

September 30, 2002

## MEMORANDUM

TO: District Structures Design Engineers  
(Gerard Moliere, Rod Nelson, Keith Shores, John Danielsen,  
Neil Kenis, Kim Saing, Jose Rodriguez, and Agnes Spielmann)  
District Directors of Production  
(Mike Williams, Dave Byrd, Gene Martin, Gerry O'Reilly,  
Noranne Downs, John Martinez, Donald Skelton, Nancy Clements)  
District Directors of Operations  
(Debbie Hunt, Jim MacLaughlin, Jimmy Rodgers, James Wolfe,  
Mike Snyder, Gus Pego, John Temple, Bruce Seiler)  
District Structures and Facilities Engineers  
(Pepe Garcia, Bud Rosier, John Locke, Jorge Martos,  
William McKinney, Frank Guyamier)

FROM: William Nickas, P.E., State Structures Design Engineer

COPIES: Bob Greer, Freddie Simmons, John Harris, Sharon Holmes, Richard Kerr,  
Jean Ducher, Bill Domico, Bob Nichols, Larry Sessions, Jack Evans,  
Marcus Ansley, Doug Edwards (FHWA), Steve Plotkin, Tom Andres,  
Robert Robertson, Tony Mireles

SUBJECT: Temporary Design Bulletin CO2-16  
LRFD Design Policy  
Effective 10-1-2002

As a result of actions by FHWA, all projects, nationally, are to be designed using the AASHTO Load and Resistance Factor Design (LRFD) Design Specification by 2006.

Currently there is no AASHTO LRFD Specification for the design of curved steel girders. One is under development and is expected to be available in 2 years.

The AASHTO Load and Resistance Factor Rating (LRFR) Specification was adopted as a Guide Specification by the Bridge Subcommittee but its use is still pending in Florida.

In order to clarify the FDOT position on these matters the Technical Advisory Group (TAG) has established the following policy:

1. Load Factor Design (LFD) projects that are more than 60% complete may be completed using the AASHTO LFD specification.
2. LFD projects that have been started and will be let before July 1, 2006 may be completed using the AASHTO LFD specification.
3. All other ongoing designs are to use the AASHTO LRFD specification except for curved steel girder bridges
4. All new design projects and new design-build projects shall use the AASHTO LRFD design specification except for curved steel girders.
5. On LRFD projects, curved steel girders and attached continuous straight girders will be designed using the AASHTO LFD specification with an HS-25 live load. All other parts of the bridge and other structures in the project will be designed using the LRFD specification. All substructures shall be designed using LRFD loads and the LRFD specification.
6. All new movable bridge projects shall specify the AASHTO LRFD Movable Bridge Design Specification. Central office Structures shall approve design requirements for all major movable bridge rehabilitation projects.
7. Bridge widenings and miscellaneous structures such as box culverts, sign structures, mast arms, etc., shall be designed using the project design specifications and FDOT software and standards.
8. During the design phase, load rate bridges using the project design specification. After construction, load rate the bridge using as-built conditions and the requirements in the Maintenance Office Bridge Load Rating Manual.
9. The Structures Design Guidelines dated January 1, 2000 shall be used with all LFD designs and the most recent Structures Design Guidelines shall be used with all LRFD designs.