



Illinois Department of Transportation

Memorandum

To: All Regional Engineers
From: Omer M. Osman, P.E. *Omer M. Osman 7/25/14*
Subject: Special Provision for Pavement Marking Blackout Tape
Date: July 25, 2014

This special provision was developed by the Bureau of Operations to create a statewide specification for pavement marking blackout tape which can be used to temporarily cover existing pavement markings in work zones instead of removing them.

This special provision should be inserted into contracts where the district is requiring the existing pavement markings in a work zone to be temporarily covered.

The districts should include the BDE Check Sheet marked with the applicable special provisions for the November 7, 2014 and subsequent lettings. The Project Development and Implementation Section will include a copy in the contract.

This special provision will be available on the transfer directory July 25, 2014.

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PAVEMENT MARKING BLACKOUT TAPE (BDE)

Effective: November 1, 2014

Revise the fourth paragraph of Article 701.04 of the Standard Specifications to read:

“The traffic control shall remain in place only as long as needed and shall be removed when directed by the Engineer. Signs that do not apply to current conditions shall be removed, covered, or turned from the view of motorists. All existing pavement markings which conflict with the revised traffic pattern shall be removed according to Section 783 or when specified, temporarily covered with pavement marking blackout tape. The width of blackout tape shall be at least 1 in. (25 mm) wider than the width of the pavement marking being covered. The removing or covering of existing markings shall be scheduled immediately to facilitate the revised traffic pattern. If darkness or inclement weather prohibits the removal or covering operations, such operations shall be resumed the next morning or when weather permits.”

Revise Article 701.19(f) of the Standard Specifications to read:

“(f) Removal of existing pavement markings and raised reflective pavement markers will be measured for payment according to Article 783.05. Temporary covering of existing pavement markings with blackout tape will be measured for payment in feet (meters) in place. Removal of blackout tape will be measured for payment in square feet (square meters).”

Revise Article 701.20(j) of the Standard Specifications to read:

“(j) Removal of existing pavement markings and raised reflective pavement markers will be paid for according to Article 783.06. Temporary covering of existing pavement markings with blackout tape will be paid for at the contract unit price per foot for PAVEMENT MARKING BLACKOUT TAPE, of the line width specified.” Removal of blackout tape will be paid for as work zone pavement marking removal according to Article 703.07.”

Revise the first two paragraphs of Article 1095.06 of the Standard Specifications to read:

“**1095.06 Pavement Marking Tape.** White or yellow marking tape shall consist of glass spheres of high optical quality embedded into a binder on a suitable backing that is precoated with a pressure sensitive adhesive. The spheres shall be of uniform gradation and distributed evenly over the surface of the tape. Blackout marking tape shall be a Type III tape consisting of a matte black, non-reflective, patterned surface that is precoated with a pressure sensitive adhesive. The surface of the blackout pavement marking tape shall provide a minimum skid resistance value of 45 BPN when tested according to ASTM E 303-74.

The material shall be white, yellow, or matte black as specified. White and yellow colors shall conform closely to Federal color tolerances for pavement marking paint.”

Revise the second table of Article 1095.06 to read:

"Test	Type I		Type III		
	White	Yellow	White	Yellow	Blackout
Initial Thickness, mils (mm)	20 (0.51)	20 (0.51)	20 (0.51)	20 (0.51)	65 (1.65) ^{1/} 10 (0.25) ^{2/}
Durability (cycles)	5,000	5,000	1,500	1,500	1,500

Notes:

- 1/ Measured at the thickest point of the patterned surface.
- 2/ Measured at the thinnest point of the patterned surface."

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