



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Federal Highway
Administration**

July 1, 2009

1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

In Reply Refer To:
HSSD/WZ-281

Ms. Glenda Bleau
Sales Supervisor
MDI Traffic Control Products
38271 W. Twelve Mile Rd
Farmington Hills, MI 48331-3041

Dear Ms. Bleau:

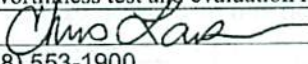
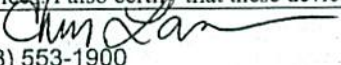
In your letter of April 30 you requested the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) acceptance of MDI's model 50TRI tri-pod temporary sign stand as a crashworthy traffic control device for use in work zones on the National Highway System. You requested acceptance of the temporary sign stand for use with the following sign substrate material: 1/2 inch thick plywood. Your request for acceptance is based on the performance of the generic tri-pod sign stand accepted in FHWA letters WZ-240 and a similar tri-pod stand in WZ-207. Accompanying your letter were the FHWA Office of Safety Design forms that included a drawing and a detailed description of the 50TRI. The drawing of the 50TRI is enclosed for reference. You requested that we find the 50TRI acceptable for use as a Test Level 3 device on the NHS under the provisions of the National Cooperative Highway Research Program Report 350 "Recommended Procedures for the Safety Performance Evaluation of Highway Features".

This letter acknowledges FHWA's acceptance of your request. The original completed forms have been modified by the addition of the FHWA acceptance letter number and the date of our review. The forms will be posted on our Web site in the near future.

Sincerely,

David A. Nicol, P.E.
Director, Office of Safety Design
Office of Safety



Page 1	FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION OFFICE OF SAFETY DESIGN Category 2 Work Zone Device Acceptance Letter	Letter Number WZ-281
		Date 5/18/09
Contact Info	Petitioner / Developer Name and Address: Marketing Displays Incorporated (MDI) 38271 W Twelve Mile Road Farmington Hills, MI 48331	
	I hereby certify that the device(s) covered by this Acceptance Letter meet(s) the crash – worthiness test and evaluation requirements of the FHWA and NCHRP Report 350.	
Signature		
Telephone #	(248) 553-1900	
Email Address	tcpsales@mdiworldwide.com	
	Laboratory / Engineer Name and Address Christopher Larsen 38271 W Twelve Mile Road Farmington Hills, MI 48331	
<input type="checkbox"/>	I hereby certify that the testing that supports this Acceptance Letter was conducted in accordance with NCHRP Report 350 guidelines, that the device(s) tested is/are accurately described on this form, and that the test results indicate that the device meets all applicable NCHRP Report 350 evaluation criteria.	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	I have evaluated the requested modifications to these devices previously found acceptable by the FHWA in Acceptance Letter WZ- 240 and hereby certify that, in my opinion, the modifications do not adversely affect the crash performance of the devices. I also certify that these devices are accurately described on this form.	
Signature		
Telephone #	(248) 553-1900	
Email Address	tcpsales@mdiworldwide.com	
Keywords:		
	Type of Device (See page 3) Tripod Sign Stand	
	Composition of Sign or Rail substrate (See Page 3) Plywood	
	Thickness of substrate (inches): 0.50	
	Height of sign from the ground (inches), if applicable: (See Page 3) Low: 12 to 18 inches above the pavement	
	Flags and or lights present during test? Indicate number of each:	
	# of flags: 3 # of lights: 0 Weight of lights: ea.	
Device Name	Part number is 50TRI	
Detailed Desc. Of Device, Materials, sizes, Fasteners, Substrates Foundation, Aux. Features Ballast, etc.	(May be attached on separate page(s) PLEASE SEE ATTACHED	

Page 2	FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION OFFICE OF SAFETY DESIGN		Letter Number	
	Category 2 Work Zone Device Acceptance Letter		Date	
	Mandatory Attachments			
	Attachment # 1: Test data summary page(s)			
	Attach. #1a	Test #		
	Attach. #1b	Test #		
	Attach. #1c	Test #		
Attach. #1d	Test #			
Alternative	Attachment # 1: Description and discussion of modification(s) to crash tested and/or accepted device.			
	Date: _____			
	Attachment # 2: PDF drawing(s) of device(s)			
	Attach. #2a	Drawing Title:		
		Drawing #:		
	Attach. #2b	Drawing Title:		
		Drawing #:		
	Attach. #2c	Drawing Title:		
		Drawing #:		
	Attach. #2d	Drawing Title:		
		Drawing #:		
	Attach. #2e	Drawing Title:		
		Drawing #:		
	Attach. #2f	Drawing Title:		
		Drawing #:		
	Attach. #2g	Drawing Title:		
		Drawing #:		

Page 2	FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION OFFICE OF SAFETY DESIGN Category 2 Work Zone Device Acceptance Letter		Letter Number
			WZ-281
			Date
			05/16/2009
	Mandatory Attachments		
	Attachment # 1: Test data summary page(s)		
	Attach. #1a	Test #	
Attach. #1b	Test #		
Attach. #1c	Test #		
Attach. #1d	Test #		
Alternative	Attachment # 1: Description and discussion of modification(s) to crash tested and/or accepted device.		
	Date: _____		
	Attachment # 2: PDF drawing(s) of device(s)		
	Attach. #2a	Drawing Title: Trip-pod Sign Stand	
		Drawing #: ESR00492-51	
	Attach. #2b	Drawing Title: _____	
		Drawing #: _____	
	Attach. #2c	Drawing Title: _____	
		Drawing #: _____	
	Attach. #2d	Drawing Title: _____	
		Drawing #: _____	
	Attach. #2e	Drawing Title: _____	
		Drawing #: _____	
	Attach. #2f	Drawing Title: _____	
	Drawing #: _____		
Attach. #2g	Drawing Title: _____		
	Drawing #: _____		

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		WZ-281
		Date
		05/18/2009

Please select from the following Keywords for “Type of Device”:

Longitudinal Channelizing Barricade
 Curb (Curb channelizer system with or without road tubes or other channelizers)
 Drum
 H-Footprint Sign Stand
 X-Footprint Sign Stand
 Trailer Mounted Signs (Does not include arrow boards or variable message signs or other Category 4 trailer mounted devices.)
 Automated Flagger Device (not trailer mounted)
 Tripod Sign Stand
 Type I Barricade
 Type II Barricade
 Type III Barricade
 Vertical Panel
 Intrusion Detector
 Ballast (Action relates to ballast on one or more devices)
 Channelizer (Individual units unlike cones, road tubes, or drums)

Please select from the following Keywords for “Sign Substrate”:

Roll-up / Fabric (with fiberglass spreaders – aluminum or steel spreaders are not allowed).
 Plywood
 Aluminum – Solid
 Aluminum – Laminate
 Corrugated Plastic
 Extruded Plastic
 Waffleboard Plastic
 Wood / Lumber

Please select from the following Keywords for “Height of Sign”:

The distance to the lowest point on the sign is:

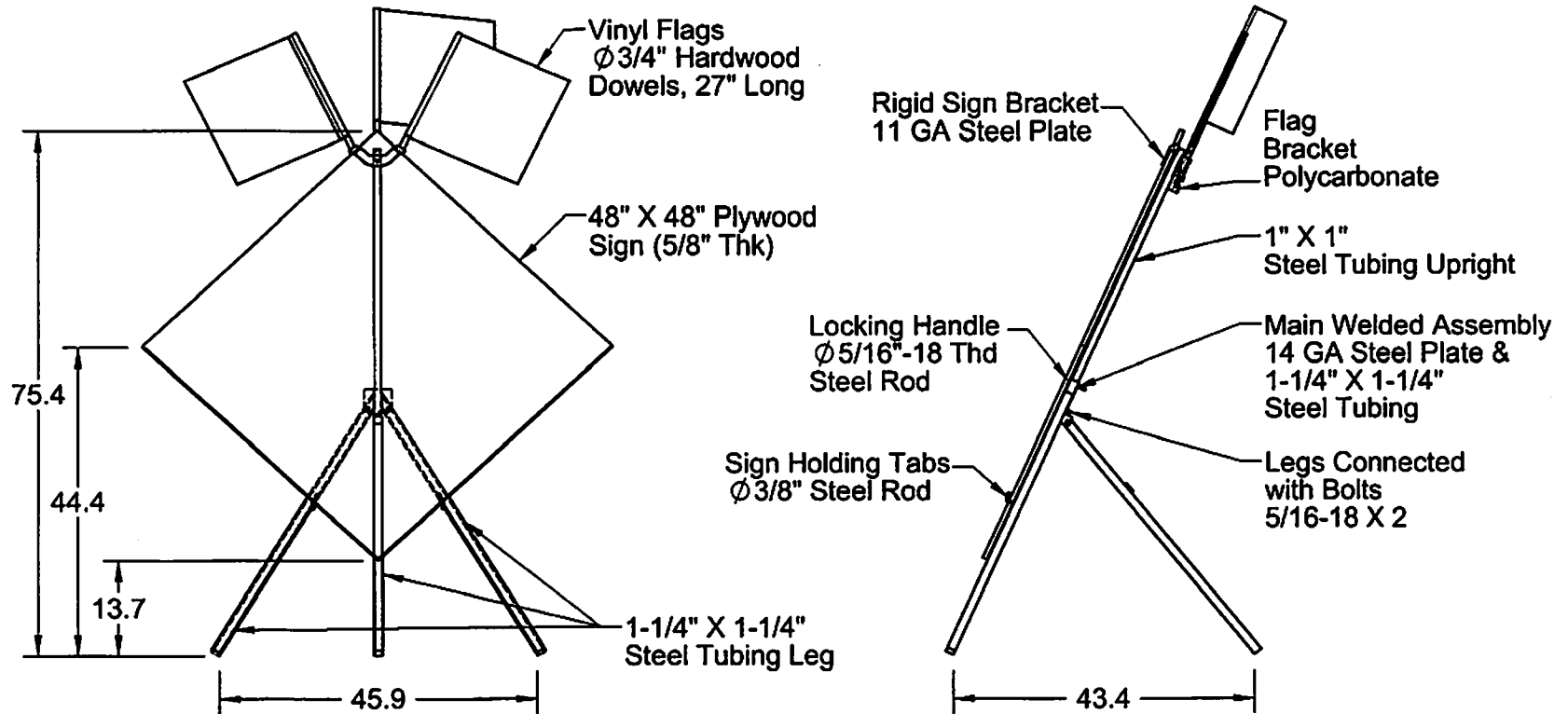
Low	12 to 18 inches above the pavement
Mid-A	20 to 24 inches above the pavement
Mid-B	25 to 36 inches above the pavement
Mid-C	37 to 59 inches above the pavement
Tall	60 to 71 inches above the pavement
Oversized	72 inches and taller

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Please note the following standard provisions that apply to FHWA letters of acceptance:

- Our acceptance is limited to the crashworthiness characteristics of the devices and does not cover their structural features, or conformity with the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices.
- Any changes that may adversely influence the crashworthiness of the device will require a new acceptance letter.
- Should the FHWA discover that the qualification testing was flawed, that in-service performance reveals unacceptable safety problems, or that the device being marketed is significantly different from the version that was crash tested, it reserves the right to modify or revoke its acceptance.
- You will be expected to supply potential users with sufficient information on design and installation requirements to ensure proper performance.
- You will be expected to certify to potential users that the hardware furnished has essentially the same chemistry, mechanical properties, and geometry as that submitted for acceptance, and that they will meet the crashworthiness requirements of FHWA and NCHRP Report 350.
- To prevent misunderstanding by others, this letter of acceptance shall not be reproduced except in full. This letter, and the test documentation upon which this letter is based, is public information. All such letters and documentation may be reviewed at our office upon request.
- If the subject of this letter is a patented device it is considered "proprietary." The use of proprietary work zone traffic control devices in Federal-aid projects is generally of a temporary nature. They are *selected by the contractor* for use as needed and removed upon completion of the project. Under such conditions they can be presumed to meet requirement "a" given below for the use of proprietary products on Federal-aid projects. On the other hand, if proprietary devices are *specified by a highway agency* for use on Federal-aid projects they: (a) must be supplied through competitive bidding with equally suitable unpatented items; (b) the highway agency must certify that they are essential for synchronization with existing highway facilities or that no equally suitable alternative exists or; (c) they must be used for research or for a distinctive type of construction on relatively short sections of road for experimental purposes. Our regulations concerning proprietary products are contained in Title 23, Code of Federal Regulations, Section 635.411, a copy of which is enclosed.
- This Acceptance Letter shall not be construed as authorization or consent by the Federal Highway Administration to use, manufacture, or sell any patented device for which the applicant is not the patent holder. The Acceptance Letter is limited to the crashworthiness characteristics of the candidate device, and the FHWA is neither prepared nor required to become involved in issues concerning patent law. Patent issues, if any, are to be resolved by the applicant.

Tripod Signstand Schematic Drawing



Tripod Weight:

Plywood Sign:—36 lbs
with Flags

Sign Holder:—18 lbs

Total:—54 lbs

