



INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

100 North Senate Avenue
Room N642
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

PHONE: (317) 234-6776

Michael R. Pence, Governor
Brandye Hendrickson,
Commissioner

Bridge Inspection Memorandum No. 15-02

TO: All Inspection Personnel, Consultants

FROM: /s/Merril Dougherty
Merril Dougherty, PE
Bridge Inspection Manager
Bridge Division

DATE: July 30, 2015

SUBJECT: Revision to INDOT Bridge Inspection Manual Part 3, Section 10 - Load Posting Policy to meet MBE and CFR 650.313 (c) requirements

REVISES: Indiana Bridge Inspection Manual Part 3 Sections 10.1 and 10.2

SUPERCEDES: Bridge Inspection Memorandum No. 15-1

EFFECTIVE : July 1, 2015

The *Indiana Bridge Inspection Manual* Part 3, Section 10 - Load Posting has been revised. Bridges are to be posted for their safe load carrying capacity in accordance with the AASHTO publication *The Manual for Bridge Evaluation* (MBE) for all State legal vehicles and routine permit loads and shall include H20, HS20, HS25, HL93 and any other Indiana legal load and all AASHTO legal loads (Type 3, Type 3S2 and SHVs). The language of the relevant sections of the Bridge Inspection Manual Part 3 Chapter 10 (Bridge Posting) has been modified as shown below:

Section 10.1

ADD after bullet points

Any bridge that has a H20 inventory load capacity rating factor less than 1.0 or an HS-20, HS25, HL93, AASHTO legal loads (Type 3, Type 3S2 and SHV's) or any Indiana legal load operating load capacity rating factor less than 1.00 shall be posted at the bridge site with a load limit sign equal to the lower value of the AASHTO/Indiana legal load or H-20 inventory rating, in tons.

Any bridge that has a routine permit load operating capacity rating factor less than 1.00 should be further discussed with INDOT Central Office to restrict routine permit loads from the bridge.



INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

100 North Senate Avenue
Room N642
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

PHONE: (317) 234-6776

Michael R. Pence, Governor
Brandye Hendrickson,
Commissioner

Section 10.1

ADD after line “The maximum weight restrictions for vehicles are described in the Indiana Code, Title 9, Article 20 (see Appendix A)”

The posting loads shall be determined by AASHTO *The Manual for Bridge Evaluation*, Equation 6B.4.1-2 (ASR and LFR) or AASHTO *The Manual for Bridge Evaluation*, Equation 6A.8.3-1 (LRFR).

REPLACE:

INDOT's policy for load limit posting of bridges is based on a ton rating traffic. Any bridge that has a capacity of less than 16.0 tons for the H 20 rating vehicle at the inventory level shall be posted at the bridge site for the tonnage capacity. Most Indiana counties follow this policy. However, a bridge may also be posted at other load levels if deemed appropriate by the owner.

WITH:

A bridge may also be posted at more restrictive load levels if deemed appropriate by the owner.

Section 10.2

ADD in second paragraph after “It is recommended that counties, the toll road, and other local agencies follow a similar protocol. An official posting/closure letter, signed by a designated official, should be added to the bridge file. The gross vehicle weight and/or axle weight allowed should be indicated on signs at each end of the bridge”

The R12-1 sign shown in Figure 10.1 is recommended and may be used where weight restrictions exist. The single gross tonnage value shown represents the lowest of all of the legal loads.



Figure 10.1

If you have any questions about the procedure, please email Merrill Dougherty (mdougherty@indot.in.gov), Bridge Inspection Manager or Raju Iyer, Load Rating Engineer (riyer@indot.in.gov) at Central Office, INDOT.