January 10, 2002

M E M O R A N D U M

TO: District Structures Design Engineers
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COPIES: Prof. Marc Hoit (UF-BSI), Bill Domico, Bob Nichols, Henry Bollmann,
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SUBJECT: **Temporary Design Bulletin C01-04**
                  Replacement of FL-Pier program with FB-Pier
                  Effective January 1, 2002

The Florida Department of Transportation, in conjunction with the University of Florida, Department of Civil & Coastal Engineering, created the Florida Bridge Software Institute (BSI). Its goal is to support, maintain and enhance software developed by UF to support the transportation industry. All enhancements, distribution, training and user support are being handled by BSI. Part of its charter is to become financially self-sufficient by the Fall of 2003.

Starting January 1, 2002, and as part of the move towards self-sufficiency, BSI (as well as FDOT and UF) will no longer distribute the FL-Pier program. Furthermore, technical support for FL-pier will be discontinued on July 1, 2002. BSI, however, will distribute the replacement for the program, FB-Pier, which will be made available through the BSI web site (bsi-web.ce.ufl.edu). You can download a free demo version as well as get technical support and the pricing structure for the program on the web.

FL-Pier is a DOS-based program. FB-Pier has a new Windows-based interface and is the version recognized by FDOT and FHWA. In addition to all of FL-Pier's capabilities, FB-Pier can also handle mast arm applications, high mast lighting and signing foundations, sound wall foundations, retaining wall applications, different pile cross sections and pile bent modeling.

WNN/cbh