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Forest Products Laboratory

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General Technical Report FPL-GTR-87





Plans for Crash-Tested Bridge Railings for Longitudinal Wood Decks

Michael A. Ritter Ronald K. Faller Paula D. Hilbrich Lee Barry T. Rosson Sheila Rimal Duwadi



Abstract

In the past decade, bridge railing design criteria have moved away from static-load design and have focused on full-scale crash testing as a more appropriate and reliable means of evaluating bridge railings. The five bridge railing plans presented reflect the results of a cooperative research project between the Midwest Roadside Safety Facility, University of Nebraska-Lincoln; the USDA Forest Service, Forest Products Laboraotry; and the Federal Highway Administration. The project objective was to develop and crash test bridge railings and approach railing transitions for longitudinal wood bridge decks. The bridge railings were completed in accordance with AASHTO Performance Level 1, Performance Level 2, and NCHRP Report 350 Test Level 4 (TL-4). Approach railings were tested or adapted from previous testing in accordance with NCHRP Report 230. Full drawing sets are provided in customary U.S. and SI units of measure. The testing procedures, results, and drawings have been approved by the Federal Highway Administration Federal-Aid and Design Office for use on Federal-aid highway projects.

Keywords: Bridge, wood, railing, deck, crash-tested

September 1995

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Plans for Crash-Tested Bridge Railings for Longitudinal Wood Decks

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Introduction

Bridge railings have historically been designed based on static-load design criteria. In the past decade, design criteria has refocused toward full-scale crash testing as a more appropriate and reliable method of evaluating bridge railings. These plans reflect the results of a cooperative research project between the Midwest Roadside Safety Facility, University of Nebraska-Lincoln; the USDA Forest Service, Forest Products Laboratory; and the Federal Highway Administration. The objective of the project was to develop and crash test bridge railings and approach railing transitions for longitudinal wood bridge decks. The bridge railings were completed in accordance with AASHTO Performance Level 1 (PL-1) and Performance Level 2 (PL-2) requirements and are described in the cited reports. One bridge railing was also tested to the requirements of NCHRP Report 350, Test Level 4 (TL-4). Approach railings were tested or adapted from previous testing in accordance with NCHRP Report 230. For the convenience of the user, full drawing sets have been provided in customary U.S. and SI units. The testing procedures, results, and drawings have been approved by the Federal Highway Administration Federal-Aid and Design Office for use on Federal-aid highway projects.

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Acknowledgments

We express sincere appreciation to Brent Prauner and Keith Robertson of the Midwest Roadside Safety Facility, University of Nebraska-Lincoln and Merv Eriksson of the USDA Forest Service, Northern Region, for their assistance in drawing preparation.

Specifications

AASHTO. 1989. Guide Specifications for Bridge Railings. Washington, DC: American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials.

AASHTO. 1990. Standard Specifications for Transportation Materials and Methods of Sampling and Testing. Vol. 1: Specifications. Washington, DC: American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials.

M111 Zinc (Hot-Dip Galvanized) Coatings on Iron and Steel Products

M133 Preservatives and Pressure Treatment Process for Timber

M168 Wood Products

M180 Corrugated Sheet Steel Beams for Highway Guardrail

M232 Zinc Coating (Hot-Dip) on Iron and Steel Hardware

ANSI/AASHTO/AWS D1.5-88. Bridge Welding Code. Washington, DC: American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials.

ASTM. Annual Book of ASTM Standards. Philadelphia, PA: American Society for Testing and Materials.

ASTM A36-90	Standard Specification for Structural Steel
ASTM A47-84	Standard Specification for Ferritic Malleable Iron Castings
ASTM A307-92a	Standard Specification for Carbon Steel Bolts and Studs,
	60,000 psi Tensile Strength

ASTM A325-92a Standard Specification for Structural Bolts, Steel, Heat Treated, 120/105 ksi Minimum Tensile Strength

ASTM A722-90 Standard Specification for Uncoated, High-Strength Steel Bar for Prestressing Concrete

SAE J412.1989. General Characteristics and Heat Treatment of Steels. Warrendale, PA. Society of Automotive Engineers.

References

Faller, R.K.; Ritter, M.A.; Holloway, J.C.; Pfeifer, B.G.; Rosson, B.T. 1992. Performance level 1 bridge railings for timber decks. In: Transportation Research Record 1419. Washington, DC: Transportation Research Board, National Research Council: 21-34.

NCHRP. 1981. Recommended procedures for the safety performance evaluation of highway appurtenances. NCHRP Rep. 230. Washington, DC: National Research Council, Transportation Research Board, National Cooperative Highway Research Program.

Ritter, M.A.; Post, E.R.; Faller, R.K. 1990. Vehicular railing systems for timber bridges: a program overview. Wood Design Focus. 1(4): 4-7.

Ritter, M.; Faller, R. 1994. Crashworthy bridge railing for longitudinal wood decks. In: PTEC 94 Timber shaping the future: Proceedings of Pacific Timber Engineering conference; 1994July 11-15; Gold Coast, Australia. Queensland, Australia: Fortitude Valley MAC; 2: 298-307.

Ross, H.E., Jr.; Sicking, D.L.; Zimmer, R.A.; Michie, J.D. 1993. Recommended procedures for the safety performance evaluation of highway features, NCHRP Rep. 350. Washington, DC: National Research Council, Transportation Research Board, National Cooperative Highway Research Program.

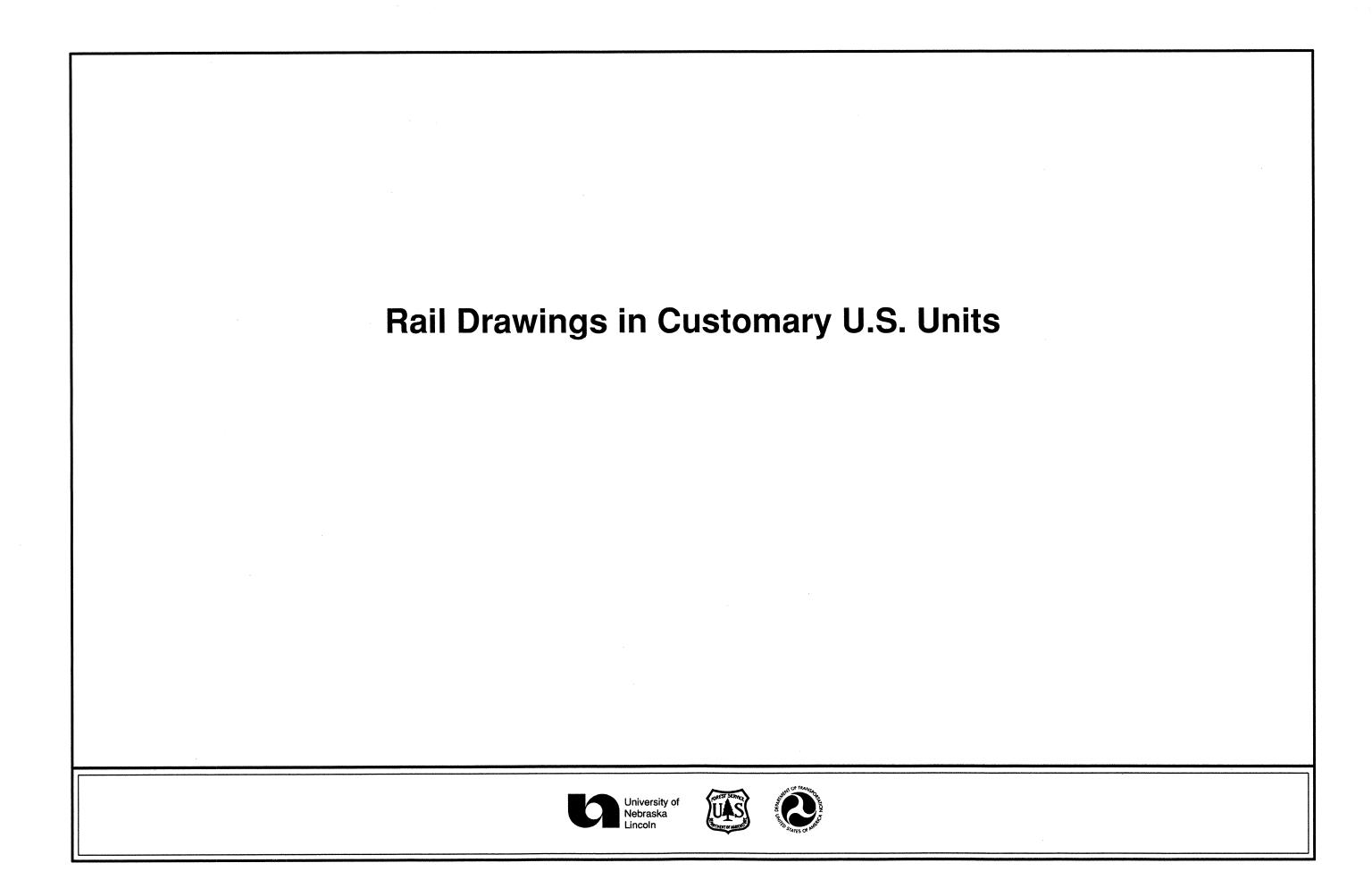
Rosson, B.T.; Faller, R.K.; Ritter, M.A. [in press]. Performance level 2 and test level 4 bridge railings for timber decks. Paper presented at the 1995 annual meeting of the Transportation Research Board. Washington, DC: National Research Council, Transportation Research Board.

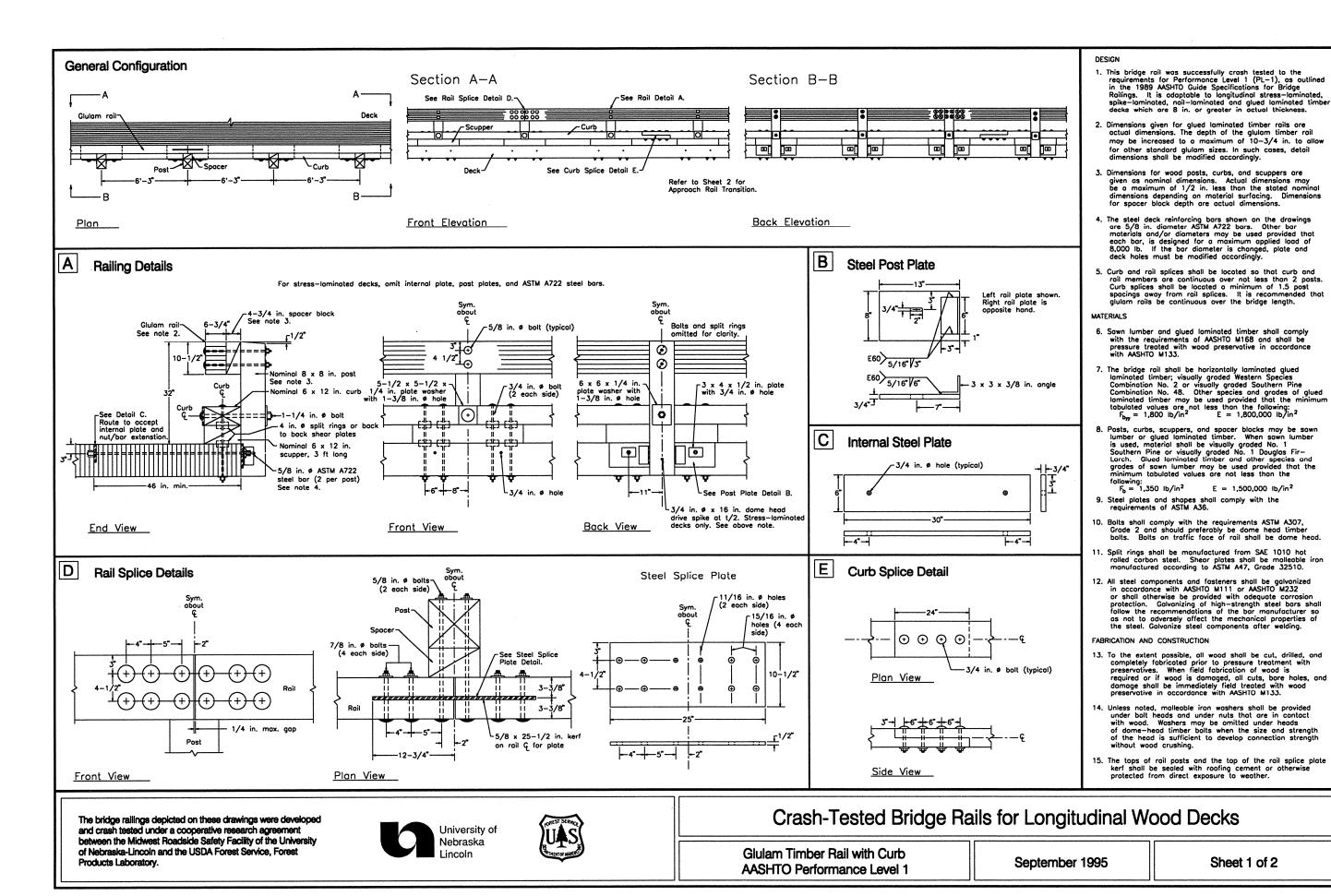
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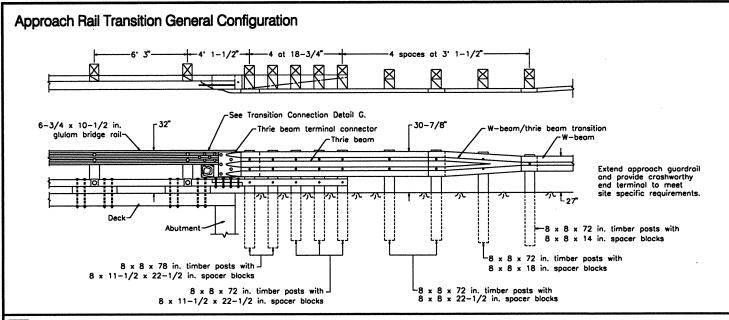
Comments on these drawings should be addressed to the Timber Bridge Team, Forest Products Laboratory, One Gifford Pinchot Drive, Madison, WI 53705-2398.

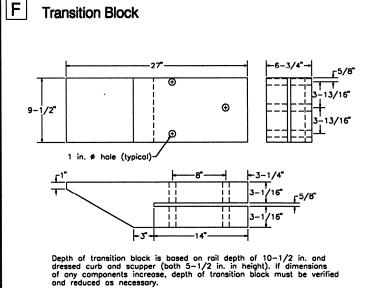
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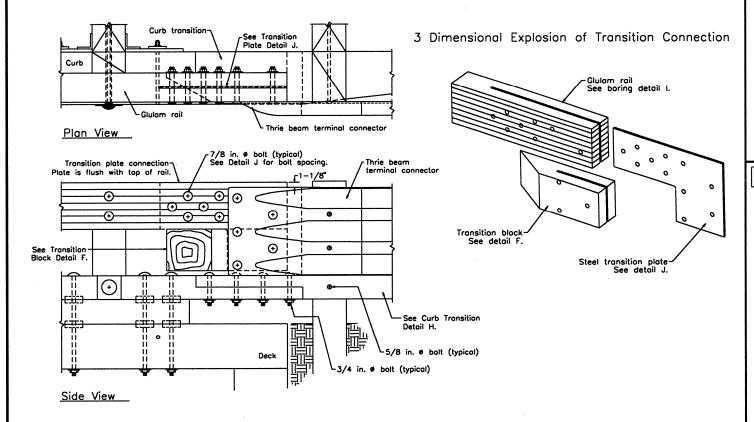




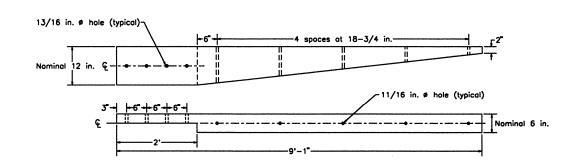
In addition to the notes on Sheet 1, the following apply to the approach rail transition:

- The approach roil transition was successfully crosh tested to the requirements for Service Level 2 (SL-2), as outlined in NCHRP Report 230.
- Thrie beam and thrie beam terminal connector shall be 10 gage. W-beam/thrie beam transition and w-beam shall be 12 gage. All shall comply with the requirements of ASSHTO M180.
- W-beam and thrie beam rail splice bolts and post bolts shall comply with AASHTO M180.

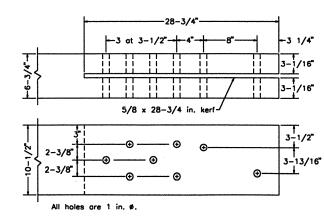


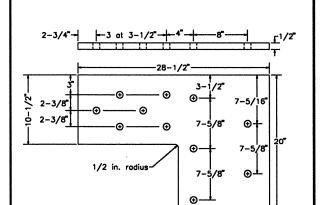


H Curb Transition



Transition Glulam Rail Boring Detail





Steel Transition Plate

All holes are 1 in, ø.

The bridge railings depicted on these drawings were developed and crash tested under a cooperative research agreement between the Midwest Roadside Safety Facility of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and the USDA Forest Service, Forest Products Laboratory.



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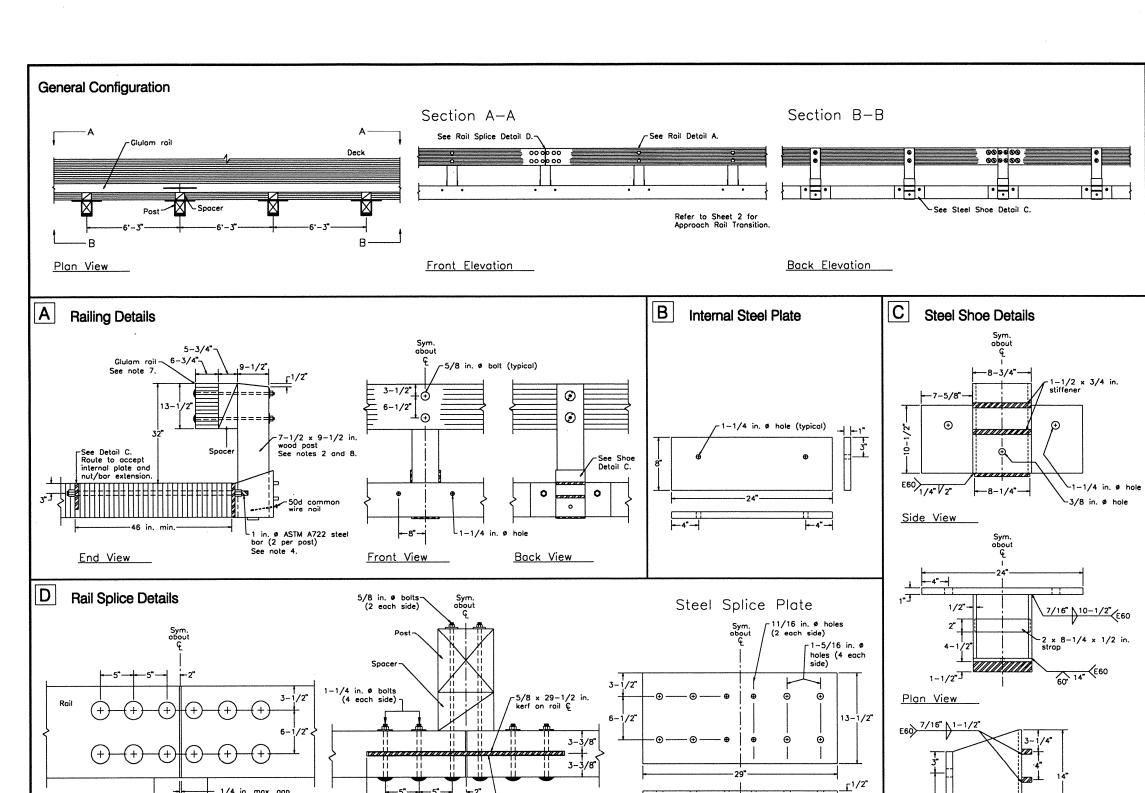
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Crash-Tested Bridge Rails for Longitudinal Wood Decks

Glulam Timber Rail with Curb AASHTO Performance Level 1

September 1995



- This bridge roil was successfully crash tested to the requirements for Performance Level 1 (PL-1), as outlined in the 1989 AASHTO Guide Specifications for Bridge Railings. It is adoptable to longitudinal stress-laminated, spike-laminated, nail-laminated, and glued laminated timber decks which are 10-1/2 in. or greater in actual thickness.
- Dimensions for the wood rail, post, and spacer are actual dimensions. Post dimensions correspond to the standard dressed dimensions for a nominal 8 x 10 in. member that is surfaced on 4 sides (S45).
- 3. The depth of the glulam timber roil may be increased to a maximum of 13-3/4 in, to allow for standard glulam timber sizes. In such cases, detail dimensions shall be verified and modified accordingly.
- 4. The steel deck reinforcing bars shown on the drawings ore 1 in. diameter ASTM A722 bars. Other bar materials and/or diameters may be used provided that each bar is designed for a maximum applied load of 40,000 lb. If the bar diameter is changed, plate and deck holes must be modified accordingly.
- 5. Roil splices shall be located so rail members are continuous over not less than 4 posts. It is recom-mended that the rail be continuous over the bridge

- Sawn lumber and glued laminated timber shall comply with the requirements of AASHTO M168 and shall be pressure treated with wood preservative in accordance with AASHTO M133.
- 7. The bridge rail shall be horizontally laminated glued laminated timber; visually graded Western Species Combination No. 2 or visually graded Southern Pine Combination No. 48. Other species and grades of glued laminated timber may be used provided that the minimum tabulated values are not less than the following:

following: F_{byy} = 1,800 lb/in² E = 1,800,000 lb/in²

- 8. Posts and spacer blocks may be sawn lumber or glued laminated timber. When sawn lumber is used, material shall be visually graded No. 1 Southern Pine or visually graded No. 1 Douglas Fir-Larch. Glued laminated timber and other species and grades of sawn lumber may be used provided that the minimum tabulated values are not less than the following: $F_b = 1.350 \; lb/in^2$ $E = 1.500,000 \; lb/in^2$
- Steel plates and shapes shall comply with the requirements of ASTM A36.
- 10. Bolts shall comply with the requirements ASTM A307, Grade 2 and should preferably be dome head timber bolts. Bolts on traffic face of rail shall be dome head.
- 1. All steel components and fasteners shall be galvanized in accordance with AASHTO M111 or AASHTO M232 or shall otherwise be provided with adequate corrosion protection. Galvanizing of high—strength steel bars shall follow the recommendations of the bar manufacturer so as not to adversely affect the mechanical properties of the steel. Galvanize steel components after welding.

FABRICATION AND CONSTRUCTION

- Welding shall be completed in accordance with the requirements of the ANSI/AASHTO/AWS D1.5-88 Bridge Welding Code.
- 13. To the extent possible, all wood shall be cut, drilled, and completely fobricated prior to pressure treatment with preservatives. When field fobrication of wood is required or if wood is domaged, all cuts, bore holes and damage shall be immediately field treated with wood preservative in accordance with AASHTO M133.
- 4. Unless noted, malleable iron washers shall be provided under bolt heads and under nuts that are in contact with wood. Washers may be amitted under heads of dome-head timber bolts when the size and strength of the head is sufficient to develop connection strength without wood crushing.
- 5. The tops of rail posts and the top of the rail splice plate kerf shall be sealed with roofing cement or otherwise protected from direct exposure to weather.

The bridge railings depicted on these drawings were developed and crash tested under a cooperative research agreement between the Midwest Roadside Safety Facility of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and the USDA Forest Service, Forest Products Laboratory.

Side View



<u>Plan View</u>



-5"--5"-- |-2"

-See Steel Splice

Crash-Tested Bridge Rails for Longitudinal Wood Decks

Glulam Timber Rail without Curb **AASHTO Performance Level 1**

7-1/2

End View

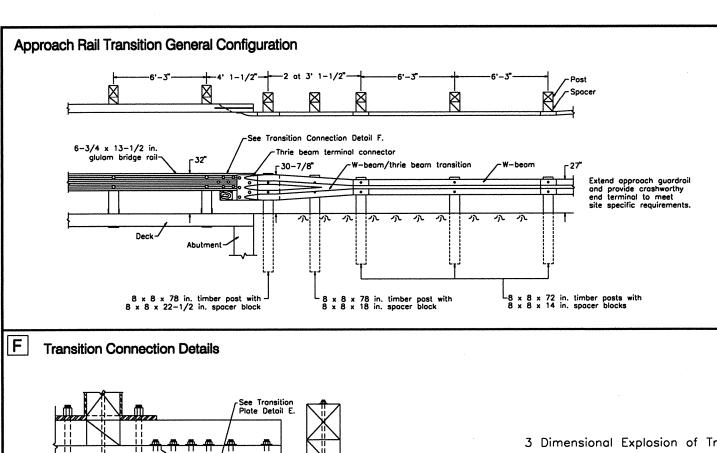
3-1/2"

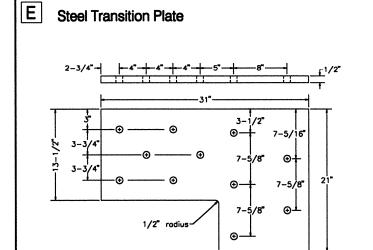
-9-3/4"---

-1/2"

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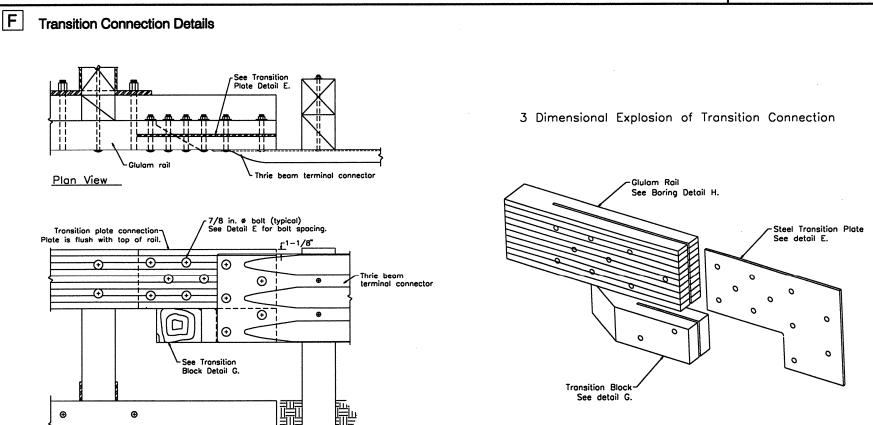


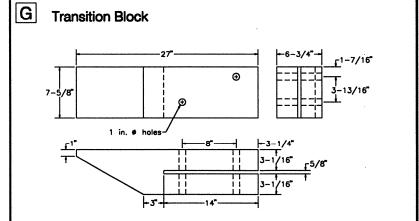


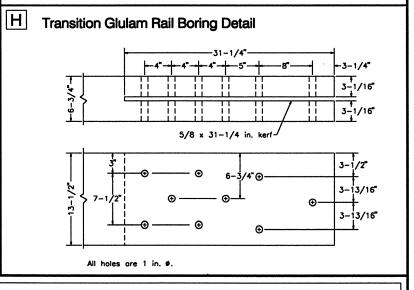
All holes ore 1"#.

In addition to the notes on Sheet 1, the following apply to the approach rail transition:

- The approach rail transition was successfully crash tested to the requirements for Service Level 1 (SL-1), as outlined in NCHRP Report 230.
- Thrie beam terminal connector shall be 10 gage.
 W-beam/thrie beam transition and w-beam shall be
 12 gage. All shall comply with the requirements AASHTO
 M18R
- W-beam and thrie beam rail splice bolts and post bolts shall comply with AASHTO M180.







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Side View

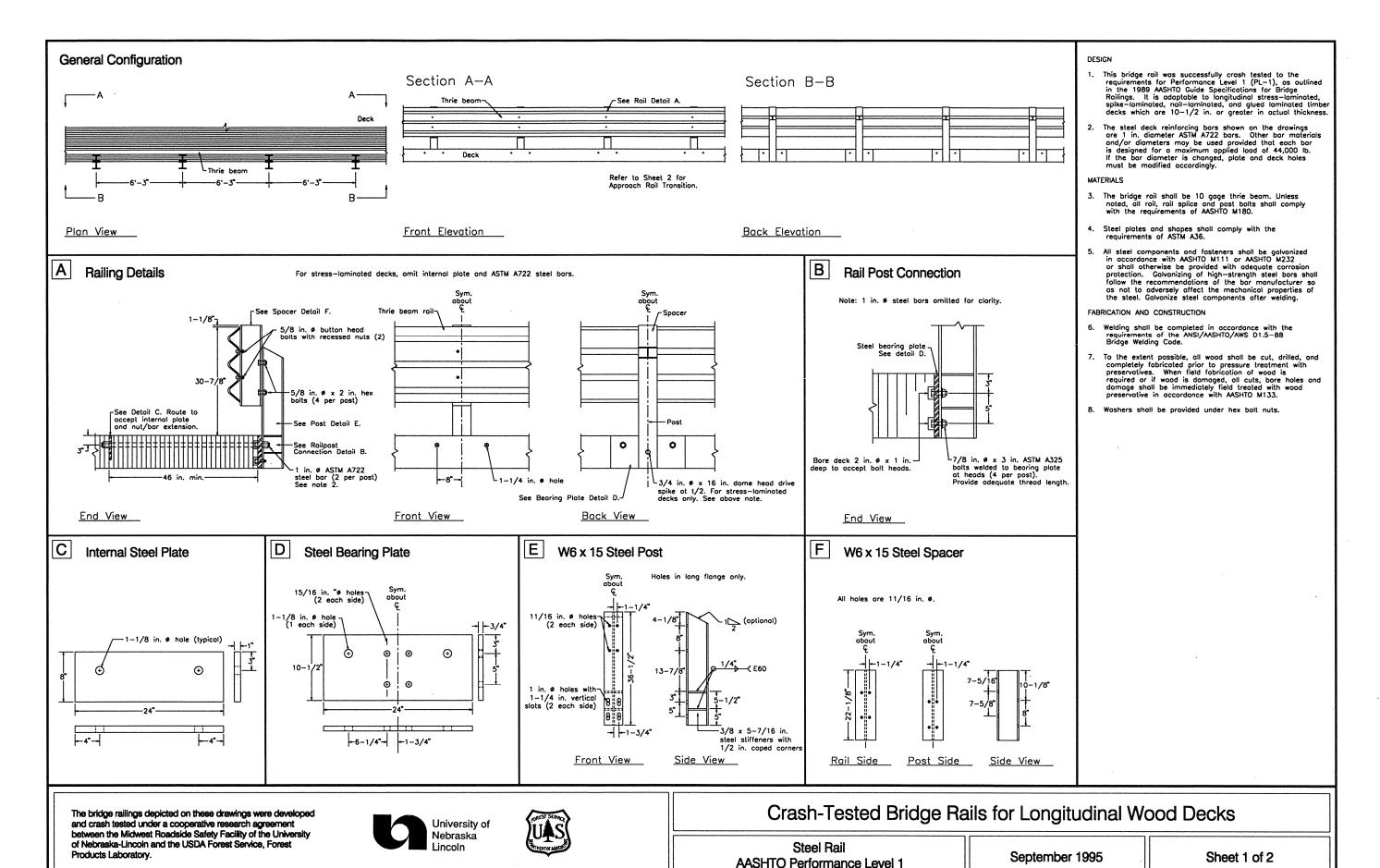




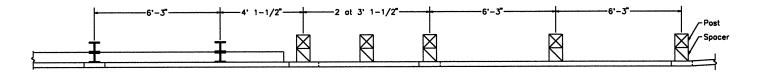
Crash-Tested Bridge Rails for Longitudinal Wood Decks

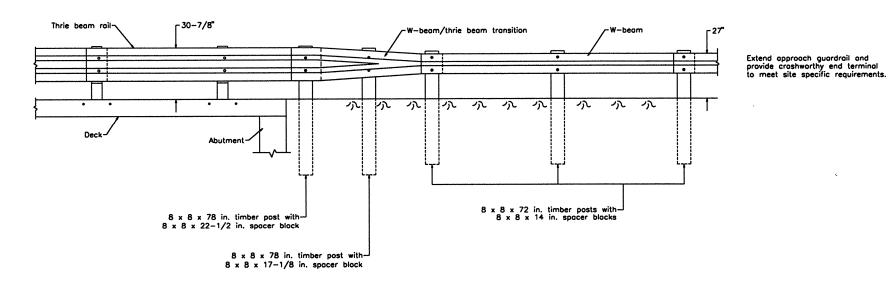
Glulam Timber Rail without Curb
AASHTO Performance Level 1

September 1995









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- The approach roil transition was successfully crash tested to the requirements for Service Level 1 (SL-1), as outlined in NCHRP Report 230.
- Thrie beam and thrie beam terminal connector shall be 10 gage. W-beam/thrie beam transition and w-beam shall be 12 gage. All shall comply with the requirements of AASHTO M180.
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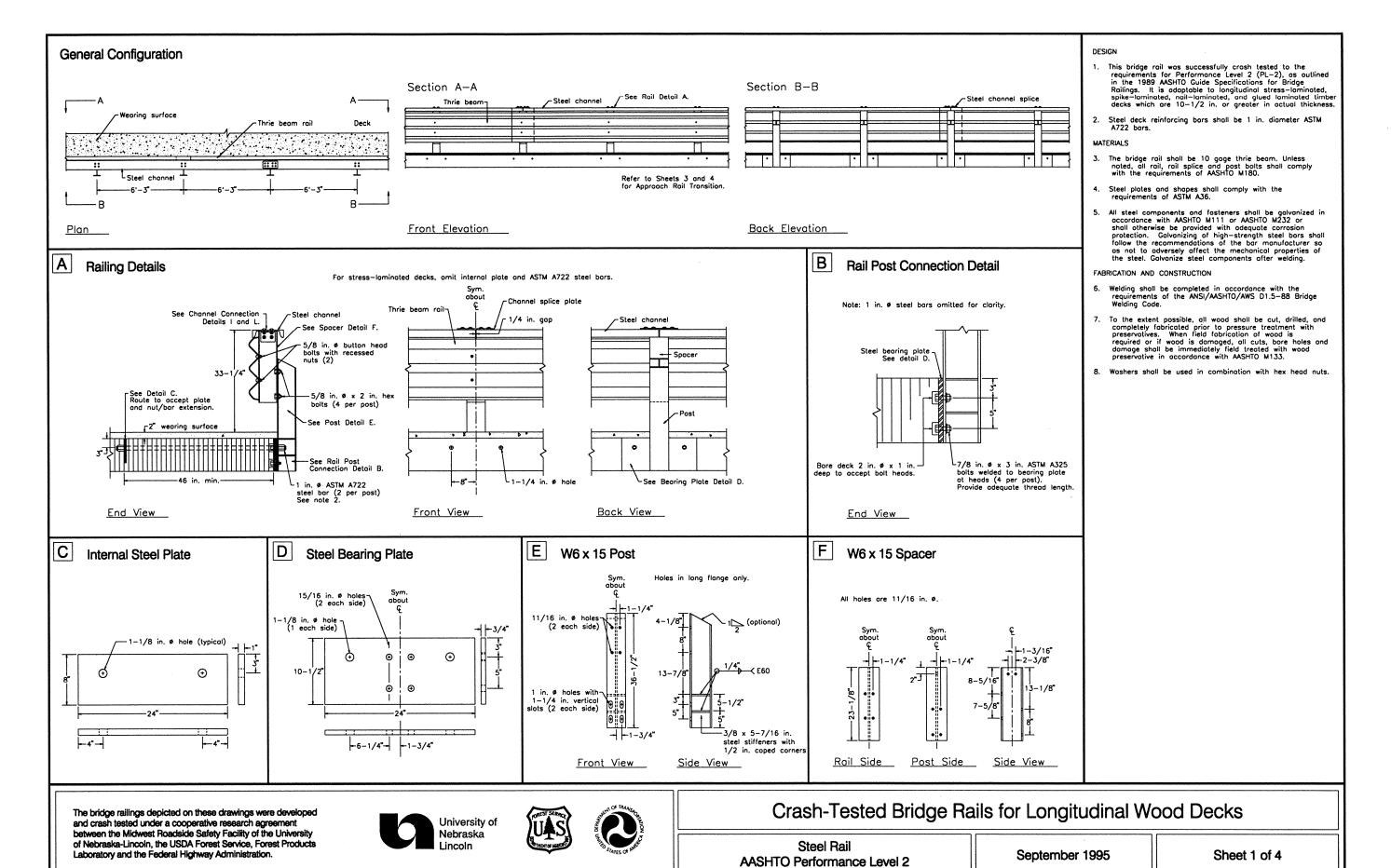


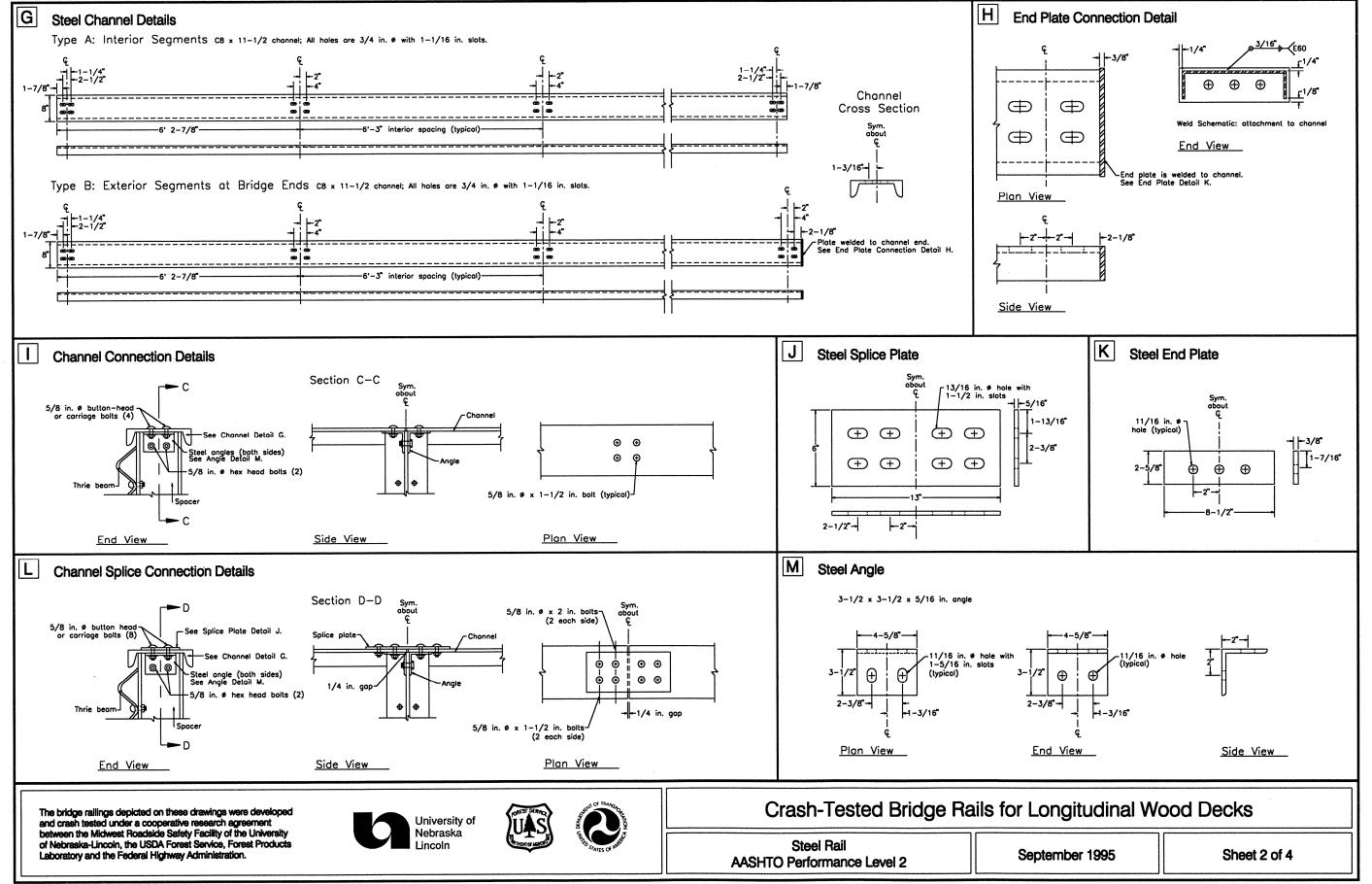
Crash-Tested Bridge Rails for Longitudinal Wood Decks

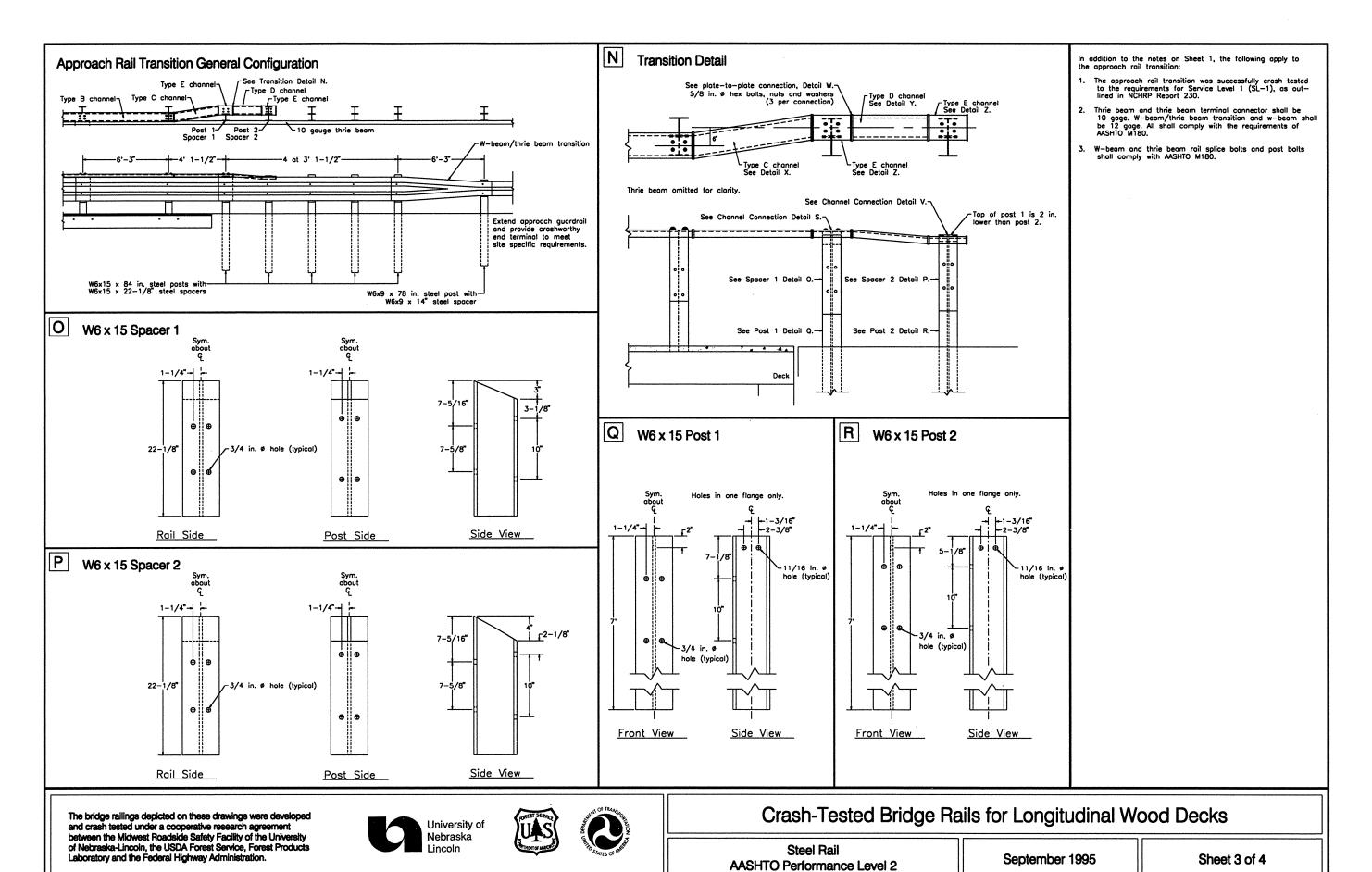
Steel Rail

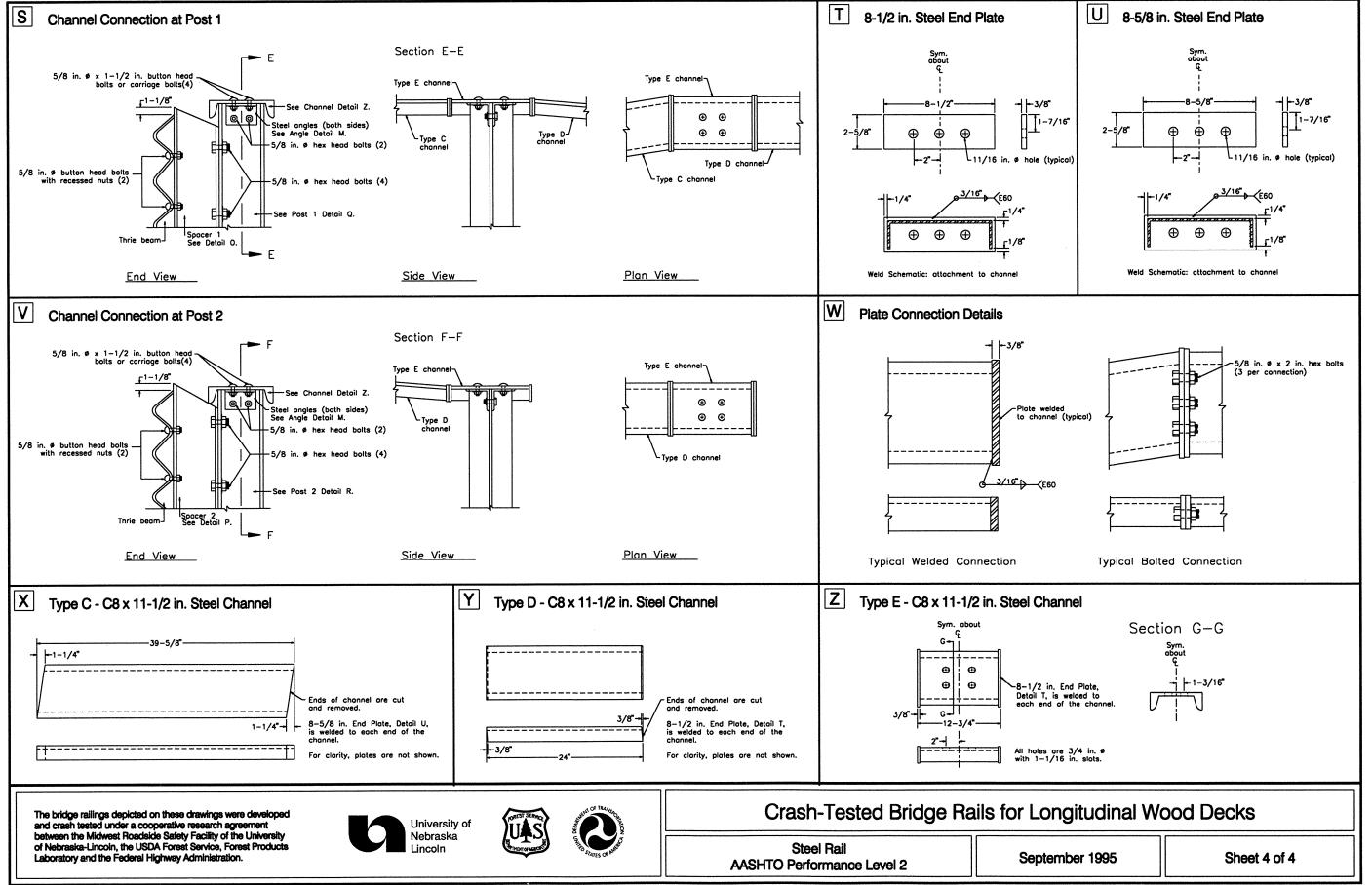
AASHTO Performance Level 1

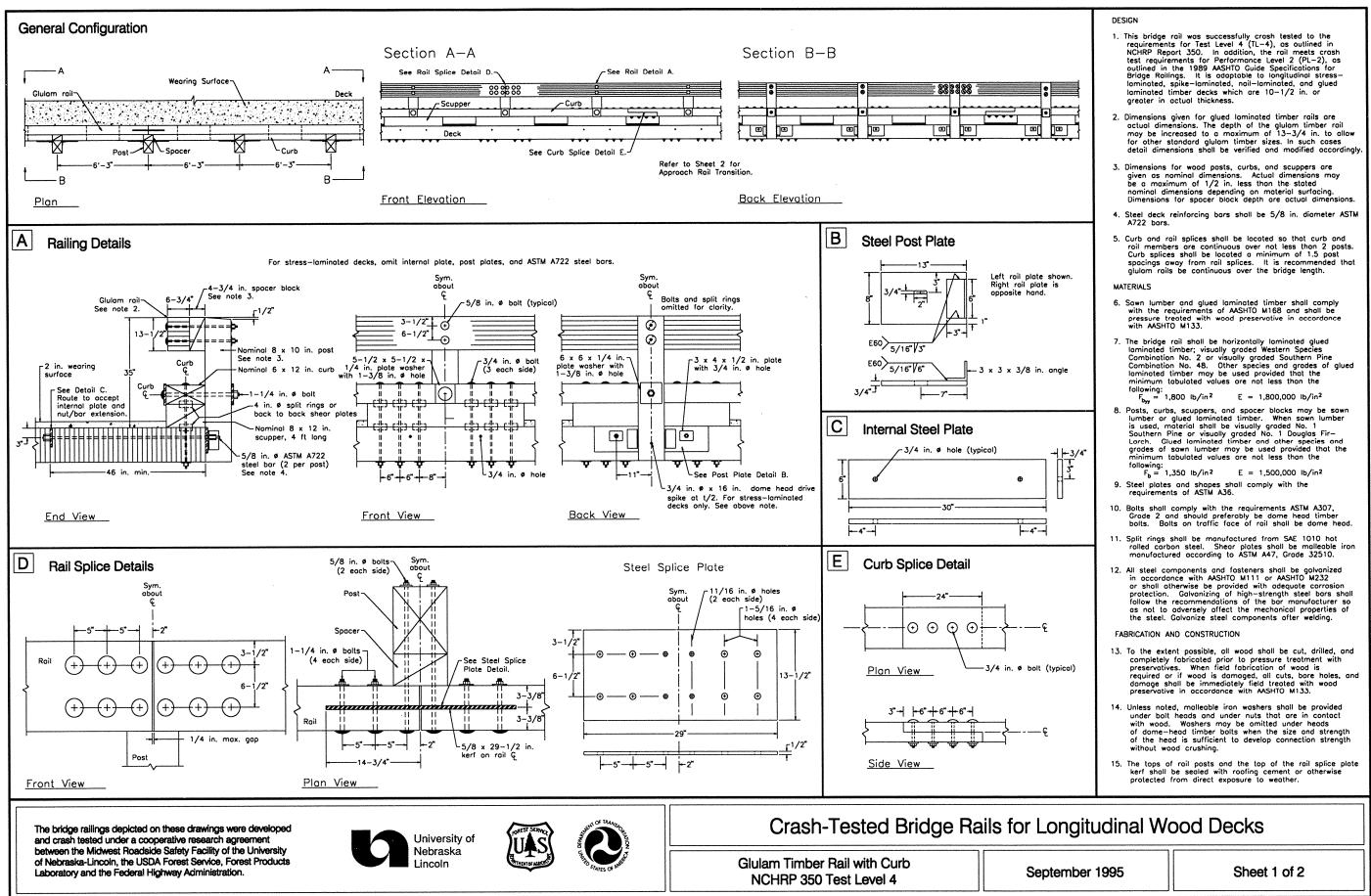
September 1995

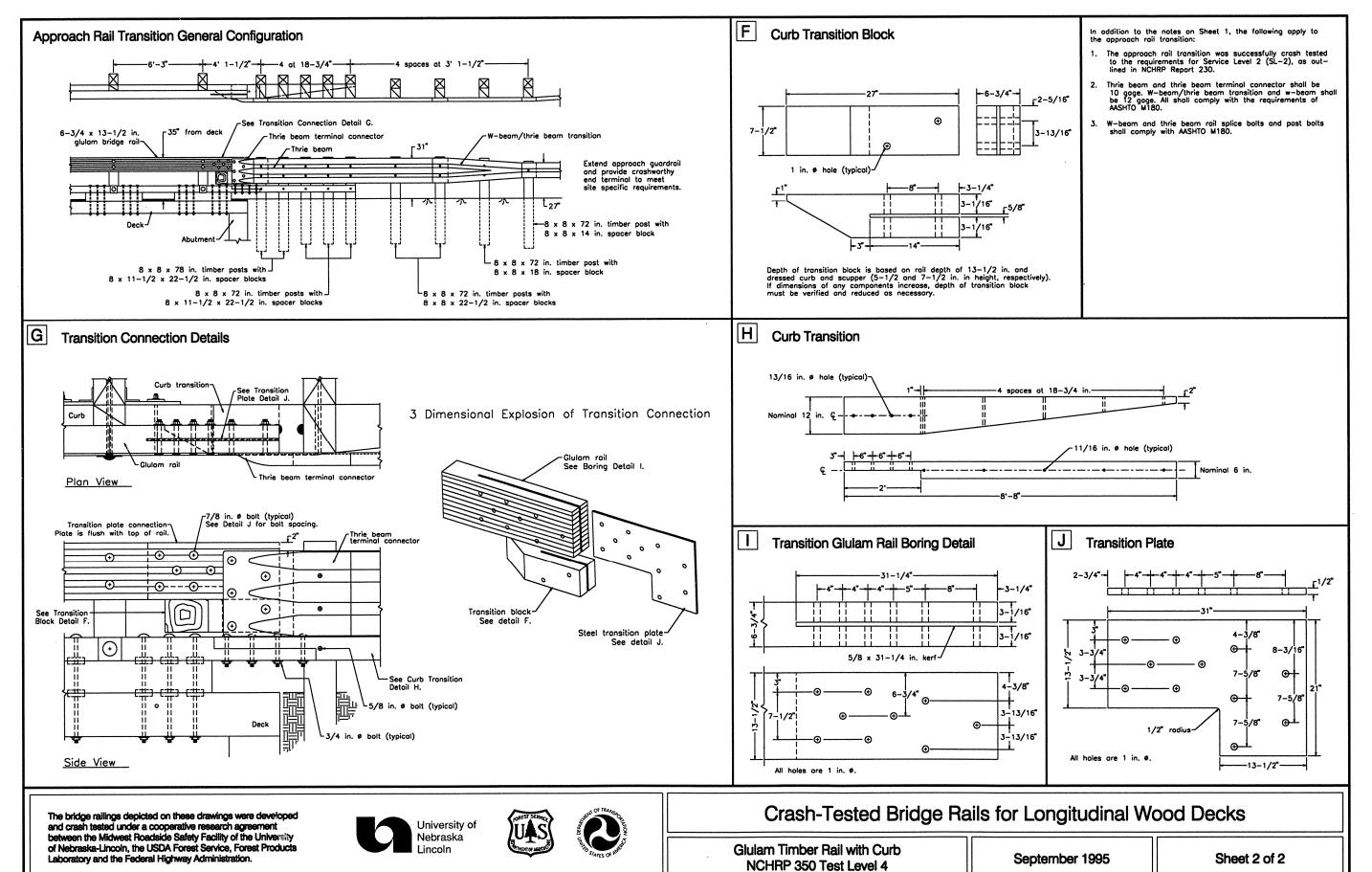


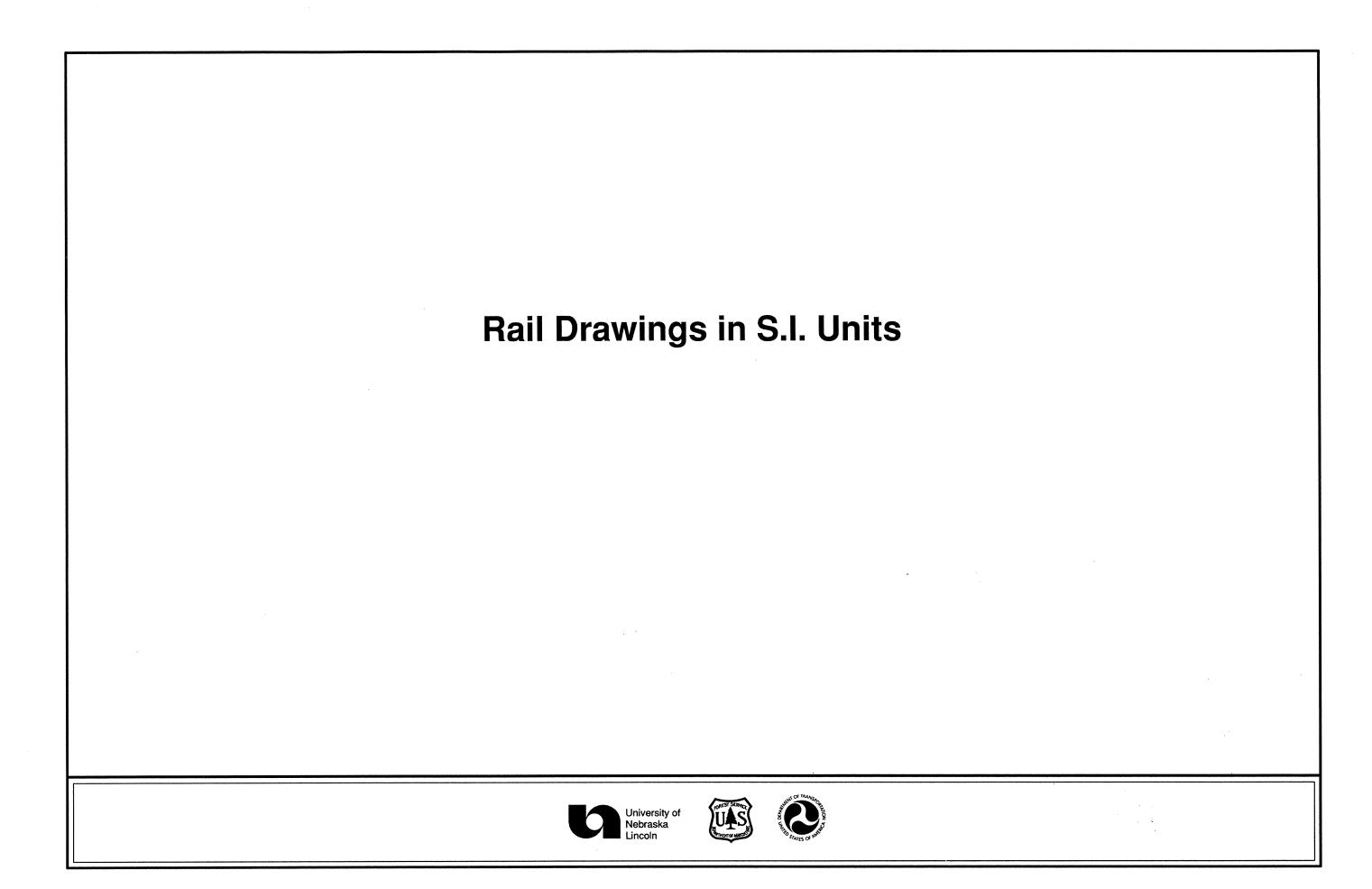


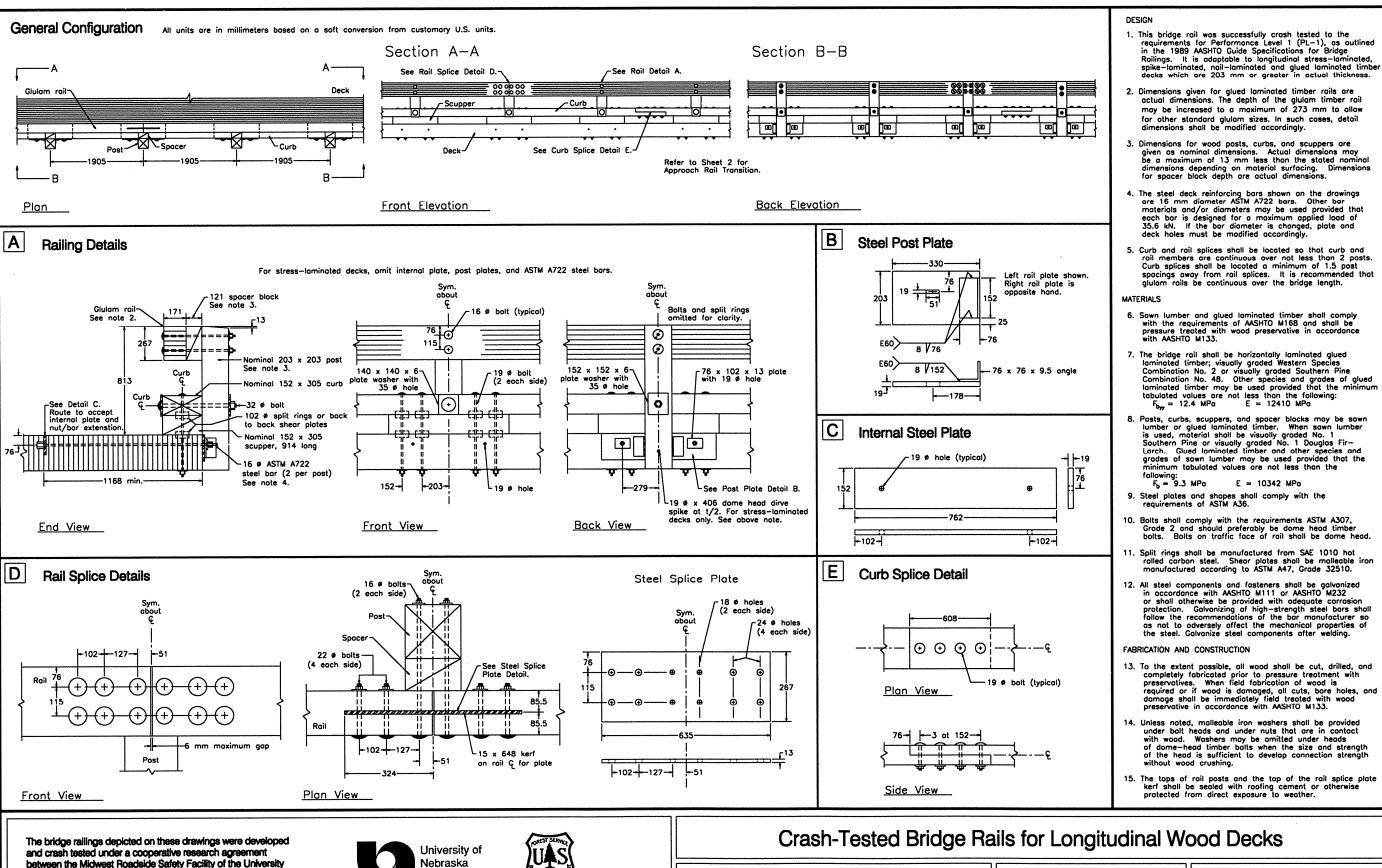












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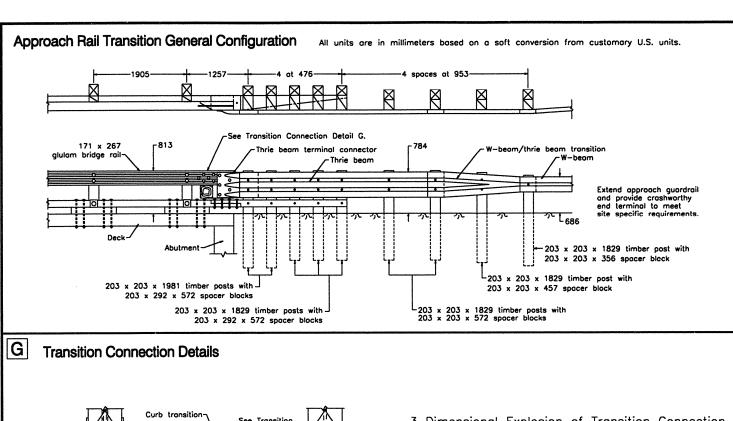
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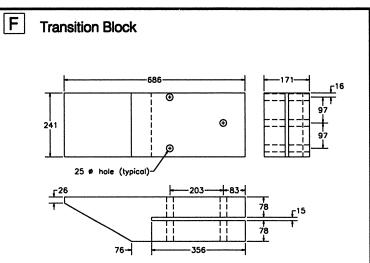
September 1995

Glulam Timber Rail with Curb

AASHTO Performance Level 1

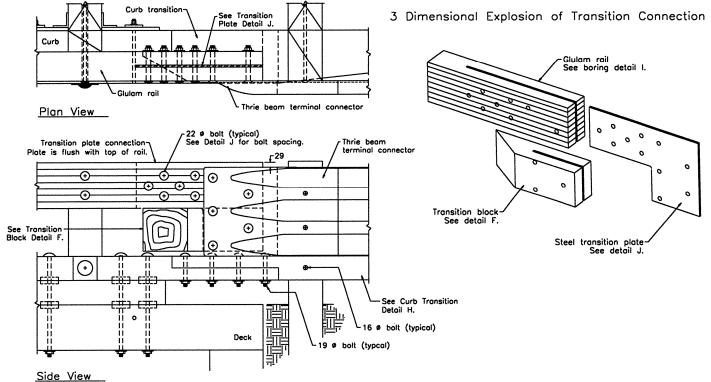
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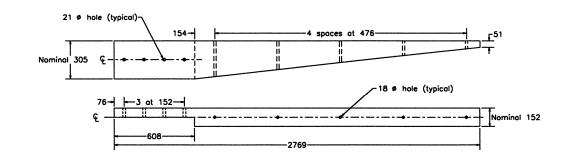


Depth of transition block is based on rail depth of 267 mm and dressed curb and scupper (both 140 mm in height). If dimensions of any components increase, depth of transition block must be verified and reduced as necessary.

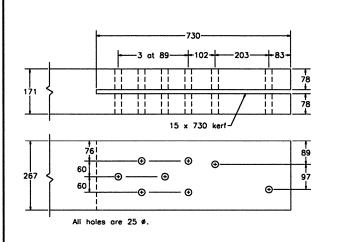
- in addition to the notes on Sheet 1, the following apply to the approach rail transition:
- The opproach roil transition was successfully crash tested to the requirements for Service Level 2 (SL-2), as outlined in NCHRP Report 230.
- Thrie beam and thrie beam terminal connector shall be 10 gage. W-beam/thrie beam transition and w-beam shall be 12 gage. All shall comply with the requirements of AASHTO M180.
- W-beam and thrie beam rail splice bolts and post bolts shall comply with AASHTO M180.



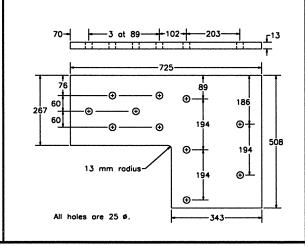
Curb Transition



Transition Glulam Rail Boring Detail



Steel Transition Plate



The bridge railings depicted on these drawings were developed and crash tested under a cooperative research agreement between the Midwest Roadside Safety Facility of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and the USDA Forest Service, Forest Products Laboratory.

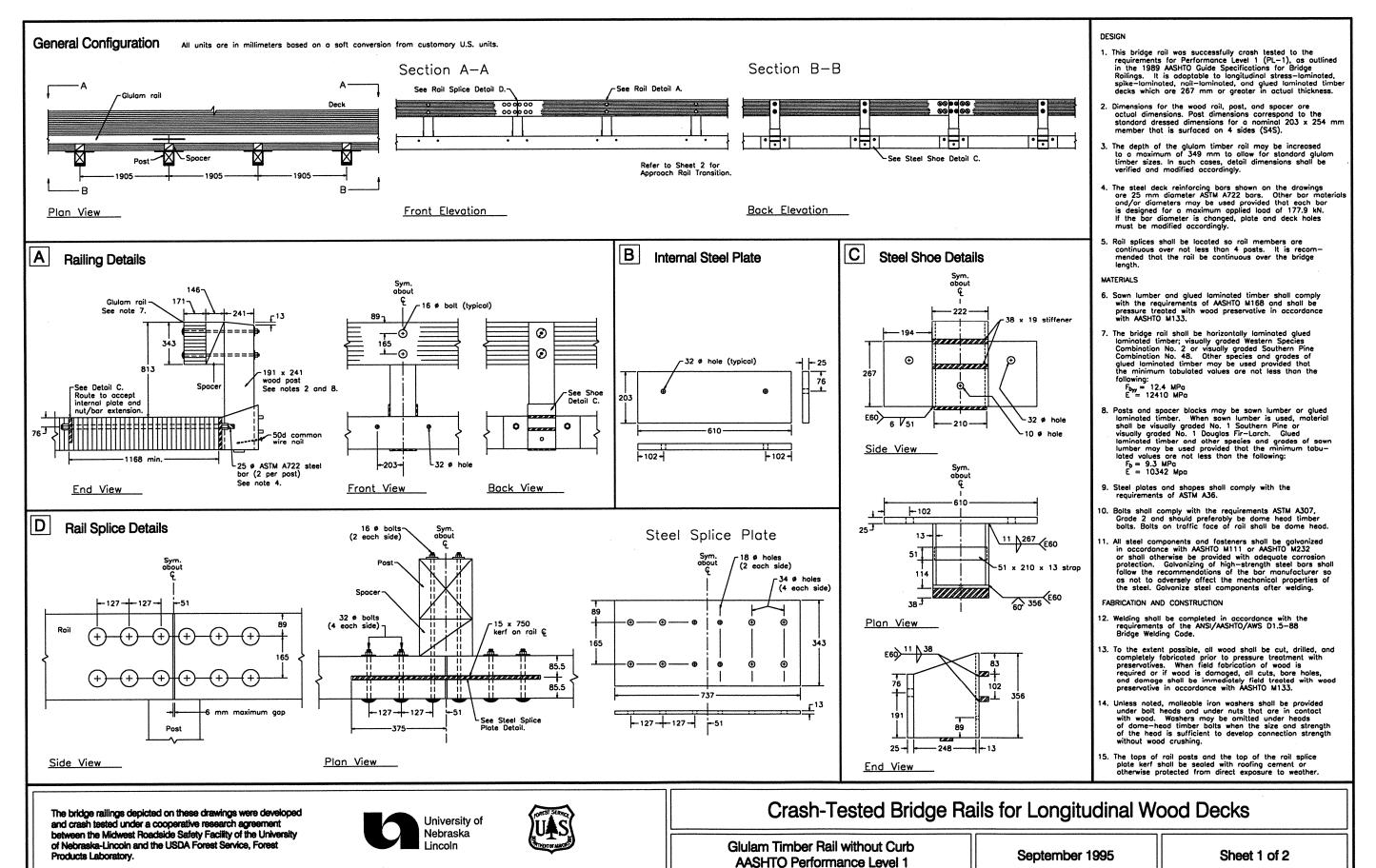


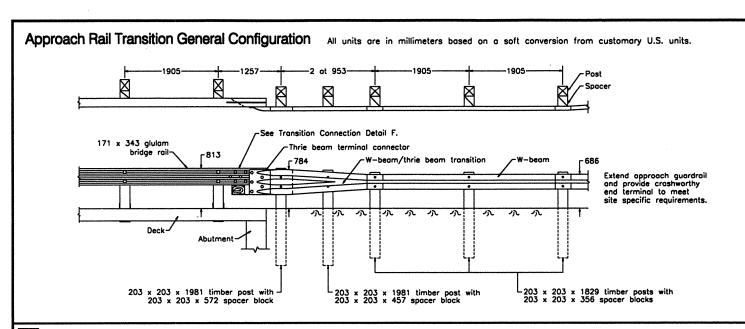


Crash-Tested Bridge Rails for Longitudinal Wood Decks

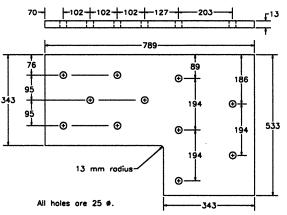
Glulam Timber Rail with Curb AASHTO Performance Level 1

September 1995



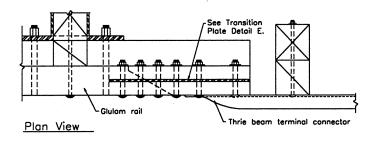


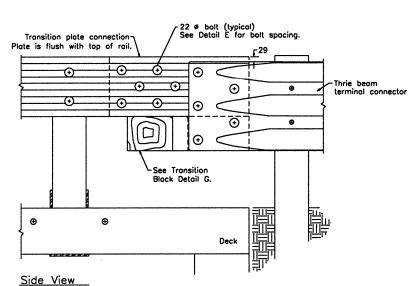




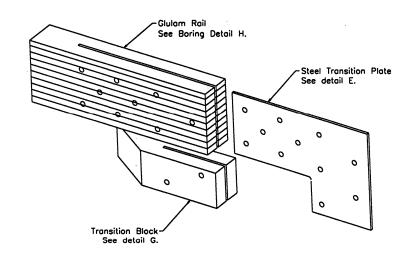
- In addition to the notes on Sheet 1, the following apply to the approach rail transition: $\begin{tabular}{ll} \hline \end{tabular}$
- The approach rail transition was successfully crosh tested to the requirements for Service Level 1 (SL-1), as outlined in NCHRP Report 230.
- Thrie beam terminal connector shall be 10 gage.
 W-beam/thrie beam transition and w-beam shall be 12 gage. All shall comply with the requirements AASHTO M180.
- W-beam and thrie beam rail splice bolts and post bolts shall comply with AASHTO M180.





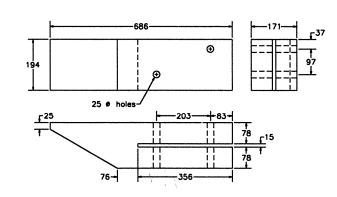


3 Dimensional Explosion of Transition Connection

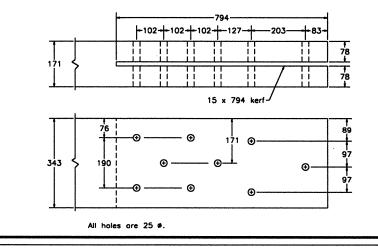


Transition Block

G



H Transition Glulam Rail Boring Detail



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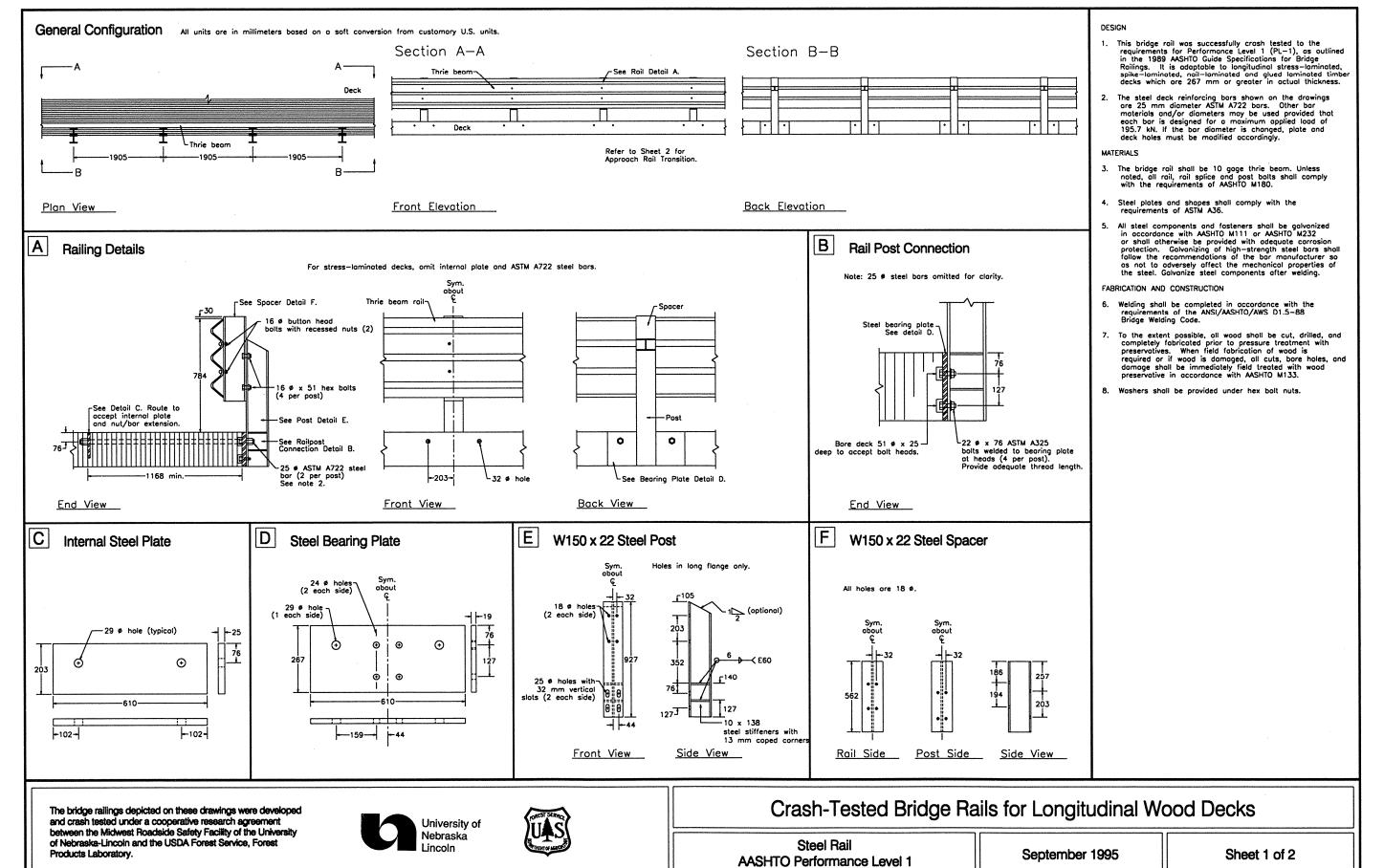


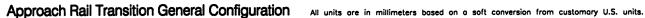


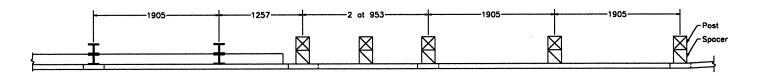
Crash-Tested Bridge Rails for Longitudinal Wood Decks

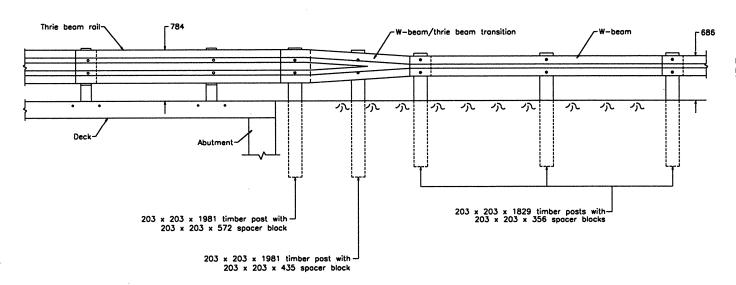
Glulam Timber Rail without Curb
AASHTO Performance Level 1

September 1995









Extend approach guardrail and provide croshworthy end terminal to meet site specific requirements.

The bridge railings depicted on these drawings were developed and crash tested under a cooperative research agreement between the Midwest Roadside Safety Facility of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and the USDA Forest Service, Forest Products Laboratory.





Crash-Tested Bridge Rails for Longitudinal Wood Decks

Steel Rail **AASHTO Performance Level 1**

September 1995

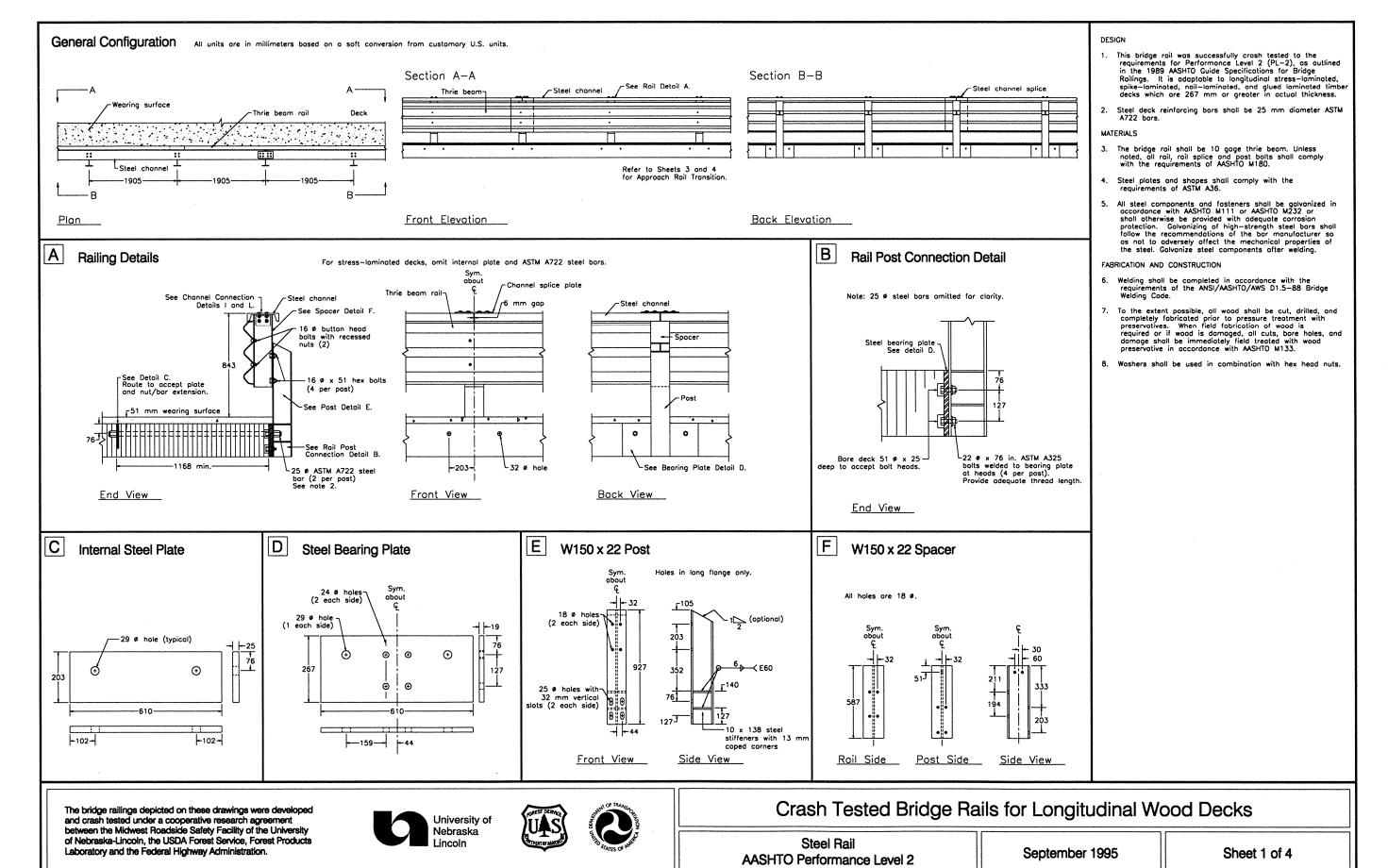
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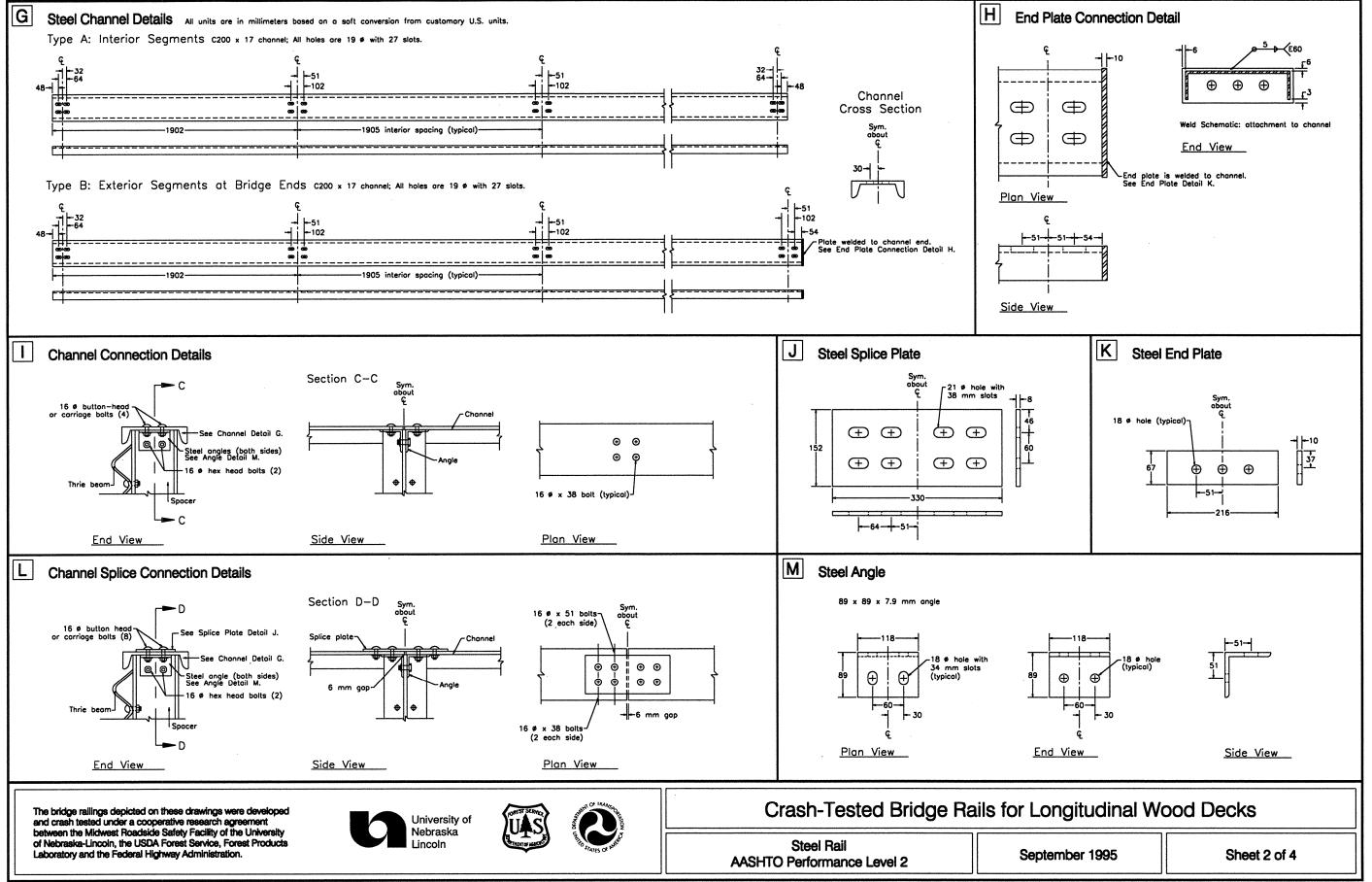
In addition to the notes on Sheet 1, the following apply to the approach rail transition:

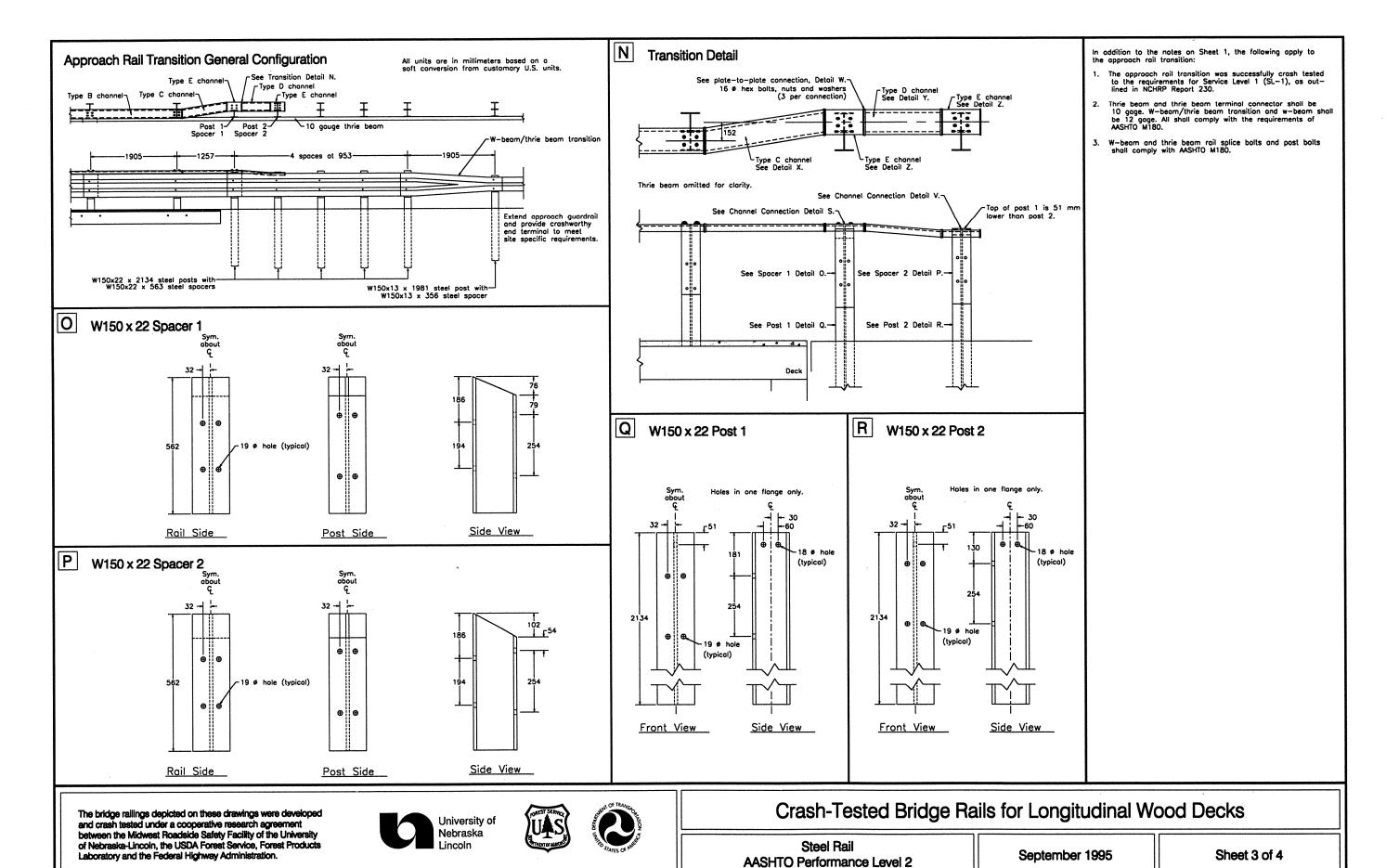
The approach rail transition was successfully crosh tested to the requirements for Service Level 1 (SL-1), as out-lined in NCHRP Report 230.

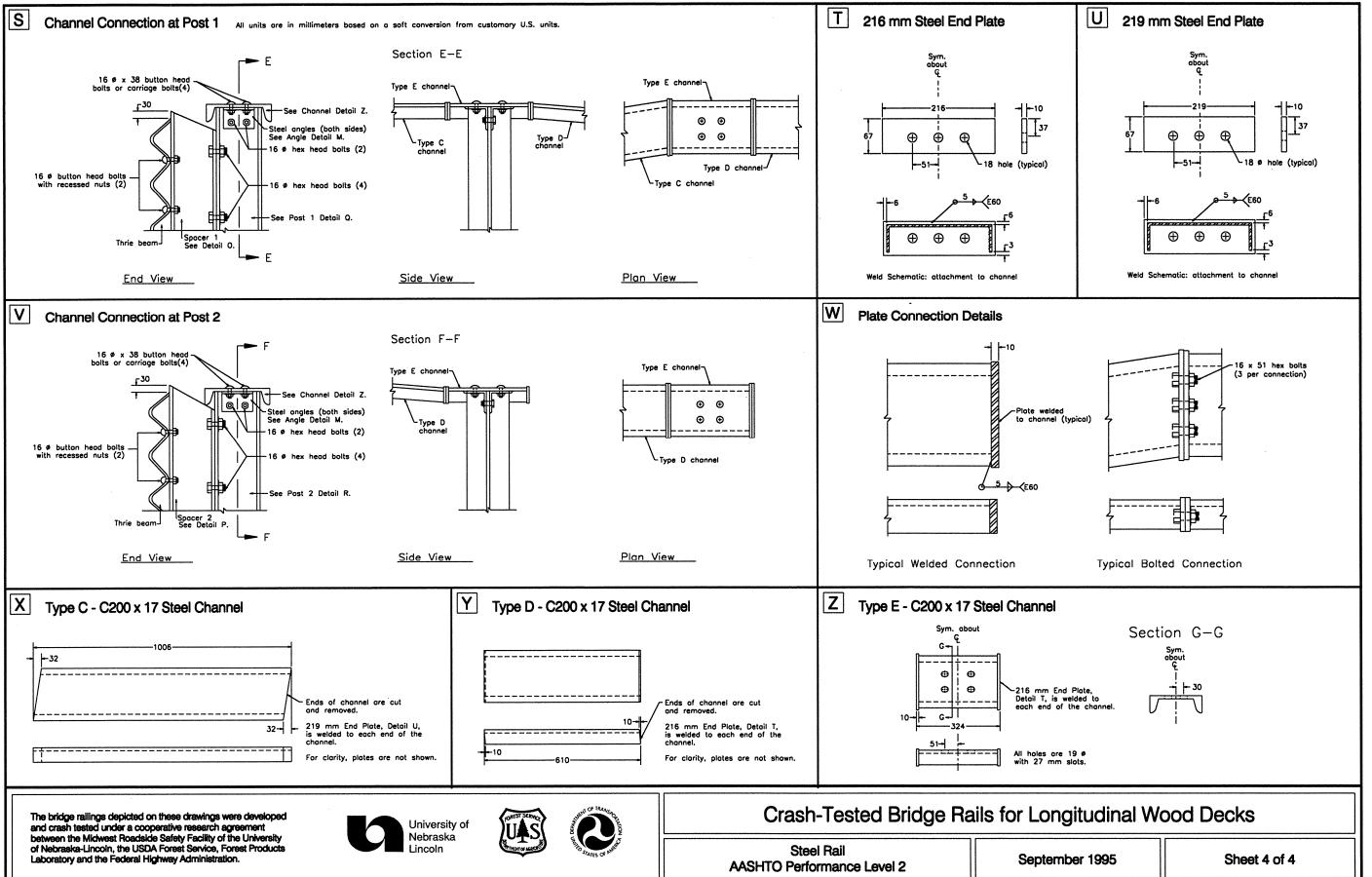
W-beam and thrie beam rail splice bolts and post bolts shall comply with AASHTO M180.

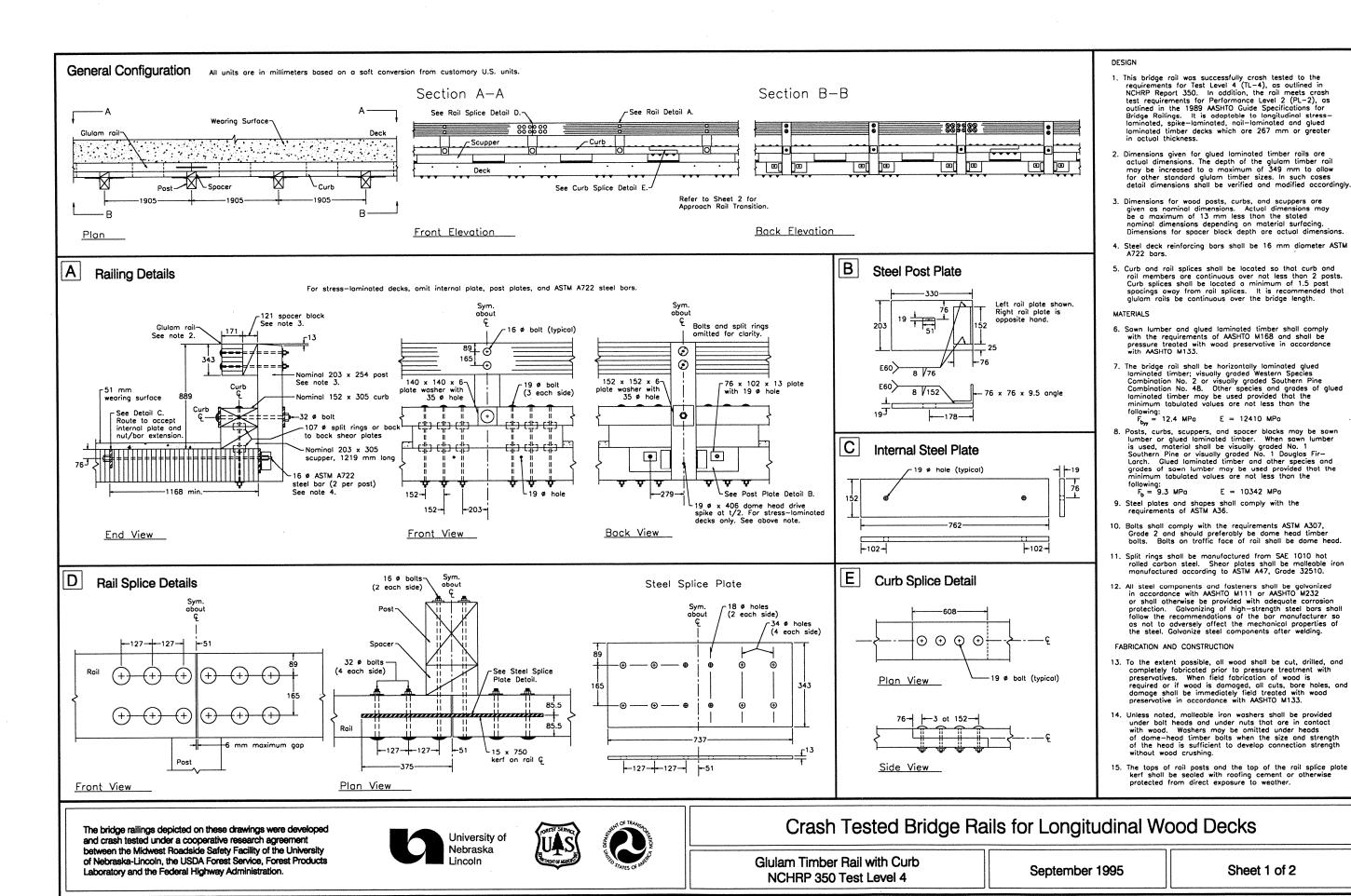
Thrie beam and thrie beam terminal connector shall be 10 gage. W-beam/thrie beam transition and w-beam shall be 12 gage. All shall comply with the requirements of AASHIO M180.

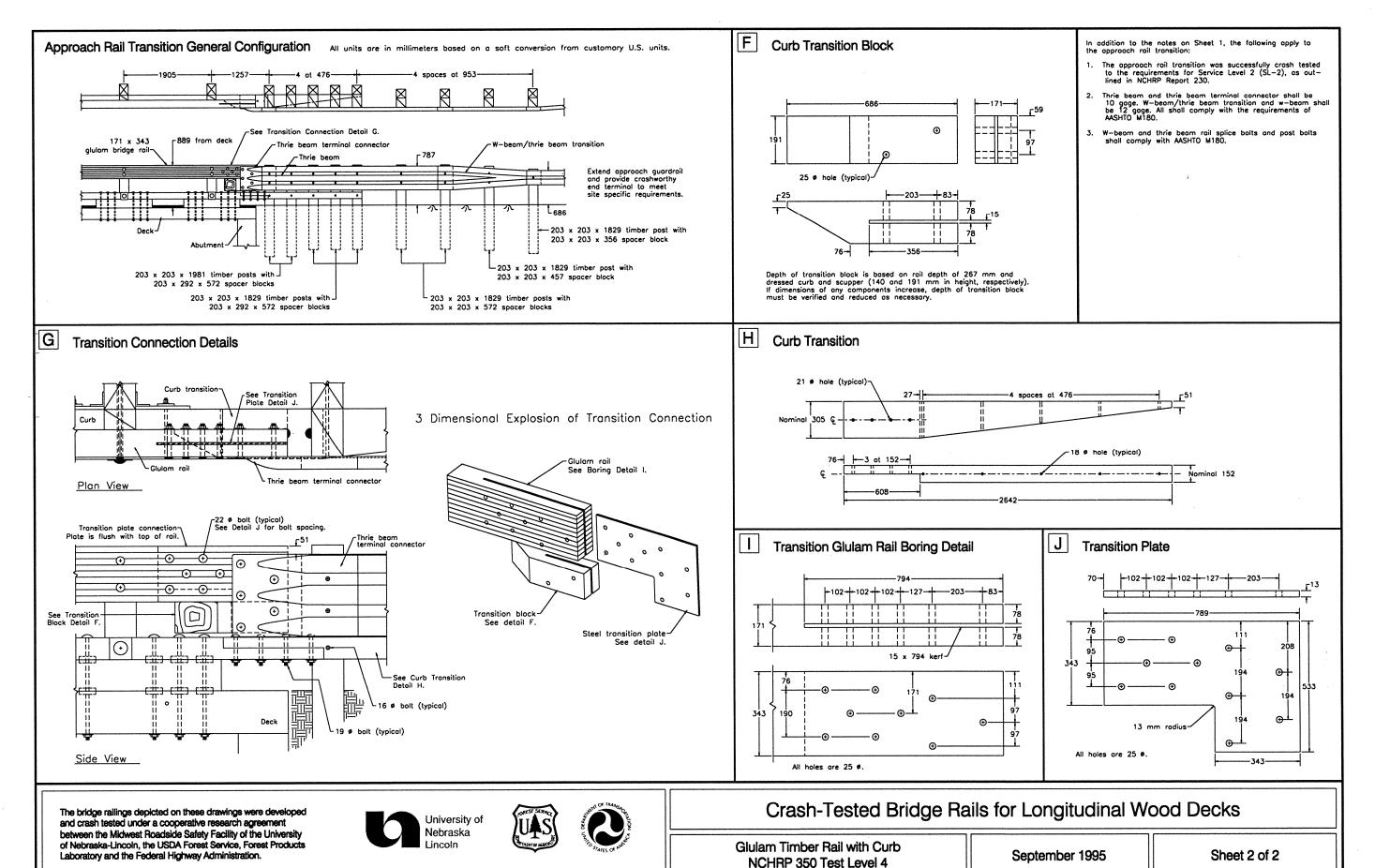












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