Memorandum

To: CHIEF ENGINEER
PROJECT DELIVERY DIVISION CHIEFS
DES DEPUTY DIVISION CHIEFS
DES - MANAGERS AND SUPERVISORS

Date: September 28, 2010

From: TONY M. MARQUEZ
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Subject: Update to the AASHTO LRFD Bridge Design Specifications, Fourth Edition and California Amendments

Effective September 2010, the California Amendments to the AASHTO (American Association of State Highway Transportation Officials) Load and Resistance Factor Design (LRFD) Bridge Design Specifications, Fourth Edition, have been updated to reflect the implementation of LRFD methodologies for the design of earth retaining systems, abutments and underground structures. Updates have been made to Section 11 – Abutment Piers and Walls, and Section 12 – Buried Structures and Tunnel Liners. A comprehensive list of all California Amendments to the Fourth Edition can be found in the Preface. All updates have been posted at the following site: http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/esc/techpubs/

The Department’s Standard Plans and Standard Specifications have been updated to LRFD for earth retaining systems and underground structures and will be included in the release of the 2010 Standard Plans and Standard Specifications.

Technical questions regarding the AASHTO LRFD Bridge Design Specifications and California Amendments should be directed to the respective Caltrans Technical Committee Chair or Specialist in the area of interest or the Caltrans project oversight engineer responsible for the geographic area of your projects.

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Attention Users!!!

The amendments are setup for back-to-back printing and insertion into the AASHTO LRFD Bridge Design Specifications, 4th Edition, at the page location after which they appear. Section 14, however, is totally replaced.

The page number indicated in the upper right-hand corner of the amendment matches that in the Specifications, but is followed by ‘-a.’ Longer amendments continue on to pages ‘-b’, ‘-c’, etc.

Strikethrough (example) and underlined (example) text indicates deletions and insertions by California amendments to the AASHTO LRFD Bridge Design Specifications, as approved by the DES Office Chiefs. A listing of the changed and deleted articles is included as an addendum to the preface.