



# INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

*Driving Indiana's Economic Growth*

## Memorandum

December 2, 2008

**CONSTRUCTION MEMORANDUM**  
08-15

TO: District Deputy Commissioners  
Technical Services Directors  
District Construction Engineers  
District Testing Engineers  
District Area Engineers  
Project Engineers/Supervisors

FROM: Mark A. Miller, Director *Mark A. Miller*  
Division of Construction Management

SUBJECT: Construction Zone Impact Attenuators

Standard Specifications effective for lettings since 9/1/05 require in section 801.10.1 that all energy absorbing terminals (aka impact attenuators or crash cushions) shall have a "redirect" capability. Units have been identified on active projects which do not meet this requirement. The result is that the ends of temporary concrete barrier are not being adequately shielded in the event of a collision whereby a vehicle hits the side of the attenuator. One specific non-compliant unit for this situation has been identified on a number of currently active worksites. This unit is called the ABSORB 350. While this unit has many applications it does not meet INDOT's specification requirement to redirect traffic. This unit and other non-compliant units should be removed and replaced with compliant units immediately at no cost to the Department.

A copy of the FHWA approval letter is required to be furnished prior to the installations of any units. This letter should clearly state whether the unit has "redirect" capabilities or not. Not all NCHRP 350 approved devices meet this requirement. Questions or unique circumstances may be directed to a Field Engineer in this Division.

MAM:DAK:JJN