

**New Jersey Department of Transportation
QUALITY IMPROVEMENT ADVISORY**

QUALITY MANAGEMENT SERVICES

Director: Lynn Rich

Telephone: (609) 530-5367

QIA No. QIA040

Approved: L. Rich
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Subject: Crash Tested Bridge Railing Guide

Process Affected:

Scope Design Right of Way Utilities Environmental Historic Construction

Bureaus Affected:

Structural Engineering

Procedure(s) Affected:

Nature of Issue(s):

Use of crash tested bridge railings is required on State highway bridges. Other than those listed in Section 23 of the NJDOT Bridges and Structures Design Manual, identification of crash tested bridge railing configurations requires an extensive search of bridge railing development by other states. It is the work of other states that has led to the establishment of crash tested systems.

Provision of a web site to provide a quick source of identification has been an ongoing process. FHWA has now provided a website to accomplish this.

Recommendation(s):

Below is a link to a bridge railing guide website that FHWA has recently completed. The website contains photographs and details of crash tested bridge railing systems and appears to be more user friendly than the one currently available on the FHWA Safety website.

Currently listed on the website are plans, photos and information for approximately 100 bridge railing systems that have been approved for use for various test levels. Updates to the website will be provided as the status of the bridge railing evolves or new systems are adopted. Designers are advised to use the website to search for systems other than those identified in the Bridges and Structures Design Manual. The guidance that is provided in Section 23 of the Design Manual shall be followed to identify an applicable bridge railing Test Level roadway category.

<http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/bridge/bridgerail/>

Implementation: Immediately

Impact Assessment:

Schedule Quality Cost Scope

Cost Impact:

N/A