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Task Force 13 Drawing Review Process Focusing on MASH Systems

A primary role of Task Force 13 is to maintain a comprehensive online roadside hardware guide, which provides technical details of crashworthy systems in various functional categories and their components. Within the online guide, each system and component

has its own webpage with links to technical drawings that describes the device. In addition to sketches and construction details, the drawings contain written specifications and other information pertinent to design, testing, approval, and application of the system or component. Since they must conform to established standards, guide drawings are reviewed by Task Force 13 members in order to promote consistency and accuracy. Written instructions for reviewers have recently been updated to provide additional guidance on functionality of the Adobe drawing review system as well as a quick-reference checklist of drawing format requirements. The revised instructions are intended to improve the overall efficiency of the drawing review process.

In response to the recent AASHTO/FHWA Joint MASH Implementation Agreement, Task Force 13 drawing reviews are currently focused on roadside hardware systems that have been successfully crash-tested in accordance with MASH. Systems tested in accordance with NCHRP Report 350 will still remain in the online Guide, but priority for drawing reviews will be given to MASH-compliant systems. Manufacturers and other developers of MASH systems are encouraged to submit drawings, photos, and reference materials for inclusion in the Roadside Hardware Guide. DOT engineers and highway design consultants use the Task Force 13 Guide extensively as a resource to assist them in identifying appropriate roadside safety systems for their specific applications.

“TF-13 Website

Upcoming Activities

While the overall look of the main TF-13 website will remain largely unchanged, the partnership between TF13, AGC and ARTBA has changed.

Contributed by Eric Lohrey ELC Engineering



The TF13 description on the homepage will need to be updated to reflect the new TF13/AASHTO relationship, but will remain unchanged for now until AASHTO resolves the restructuring. New drawing review instructions have recently been updated and will be uploaded when the co-chairs have finalized their comments. A more visible link to the Guides websites more smoothly. On the Guides side of things, it was decided to remove crash cushions and work zone devices from the Hardware Guide and give them their own guides. This will allow better cross-referencing between systems and components, and more refined search parameters. The Bridge Rail Guide is currently undergoing menu changes to be more relevant to what users commonly search for. Both of these Guide changes are expected to be implemented sometime in the Spring of 2017.

Contributed by Olaf Johnson RoadSafe LLC

The taskforce's stalwart secretary, Nick Artimovich, retired from FHWA on January 4th and has stepped down from his taskforce's position too. His presence and dry humor will be sorely missed by all. We all wish him well as he unfurls into this next stage of life. Below is the retirement announcement Nick sent to our members:

To all my friends in Force 13

Today I retire after 41 ½ years with the Federal Highway Administration. I wanted to take this opportunity to say Thank You for your participation in Task Force 13 and the support you have given me as your Task Force Secretary. One of the most rewarding parts of this job has been my interaction with my colleagues in TF-13 from industry, academia, and Federal, state and local highway agencies. Together we have improved highway safety, and if I was able to play some small part in your success, it was because of the synergy of all those involved. That gave me the knowledge and the tools necessary to answer questions and provide guidance.

I look forward to seeing all of you again, perhaps as soon as TRB in January. Although I will be attending as a private citizen, so to speak, I hope I will still be able to contribute to the discussions.

Task Force 13 will continue to grow and support the AASHTO Technical Committee on Roadside Safety with John Durkos as your Industry Co-Chair and Greg Neece as your Secretary. However if you wish to contact me please use nick.artimovich2@gmail.com. I will be glad to hear from you. I'll leave you with this photo. One thing I have always tried to keep in mind is that we are working for all those who use our nation's streets and highways, and therefore we are their Highway Taxes at Work.



The Task Force presented Nick with a wooden and stainless steel plaque imprinted with a 34 star USA flag as a memento for his 17 years of service to our group. Nick was the Task Force's Secretary from 1999 to 2016. The Task Force's Secretary position has historically been filled by a person from the government sector, however, at the time of Nick's retirement his replacement wasn't name. In the transition Greg Neece of Trinity Highway Products has volunteer to be the Interim Secretary.



The latest at FHWA

FHWA has updated their website – the new fresh look will better help you find all that you need. You will want to visit the site and “click” around to familiarize yourself with their new layout.

https://safety.fhwa.dot.gov/roadway_dept/countermeasures/reduce_crash_severity/

MASH – The implementation dates for devices to meet MASH will be fast upon us. The Joint Implementation Agreement for MASH between AASHTO & FHWA which lists product categories and their associated implementation dates can be found at this link on the FHWA site:

https://safety.fhwa.dot.gov/roadway_dept/countermeasures/reduce_crash_severity/docs/memo_joint_implementation_agmt.pdf

Subcommittee #11 Delineation

The mission of Task Force 13 is to develop, recommend, and promote standards for bridge and road hardware to ensure optimum function, aesthetics, and economy.

The delineation market has developed to the point that there is a need for standardization, thus the Task Force has created a new subcommittee on delineation. The driving force behind the generation of this subcommittee on delineation was Dusty Arrington, however he recently left his post at TTI and will no longer be attending our meetings. In his stead, Craig Schulz with Pexco and Paul Gentry with Florida DOT will pick up the mantle and volunteered to be the new co-chairs of the subcommittee.

The subcommittee will focus its efforts on the consolidation of information related to delineation. Some of its primary sources for data will be the Texas DOT Development of Delineator Testing Standard study and the Florida DOT Development of Delineator Material/Impact Testing Specific to Managed Lane Use for Optimization of Delineator’s Service Life report. It will also develop links to relevant industry research and work with states and manufacturers to standardize the designs for different applications of delineators

The committee is looking for new members, if you are interested please contact on the co-chairs.

Marketing Sub-Committee – Newsletter publisher

This is the Spring Edition of the Task Force 13 Newsletter published by the Marketing Sub-Committee. If you have any subjects that you would like to see covered in future newsletters please contact Rick Mauer of Gregory Industries or Becky Golden of ATSSA.