

**SECTION 649**  
**GALVANIZED STEEL STRAIN POLES, MAST**  
**ARMS AND MONOTUBE ASSEMBLIES**

**649-1 Description.**

The work in this Section consists of furnishing and installing galvanized steel strain poles, galvanized steel mast arms and galvanized steel monotube assemblies in accordance with the details shown in the Contract Documents, subject to a five year warranty period as defined herein. The warranty period will apply only when strain poles, mast arms or steel monotube assemblies are painted as called for in the Contract Documents.

**649-2 Materials.**

Use pole assemblies as shown in the Design Standards when standard mast arm assemblies or standard strain pole assemblies are required by the Contract Documents.

Obtain strain poles, mast arm, and monotube assemblies from a fabrication facility that is listed on the Department's list of Metal Producers with an Accepted Quality Control Program, meeting the requirements of 105-3.

Use coating products meeting the requirements of Section 975.

Use grouts meeting the requirements of Section 934 and listed on the Department's Approved Product List (APL).

Use water meeting the requirements of Section 923.

Use membrane curing compounds meeting the requirements of Section 925.

**649-3 Fabrication.**

Fabricate strain poles, mast arm and monotube assemblies and miscellaneous hardware in accordance with the Contract Documents. Cut all materials to the final dimensions and complete all welding prior to galvanizing. Obtain all components for individual strain poles, mast arm and monotube assemblies from the same fabricator. Obtain the luminaire and bracket from other sources, when necessary.

Affix an aluminum identification tag which will be visible from the handhole or located inside the terminal box containing the information described in the Design Standards.

Before shipping, assemble mast arm and monotube assemblies including luminaire and bracket, to assure proper fit. The mast arm and monotube assemblies may be separated for shipment.

Ensure all components are protected from damage during shipping and handling by wrapping or other effective methods. Replace any component, which the Engineer determines is damaged beyond repair, at no additional cost to the Department. If components are wrapped for shipment, remove wrappings no later than five days after receipt of components or immediately if the wrappings become saturated. Post these instructions in brightly colored wording on the wrapper. Failure to comply with these instructions may lead to damage of the coating system and will be cause for the rejection of the component.

**649-4 Coatings.**

**649-4.1 Galvanizing:** Galvanize all components in accordance with ASTM A123, except galvanize all fastener assemblies in accordance with ASTM A153. Use galvanizing methods which provide surfaces suitable for painting.

**649-4.2 Surface Preparation:** Prepare all galvanized surfaces to be painted in accordance with ASTM D6386 and the manufacturer of the coating system's specifications. Provide a clean and suitable galvanized surface that maximizes coating system adhesion.

Measure the thickness of the zinc coating after completion of surface preparation using a magnetic thickness gage in accordance with ASTM A123. Ensure sufficient galvanizing remains on the substrate to meet the requirements of ASTM A123 and the Contract Documents. Correct any deficient areas to the satisfaction of the Engineer at no additional cost to the Department.

**649-4.3 Painting:**

**649-4.3.1 General:** When required by the Contract Documents, provide painted strain poles, mast arms and monotube assemblies. Provide products from a fabricator on the Department's list of Prequalified Fabricators of Painted Galvanized Steel Strain Poles, Mast Arms and Monotube Assemblies. Provide products that will meet specification requirements throughout the warranty period. Meet the color requirement as specified in the Contract Documents. Provide the Engineer with two metal sample coupons, a minimum of 2 inches x 4 inches, painted concurrently and with the same paint as was used on the first lot of any strain poles, mast arms and monotube assemblies delivered to the jobsite. Provide sample coupons and manufacturer product data sheets to the Engineer along with the delivery of the first shipment of any painted strain poles, mast arms or monotube assemblies delivered to the jobsite. At the time of their delivery, the sample coupons described in this paragraph shall match the color of the strain poles, mast arms and monotube assemblies to within 1ΔE measured as specified in 975-4. If the delivered sample coupons exhibit a difference in color from the strain poles, mast arms and monotube assemblies greater than 1ΔE then the sample coupons will be considered unacceptable and no payment shall be made for the materials which the sample coupons represent. Those materials shall not be accepted by the Department until acceptable representative sample coupons in accordance with the requirements of this Section have been delivered to the Engineer.

**649-4.3.2 Responsible Party Warranty:** When the Contract Documents call for painted galvanized steel strain poles, mast arms or monotube assemblies, the Contractor shall designate a responsible party to accept responsibility. The responsible party designated by the Contractor must execute and deliver to the Department a form, provided by the Department, prior to the first delivery to the jobsite of any painted strain poles, mast arms or monotube assemblies, stipulating that the responsible party accepts responsibility for ensuring the coating system adhesion and color retention requirements as specified in 975-4 are met for a period of five years after final acceptance in accordance with 5-11. The responsible party shall also bear the continued responsibility for performing all remedial work associated with repairs of any adhesion or color retention failure as defined in Section 975, as to which notice was provided to the responsible party within the five year warranty period. Failure to timely designate the responsible party will result in the Contractor being the responsible party unless otherwise agreed to in writing by the Department. The responsible party shall be either the Contractor or the fabricator. When the responsible party is the fabricator, the responsible party shall be one of the fabricators listed on the Prequalified Fabricators of Painted Galvanized Steel Strain Poles, Mast Arms and Monotube Assemblies. This list may be viewed on the Department's website at the following URL:

<http://www.dot.state.fl.us/construction/> .

Upon final acceptance of the Contract in accordance with 5-11, the Contractor's responsibility to ensure that the coating system adhesion and color retention requirements specified in 975-4 will terminate. The obligations of the responsible party set forth in this Section shall start at final acceptance of the Contract in accordance with 5-11 and continue thereafter until expiration of the five year warranty period.

#### **649-5 Installation.**

Install foundations for strain poles, mast arm and monotube assemblies in accordance with Section 455. Do not install the strain poles, mast arm pole, or monotube pole until the foundation has achieved 70% of the specified 28 day concrete strength and verifying test results have been provided to the Engineer. Determine concrete strength from tests on a minimum of two test cylinders prepared and tested in accordance with ASTM C31 and ASTM C39. Before erecting the pole, clean the top of the foundation of any laitance, oils, grease or any other deleterious materials. Erect strain poles in an orientation which considering the rake and the application, cable forces will produce a plumb pole. Erect monotubes plumb at the time of installation. Plumb the pole supporting mast arms after the mast arms, traffic signals or sign panels have been placed.

If the traffic signals and/or sign panels are not in place within two working days after the mast arm is erected, furnish and install a 3 foot x 2 foot blank sign panel on the bottom of each mast arm within 6 feet of the mast arm tip and plumb the pole. Re-plumb the pole supporting mast arms after installation of traffic signals and sign panels.

Install ASTM A325 bolt, nut and washer assemblies in accordance with the following. Use bolt, nut and washer assemblies that are free of rust and corrosion and are lubricated properly as demonstrated by being able to easily hand turn the nut on the bolt thread for its entire length. Tighten nuts to a snug tight condition to bring the faying surfaces of the assembly into full contact which is referred to as snug-tight. Snug-tight is defined as the maximum nut rotation resulting from the full effort of one person using a 12 inch long wrench or equivalent. After bringing the faying surfaces to a snug-tight condition, tighten nuts in accordance with Table 460-7, Nut Rotation from the Snug Tight Condition. Maintain uniform contact pressure on the faying surfaces during snugging and turn-of-nut process, by using a bolt tightening pattern that balances the clamping force of each bolt, as closely as possible, with the equal clamping force of a companion bolt.

Base plate installation steps are as follows:

- 1) Verify that the nuts can be turned onto the bolts past the elevation corresponding to the bottom of each in-place leveling nut and be backed off by the effort of one person on a 12 inch long wrench, without employing a pipe extension on the wrench handle.
- 2) Clean and lubricate the exposed threads of all anchor bolts. Clean and lubricate the threads and bearing surfaces of all leveling nuts. Re-lubricate the exposed threads of the anchor bolts and the threads of the leveling nuts if more than 24 hours has elapsed since earlier lubrication, or if the anchor bolts and leveling nuts have become wet since they were first lubricated.
- 3) Turn the leveling nuts onto the anchor bolts and align the nuts to the same elevation.
- 4) Place structural plate washers on top of the leveling nuts; one washer corresponding to each anchor bolt.

5) Install the base plate onto the leveling nut washers, place structural plate washers on top of the base plate; one washer corresponding to each anchor bolt, and turn the top nuts onto the anchor bolts.

6) Tighten top nuts to a snug-tight condition in a star pattern. A star tightening pattern is one in which the nuts on opposite or near opposite sides of the bolt circle are successively tightened in a pattern resembling a star. For an 8 bolt circle with bolts sequentially numbered 1 to 8, tighten nuts in the following bolt order: (1, 5, 7, 3, 8, 4, 6, 2).

7) Tighten leveling nuts to a snug-tight condition in a star pattern. The distance from the bottom of the leveling nuts to the top of the concrete must not exceed one anchor bolt diameter.

8) Before final tightening of the top nuts, mark the reference position of each tip nut in a snug-tight condition with a suitable marking on one flat with a corresponding reference mark on the base plate at each bolt. Then incrementally turn the top nuts using a star pattern until achieving the required nut rotation specified in Table A. Turn the nuts at least 2 full tightening cycles (passes). After tightening, verify the nut rotation. Do not exceed the Table A value by more than 20 degrees.

9) Tighten each retainer or jam nut until it is in firm contact with the top surface of the anchor bolt nut; then while preventing the anchor bolt nut from rotating, tighten the jam nut until it is snug tight.

10) Install a screen over the gap between the base plate and foundation concrete in accordance with 649-6, or place a structural grout pad in accordance with 649-7.

Table A	
Anchor Bolt Diameter (inches)	Nut Rotation from Snug-Tight Condition
$\leq 1\text{-}1/2$	1/3 turn
$> 1\text{-}1/2$	1/6 turn

#### **649-6 Screen Installation.**

On steel strain poles and steel monotube assemblies, install a screen that will prevent vermin and debris from entering the gap between the bottom of the base plate and the top of the concrete foundation. Cover the entire gap with a wire screen, the bottom horizontal wire of which shall be in full contact with the surface of the concrete foundation and the top horizontal wire of which shall not extend beyond the top surface of the base plate. For the screen, use standard grade plain weave galvanized steel wire cloth with 1/2 inch x 1/2 inch mesh and 0.063 inch diameter wires. Vertical screen wires shall not extend beyond the top and bottom horizontal wires of the screen. Use one continuous section of screen with only one overlapping splice where the ends come together and overlap the layers 3 inches minimum. Attach the screen to the vertical side of the base plate with self-tapping stainless steel screws (No. 8, 1/2 inch long) with stainless steel washers (1/4 inch inside diameter). Drill pilot holes into the base plate to facilitate screw installation. Install screws on 9 inch centers maximum and at least one screw shall be installed through the overlapping splice to clamp the layers together. Also clamp the overlapping splice layers together just above the concrete foundation with an all stainless steel fastener assembly consisting of a machine screw (No. 8, 5/8 inch long), nut and two flat washers (1/4 inch inside diameter) and lock washer. Tightly clamp the screen layers between the flat washers.

#### **649-7 Structural Grout Pads.**

On mast arm support structures, install a structural grout pad in accordance with the Design Standards and manufacturer's instructions. Prior to grout placement, flush the top of the foundation with water to remove any dirt and debris.

Mix grout to a fluid state with an efflux time of 20 to 30 seconds. Test the grout fluidity using ASTM C939 Flow Cone Method. Discard any grout with an unacceptable efflux time.

Do not use mechanical means to push or vibrate the grout. Clean any excess grout from the base plate. Verify that water inside the pole will drain freely through the installed drain hole.

#### **649-8 Remedial Work.**

During the warranty period, the responsible party shall perform all remedial work necessary to meet the requirements of this Specification at no cost to the Department. Such remedial work shall be performed within 180 days of notification of a failure by the Department. Failure to perform such remedial work within the time frame specified will result in the work being performed by other forces at the responsible party's cost.

If the responsible party is the fabricator, the fabricator will be removed from the list of Prequalified Fabricators of Painted Galvanized Steel Strain Poles, Mast Arms and Monotube Assemblies for a minimum of six months or until payment in full for the correction of the deficiencies or defects has been made, whichever is longer.

If the responsible party is the Contractor, the Department will suspend, revoke or deny the responsible party's certificate of qualification under the terms of Section 337.16(d)(2), Florida Statutes, for a minimum of six months or until payment in full for the correction of the deficiencies or defects has been made, whichever is longer.

#### **649-9 Statewide Disputes Review Board.**

A Statewide Disputes Review Board will resolve any and all disputes that may arise involving administration and enforcement of this Specification. The responsible party and the Department acknowledge that use of the Statewide Disputes Review Board is required, and the determinations of the Statewide Disputes Review Board for disputes arising out of this Specification will be binding on both the responsible party and the Department, with no right of appeal by either party.

#### **649-10 Method of Measurement.**

**649-10.1 General:** Measurement for payment will be in accordance with the following work tasks.

**649-10.2 Furnish and Install:** The Contract unit price each for strain poles, mast arm and monotube assemblies, furnished and installed, will include all materials specified in the Contract Documents, including the foundation, cover plates, caps, clamps, blank sign panel, luminaire bracket, all labor, equipment, miscellaneous materials and hardware necessary for a complete and acceptable installation.

**649-10.3 Furnish:** The Contract unit price each for strain poles, mast arm and monotube assemblies, furnished, will include all materials, all shipping and handling costs involved in delivery as specified in the Contract Documents.

**649-10.4 Install:** The Contract unit price each for strain poles, mast arm and monotube assemblies, installed, will include the foundation, blank sign panel, all labor, equipment, miscellaneous materials and hardware necessary for a complete and acceptable installation. The Engineer will supply materials as specified in the Contract Documents.

**649-11 Basis of Payment.**

Price and payment will be full compensation for all work specified in this Section. Sign panels and signal assemblies will be paid for separately.

Payment will be made under:

Item No. 649-	Steel Mast Arm Assembly - each.
Item No. 649-	Steel Monotube Assembly - each.
Item No. 649-	Steel Strain Pole - each