

# Work Zone Traffic Control



# Why is Work Zone Traffic Control Important?

- Protects employees
- Protects the public
- Reduces liability
- Improves your image



# Common Reasons Drivers Hit Things

- Driver didn't see
- Driver didn't know what to do
- Driver didn't know where to go
- Driver didn't have time to react
- There was a worker or equipment in the traffic lane



# Driver Didn't See



# Driver Didn't Know What To Do



# Driver Didn't Know Where To Go



# Driver Didn't Have Time To React



# There Was A Worker or Equipment In the Traffic Lane



# Traffic Control Plan

- Review it
- Understand it
- Anticipate problems that may arise
- If problems are found be prepared to discuss them at the Preconstruction Conference

# Preconstruction Conference

- Inform the Contractor of your expectations for traffic control on the project.
  - Safety is the most important aspect of the project. It will not be compromised for increased production or ease of construction.
- Inform them what response time for corrections is acceptable and what will happen if the deficiencies are not corrected in that time.
  - Section 704.03 A provides a \$500/day price reduction if the deficiencies are not corrected. This has been used in the past and been effective in improving contractor response.
  - If a condition exists that poses a safety hazard direct work to cease.
- Discuss any problems or concerns with the traffic control plan.

# Responsible Traffic Control

- A Watchperson is required on all projects.
- When a Traffic Control Supervisor is required they may perform the duties of the Watchperson.
- Get the name and contact information for the Watchperson and /or Traffic Control Supervisor.
- Inform the Contractor when reports need to be submitted.

# Review any items that are specific to the project

- Special Signs
- Message Boards
- State Furnished Barriers
- Temporary Striping
- Obliteration of pavement marking
- Etc.

# Project Traffic Control

# Staking Devices

- Locate the utilities.
- Stake the locations of the devices.
- Look around to see if the plan location works.
- Make sure the devices will be visible.
- If necessary adjust the location to make sure it does not conflict with utilities or other fixed objects.

# Inspect the Installation

- Make sure the traffic control installation is being done safely.
  - Do not work in the traveled way without advanced warning and proper traffic control.
- Traffic control may consist of devices other than signs. Check that location and alignment are proper.
- Verify the correct sheeting is used and the condition of all devices meet the Acceptable level and reject any that do not.
- Check that the spacing of devices is correct.
- Make sure Taper lengths are correct and lines are straight.
- If anchors are required for devices make sure they are in place and properly installed.
- Verify that all devices in the plan are in place.
- Check the sight distance.
  - Don't set them up over the crest of a hill without advance warning.

**Signing**

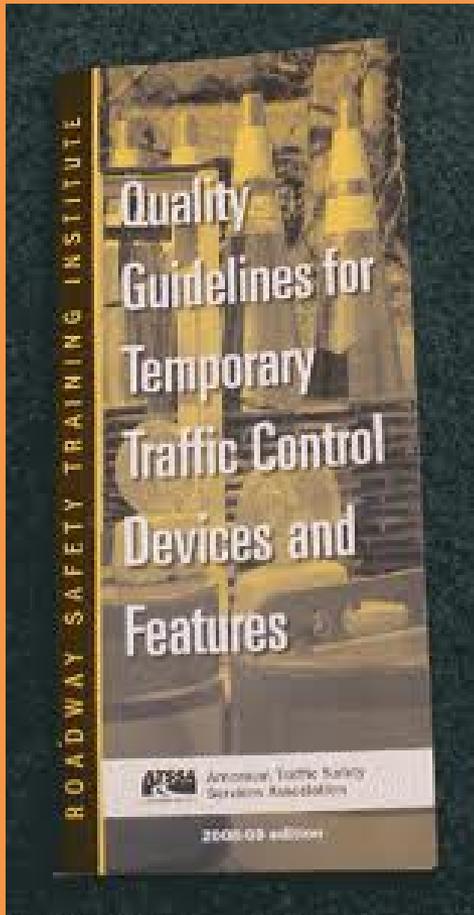
# Signing

- Make sure signs have the proper supports.
  - If sign bases are installed without supports and signs make sure they are marked.
  - If a sign is in place more than 5 days it must be post mounted unless it is placed on a paved surface.
- Check that the support is sufficient to withstand high winds.
- Make sure the sign offset and height are correct.
- Make sure the signs are plumb.
- Make sure there is not an intersection in the middle of a series of signs.

# Signing (cont.)

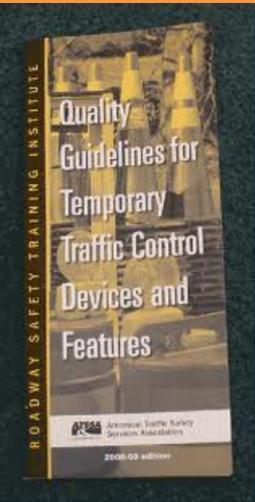
- Verify that all conflicting signs are covered or removed.
- Cover or do not install signs if the Contractor is not working in an area.
- Drive the project in both directions to see if it works as intended. Make sure the message we are trying to convey is clear.
- Check all sign conditions and reject any that do not conform to the Acceptable level.

# The ATTSA publication *Quality Standards for Work Zone Traffic Control Devices.*



- Section 704.03 W tells the Contractor how the devices will be rated.
- 100% of the devices must be “Acceptable” at the start of the project.
- The manual will be used to assess the quality of devices throughout the project and unacceptable devices will be replaced.

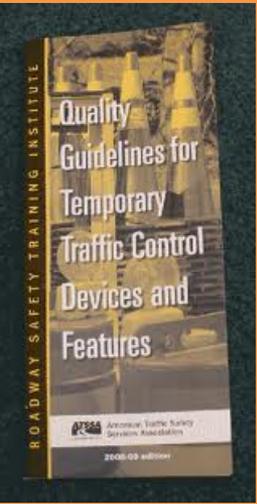
# Acceptable Condition



**Acceptable** - This is an example of an acceptable sign. It is not new. There are abrasions on the surface but very little loss of lettering. There has been no touch-up of the lettering.



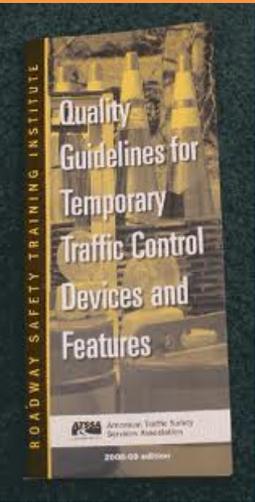
# Marginal Condition



**Marginal** - This is an example of a sign with marginal acceptability. Of the many surface abrasions throughout the sign face, many are within the individual letters of the message. The sign surface is free of any residue. Although some color fading is evident, the background color and reflectivity are still apparent at night.



# Unacceptable Condition



**Unacceptable** - This is an example of an unacceptable sign. Signs with asphalt splatter and/or cement slurry or any combination of missing and/or covered reflective material similar in area presented would also make a sign unacceptable. Some letters have a loss of more than 50%. There is noticeable color fading.



Sheeting

# Wide Angle Prismatic Retroreflective Sheeting vs. Type III C Sheeting

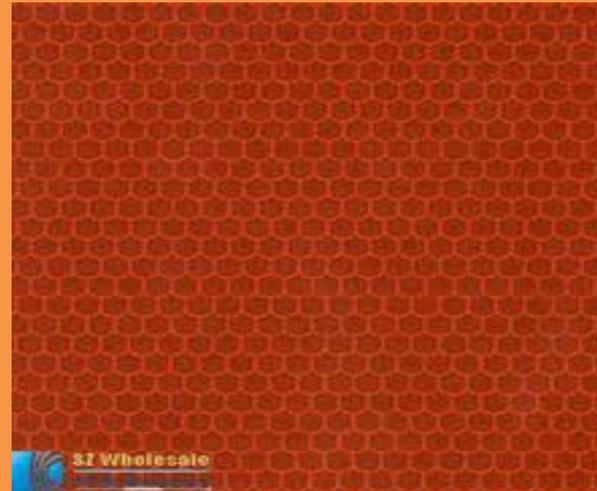
- Diamond Pattern

Octagonal Pattern

Wide Angle  
Prismatic



Type III  
High Intensity

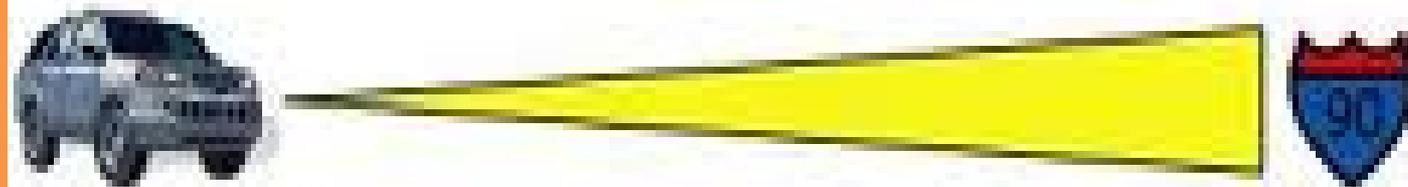




Engineer Grade 500 ft



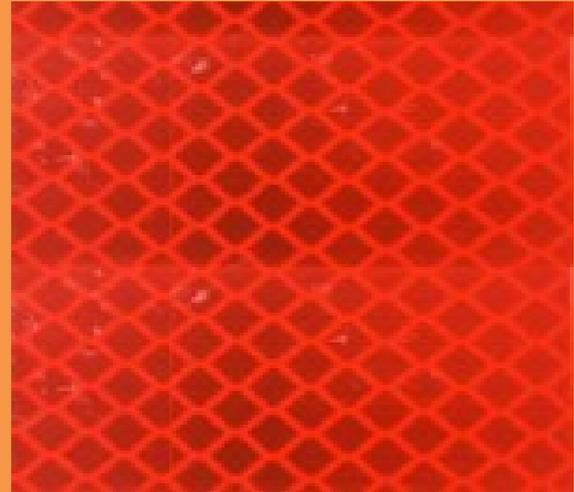
High Intensity 1000 ft



Diamond Grade 1500 ft

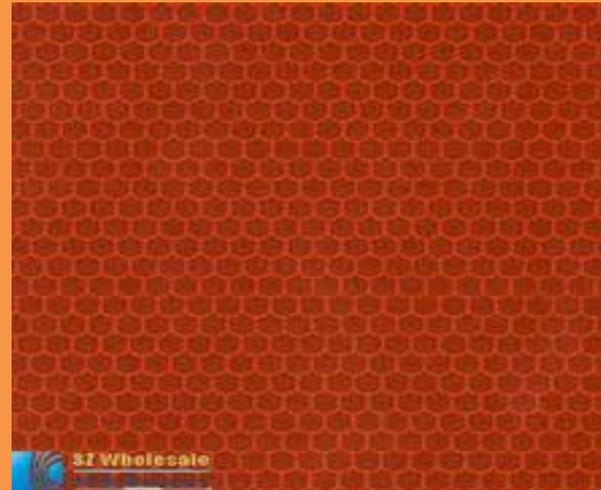
# Wide Angle Prismatic Fluorescent Retroreflective Sheeting

- Orange diamond shaped, rectangular, and square signs.
- Barricades
- Vertical Panels



# Flexible Reflective Sheeting, Type III (High Intensity Sheeting)

- Drums
- Cones
- Flexible Delineators
- Tubular Markers



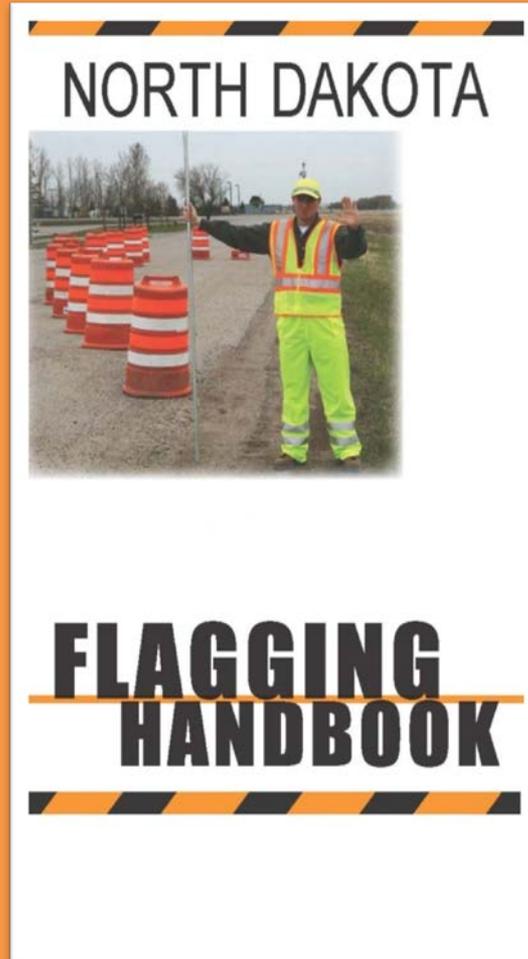
# Construction Inspection



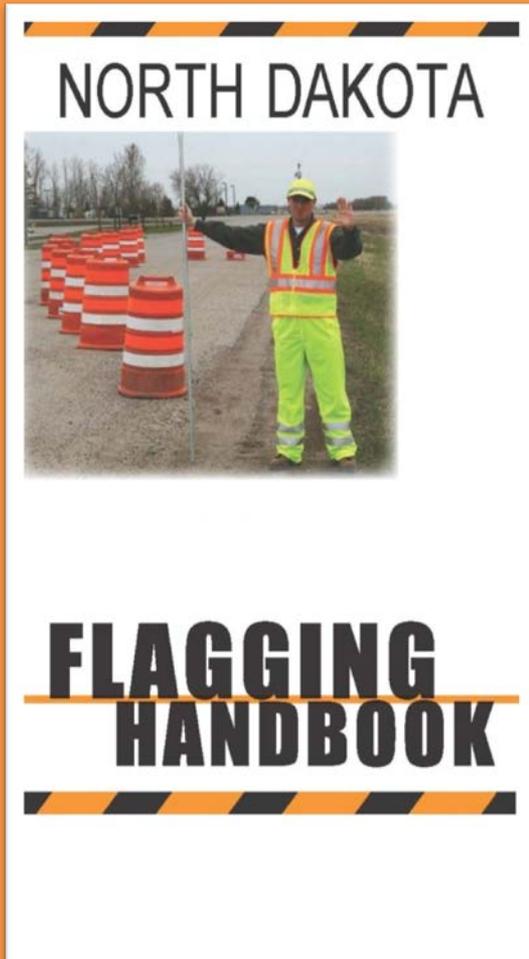
A watchperson does not relieve you of the responsibility to monitor and document traffic control.

- Monitor traffic control regularly and report deficiencies to the Contractor.
- Check the cycle time of the Pilot Car.
  - The Flagging Handbook states: “When a pilot car is used , traffic delays should be limited to 15 minutes.”
- Document the time and condition of the traffic control and pilot car cycle in the Daily Diary at least once in the morning and once in the afternoon.

# Flagging



# Flaggers



- Flaggers must follow the procedures of the Flagging Handbook.
  - Inspect the flaggers and enforce the specifications just like any other work performed by the Contractor.
- Flaggers must be certified.
  - Obtain letter certifying that all flaggers are certified.
  - Without the letter in hand verify that all flaggers are certified before they begin work.

# Proper Flagger Conduct

- Wear the required clothing and use proper equipment.
  - You will be given a standard STOP/SLOW paddle. It will be mounted on a rigid handle and should be 7 feet long to the bottom of the sign.
- Stand alone at your position. DO NOT sit in a chair or vehicle at your flagger station. DO NOT mingle with the work crew. Your job is to protect them.
- Park your vehicle in the area designated by your supervisor. DO NOT park your personal vehicle at your flagger station.

# Proper Flagger Conduct (cont.)

- Always maintain an escape route in case an errant driver is headed in your direction. DO NOT let your avenue of escape be blocked by equipment, vehicles, material or barricades.
- Be visible. DO NOT get lost among signs, workers, and equipment. DO NOT stand where the sun or shadow will get in the way of drivers seeing of you.



Is this a flagger?



Or a campsite?



Writing PILOT CAR on the rear windows of a minivan does not meet our specification. If this method is allowed by the Engineer the minivan shall not be washed.

Remove signs when they are not in use.





Make sure conflicting signs are covered or removed.

# Remove Signs When They Are No Longer Needed



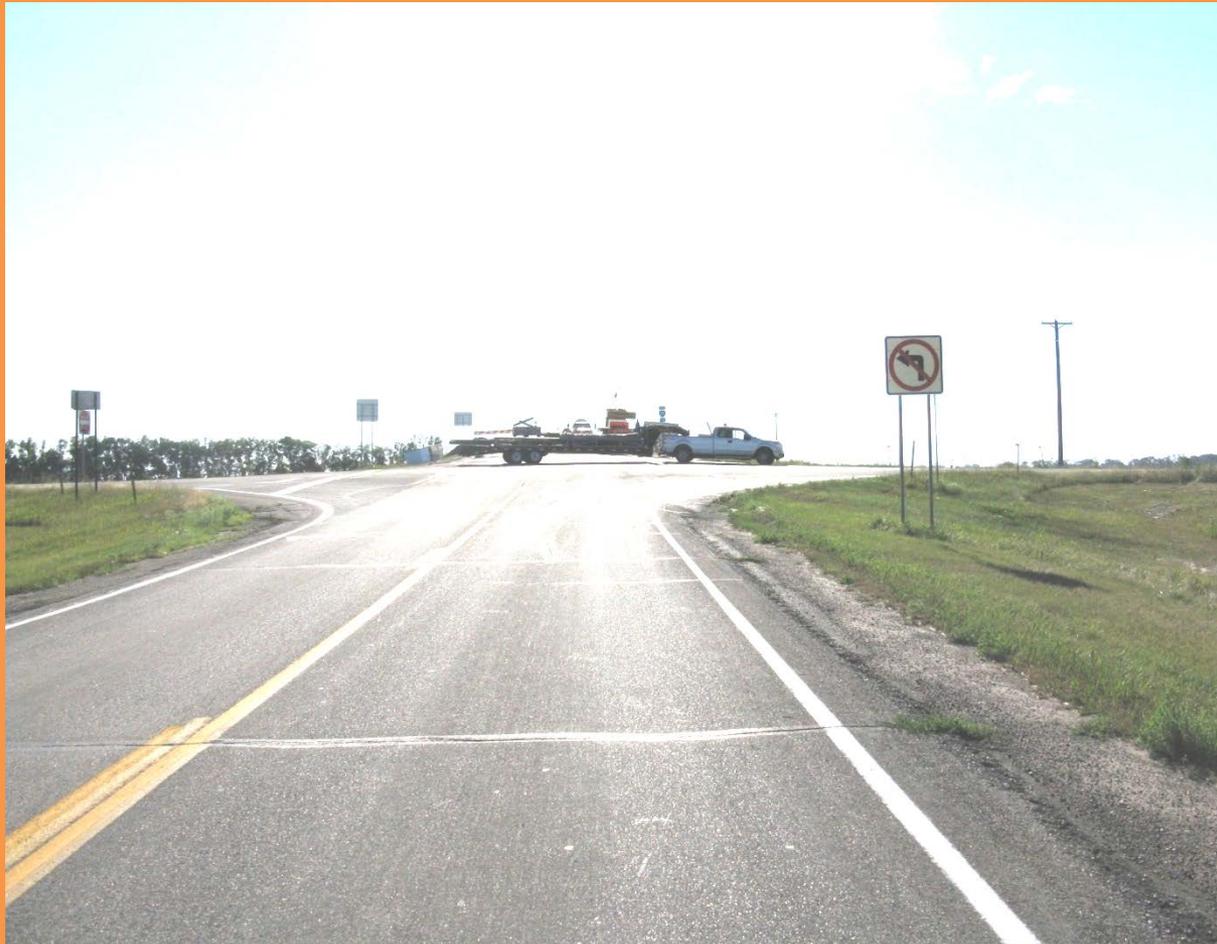
# Check Traffic Control After Dark





Signs that look good in the daylight may not be visible after dark.

Do not let vehicles or equipment obscure the traffic control.



# Low Cost Alternate to Over Height Sensors



**END  
ROAD WORK**

