



1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE.
Washington, DC 20590

August 30, 2007

In Reply Refer To: HOTO-1

Kenneth E. Linger, P.E.
Maintenance of Traffic Engineer
Office of Traffic Engineering
Ohio Department of Transportation
1900 West Broad Street
Columbus, OH 43223

Dear Mr. Linger:

Thank you for your July 19 e-mail request for an official interpretation regarding the list of devices shown in the revised Interim Approval for Automated Flagger Assistance Devices (AFADs), issued on January 28, 2005. As you know, the purpose of this Interim Approval was to allow the optional use of AFADs under certain conditions in temporary traffic control zones to reduce flagger exposure to highway traffic.

Before an Interim Approval is issued, the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) considers the results of successful research and/or experience with the particular device or application. In the January 28, 2005 Interim Approval, the FHWA has included examples of three AFADs that were tested and found successful along with information about the make, manufacturer, and the agency conducting the research experiment. These specific three AFADs were listed because they each represent different versions and types of the tested devices.

It was not FHWA's intent to give the impression that the Interim Approval is limited to these specific three AFADs. Any other device that meets the technical provisions described in the Interim Approval for AFADs may be used. The information about the make, manufacturer, and agency conducting the research is provided so that interested persons have a point of contact should they have additional questions about the devices. The list is not intended to be an "Approved Products List." It is also not intended to be an endorsement of a specific manufacturer. It is only intended to provide examples of three types of conceptual designs and applications for AFADs that may be used by State and local highway jurisdictions.



We appreciate your interest in temporary traffic control devices and we hope this clarification helps explain the intent of the Interim Approval. For recordkeeping purposes, we have assigned the following official ruling number to this interpretation: "6-219(I) – Interim Approval List of Three Automated Flagger Assistance Devices." Please refer to this official ruling number if you have additional questions. You can also contact Mr. Ken Wood of my staff at 708-283-4340.

Sincerely yours,

Anthony T. Furst

Anthony T. Furst
Acting Director, Office of Transportation
Operations

FHWA:HOTO-1:LLBrown:ds:62192:8-28-07

cc: HOTO-1 HOTO-1(LLBrown/HKalla)

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DF(Official Ruling File #6-219Intr)

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