam	ASTV A500 Grade B
c2	1	End assembly diagonal 152 x 152 x 5mm box beam	ASTM A500 Grade B
c3	1	End assembly 5mm thick cover plate	A36 Steel
c4	1	127 x 89 x 10mm box beam anchor post shelf angle	A36 Steel
c5	1	M20 coarse thread, 197mm long nex boit	ASTM A307
¢6	1	S76 x 8.5, 2134mm long post anchor post	A36 Steel
с7	1	152 x 152 x 5mm, R 10.67m Curved Box Beam	ASTM A500 Grade B
cB	7	M12 coarse thread, 203mm long hex bolt	ASTM A307
с9	4	127 x 89 x 10mm box beam shelf angle with # 16mm slot	A36 Steel
c10	4	M12 wide washer	ASIM AJ07
d1	2	Terminal Post Assembly	-
d2	1	Terminal Anchor Post Assembly	-
d3	23	Line Post Assembly	-
d4	1	Box Beam End Terminal Assembly	

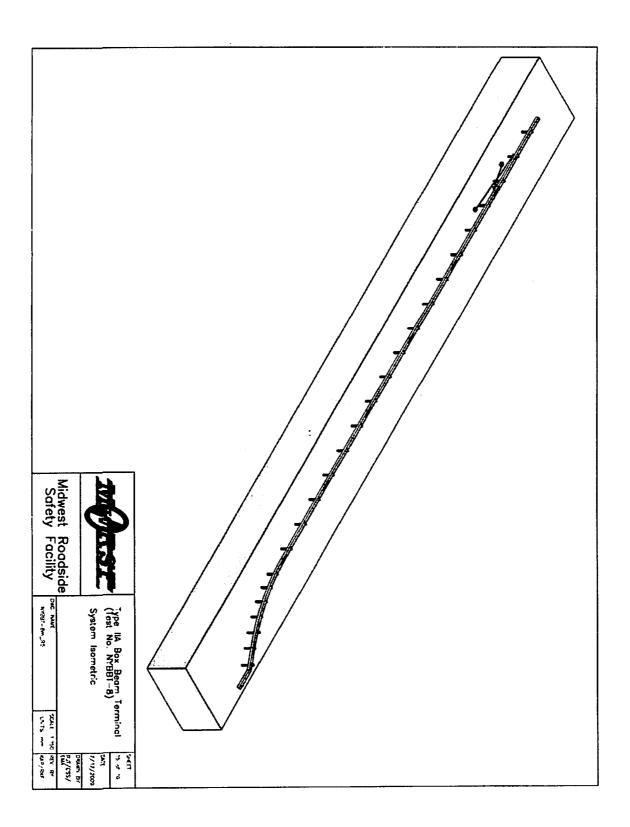


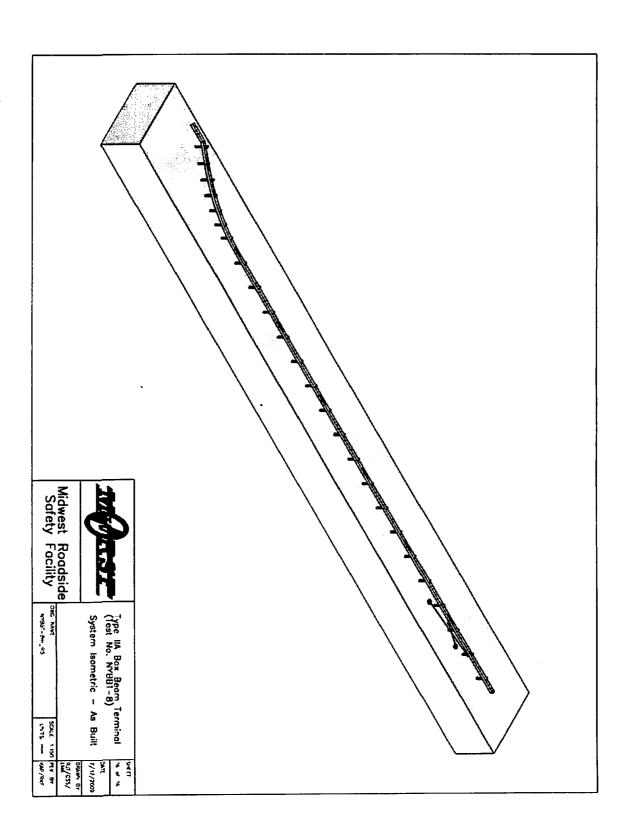
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Bill of Materials

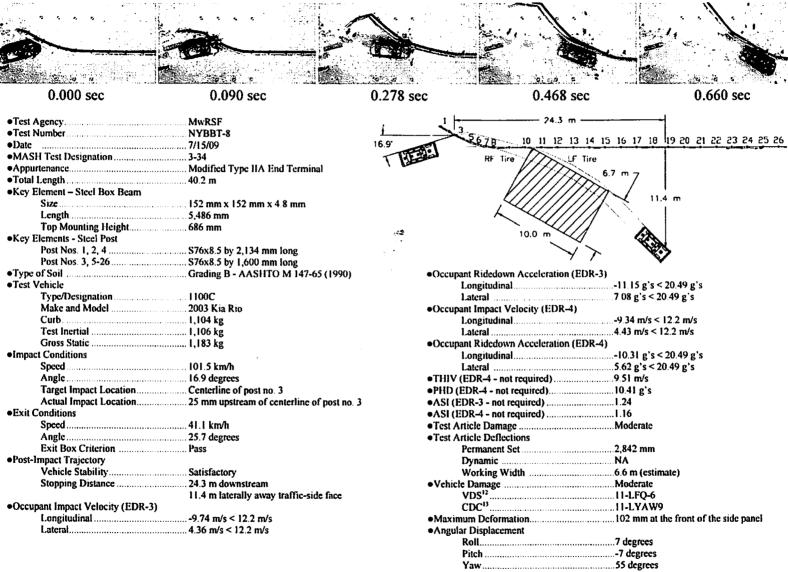
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Midwest Roadside Safety Facility

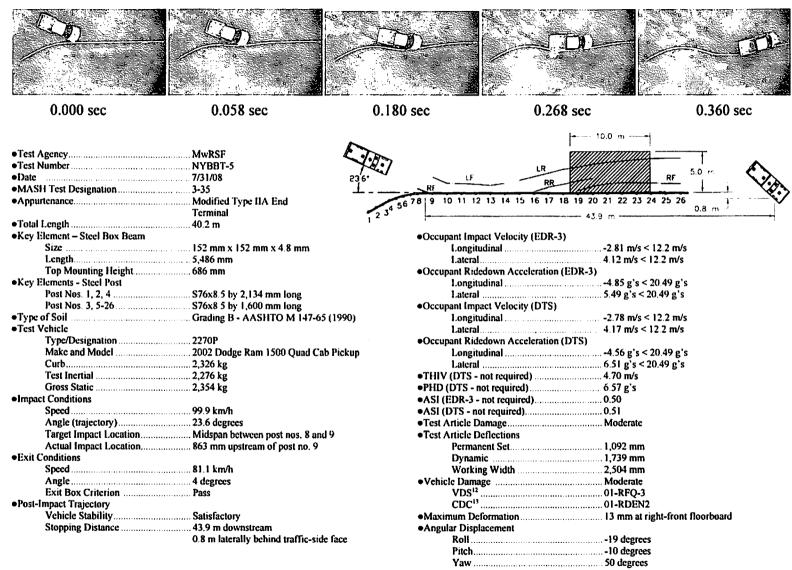
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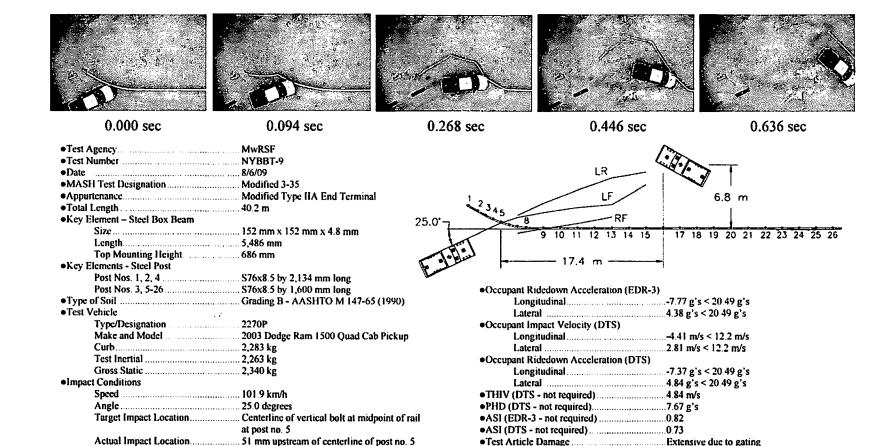




Enclosure 2: Summary of Test Results and Sequential Photographs, Test 3-34



Enclosure 3: Summary of Test Results and Sequential Photographs, Test 3-35



Test Article Deflections

Angular Displacement

Working Width17,820 mm

Roll -22 degrees

Pitch-5 degrees

DynamicNA

● Vehicle Damage Moderate

VDS¹² 11-LFQ-3

CDC¹³ 11-LFEW8

Enclosure 4: Summary of Test Results and Sequential Photographs, Test modified 3-35

6.8 m laterally behind traffic-side face

Exit Conditions

◆Post-Impact Trajectory

Occupant Impact Velocity (EDR-3)

Exit Box CriterionNA

Angle 31.0 degrees

Vehicle Stability Satisfactory
Stopping Distance 17.4 m downstream

Lateral 3.03 m/s < 12.2 m/s