Refer to: HMHS-B52

Mr. John Dallain Vice-President EASI-SET INDUSTRIES Post Office Box 300 Midland, Virginia 22728

Dear Mr. Dallain:

In your March 12 letter to Mr. Richard Powers of my staff, you requested the Federal Highway Administration's (FHWA) acceptance of your J-J Hooks temporary barrier connection when used with either a New Jersey or F-shape concrete barrier. To support your request, you sent copies of a Texas Transportation Institute report dated March 1999 entitled "NCHRP Report 350 Test 3-11 of the J-J Hooks Jersey Shape Portable Concrete Barrier", by Menges, Booth, Williams, and Schoeneman. You also sent us video tapes of the test that was run.

The barrier tested was a standard height (813 mm) New Jersey shape portable concrete barrier. Each segment was 3658-mm long and connected together by steel J-J hooks cast into each segment. These "hooks" were formed from 10-mm thick steel plates which were connected through the barrier by three No.16 ASTM A706 Grade 60 reinforcing bars. Additional reinforcement in the barrier consisted of welded wire fabric throughout its length. Design details are shown in Enclosure 1 for the New Jersey shape and in Enclosure 2 for the F-shape.

NCHRP Report 350 test 3-11 was run on a free-standing installation comprised of 16 connected segments totaling 58.56 m in length. The impact point was approximately 21.2 m from the upstream end or 1.2 m upstream from the joint between segment 7 and segment 8. Maximum deflection under this test set-up was reported as 1.3 m. The test vehicle was contained and redirected upright and all appropriate Report 350 evaluation criteria were met. Summary data from this test are shown in Enclosure 3.

Based on our review of the information you submitted, we find the J-J hook design to meet the requirements for an NCHRP Report 350 test level 3 (TL-3) barrier when used with 3658-mm long portable New Jersey shape concrete barriers or with an F-shape concrete barrier having the same base width (600 mm) as the tested New Jersey design. Since the J-J Hook design is

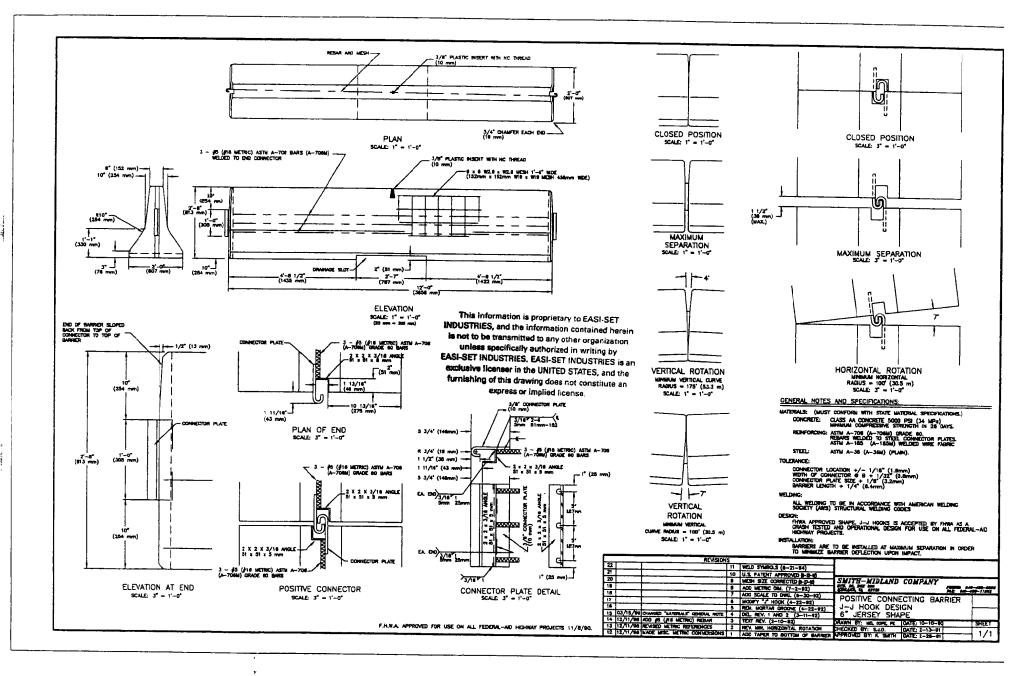
proprietary, its use on Federal-aid projects, except exempt projects not on the National Highway System, remains subject to the conditions listed in Title 23, Code of Federal Regulations, Section 635.411 when its use is specified by the contracting authority. Please do not hesitate to call Mr. Powers at (202) 366-1320 should you have any questions regarding this letter.

Sincerely yours,

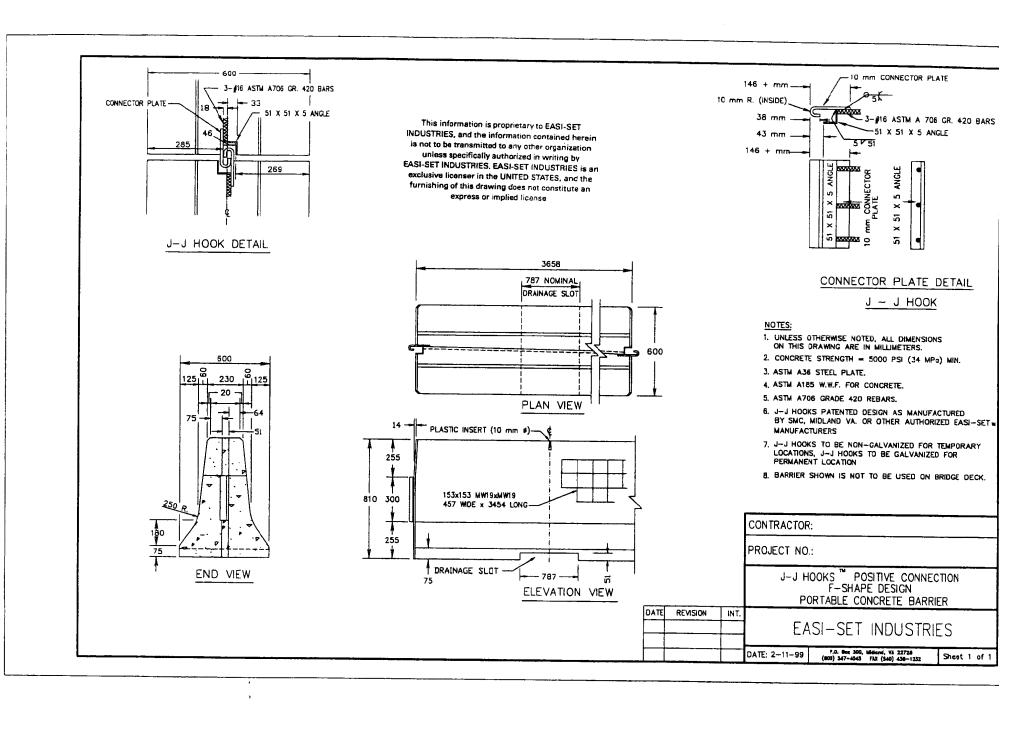
(original signed by Dwight A. Horne)

Dwight A. Horne Director, Office of Highway Safety Infrastructure

3 Enclosures



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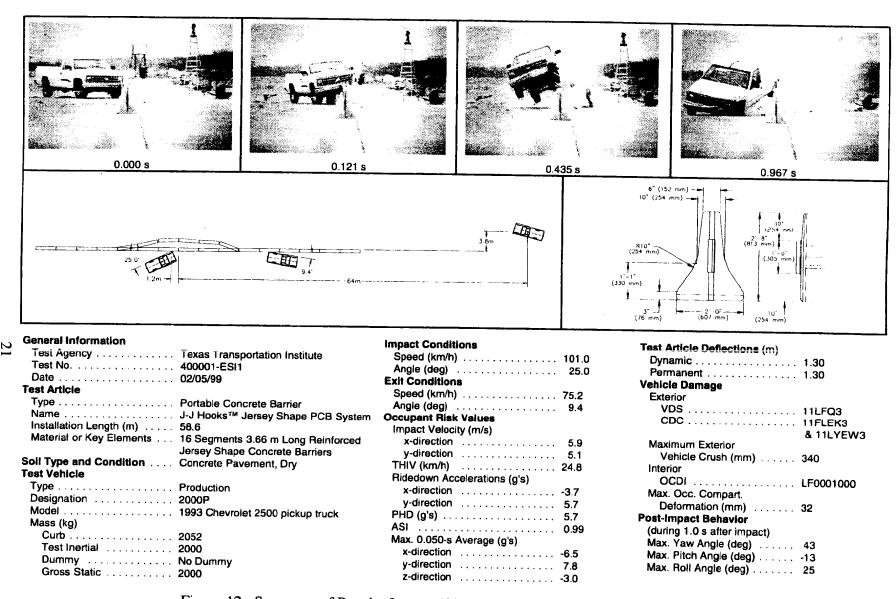


Figure 12. Summary of Results for test 400001-ESI1, NCHRP Report 350 test 3-11.