June 27, 2008

In Reply Refer To: HSSD/B-176

Mr. John Addy Hill & Smith Springvale Business and Industrial Park Bliston, Wolverhampton, West Midlands, UK, WV14 OQL

Dear Mr. Addy:

This letter is in response to your request for Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) acceptance of a roadside safety system for use on the National Highway System (NHS).

Name of system: Zoneguard<sup>TM</sup>, Standard and Minimum Deflection arrangements

Type of system: portable longitudinal steel barrier Test Level: NCHRP 350 Test Level 3 (TL-3) and TL-4 Testing conducted by: Southwest Research Institute

Date of request: November 23, 2007 Date of follow-up: April 3, 2008

You requested that we find this system acceptable for use on the NHS under the provisions of National Cooperative Highway Research Program (NCHRP) Report 350 "Recommended Procedures for the Safety Performance Evaluation of Highway Features" for both the standard and minimum deflection arrangements of Zoneguard<sup>TM</sup>.

## Requirements

Roadside safety systems should meet the guidelines contained in the NCHRP Report 350, "Recommended Procedures for the Safety Performance Evaluation of Highway Features". FHWA Memorandum "ACTION: Identifying Acceptable Highway Safety Features" of July 25, 1997 provides further guidance on crash testing requirements of longitudinal barriers.

## **Description**

The Zoneguard™ portable longitudinal barrier system is comprised of 8 gauge, 0.165 in (4.2 mm) thick, ASTM A36 pressed, galvanized steel panels assembled in 50 ft (15.24 m) long sections. Each section is 2.69 ft (820 mm) high with a base width of 2.3 ft (700 mm) and a top beam width of 0.52 ft (157 mm). The Zoneguard™ has a step 0.5 ft (150 mm) wide on each side just above surface level, which slopes upward to meet the upper beam section. Each section weighs approximately 3097 lb (1406 kg). The base of each 50 ft (15.24 m) long section has 12 rubber feet, 2.30 ft x 0.54 ft x 0.043 ft (700 mm x 165 mm x 13 mm), which are fixed using an adhesive compound.



## **Crash Testing**

The complete barrier test installations were each nominally 2.69 ft (820 mm) high, 2.3 ft (700 mm) wide, and 250 ft (76.2 m) long. Tests were conducted for two different anchoring patterns: (1) the standard arrangement which includes anchoring at each end of the barrier and (2) the minimum deflection arrangement which includes anchoring every 33.3 ft (10.2 m) along the barrier. The standard arrangement is anchored at points 1.64 ft (500 mm) and 16.67 ft (5.1 m) from each end on both sides for a total of four anchors per end. These anchors were 1.5 in (38 mm) diameter ASTM 1018 smooth rod, 12 in (305 mm) long and installed 8 in (200 mm) deep into concrete. The minimum deflection Zoneguard<sup>TM</sup> arrangement is identical to the standard arrangement described above apart from the addition of the intermediate threaded resin anchors placed in both sides of the "foot" section on 33.3 ft (10.2 m) centers. Alternate anchor designs certified by the manufacturer may be used to provide equal or greater anchorage strength to that provided for the test installations.

The following table summarizes the six tests conducted on the Zoneguard systems. The tests in

**bold text** apply to this acceptance.

Test #	Test Criteria	Vehicle	Standard or Min.	Impact Speed	Maximum
		Mass	Deflection		Deflection*
ZG-USA-1	350 & MASH	1065 kg	Min. Deflection	103.5 km/hr	0.20 m
ZG-USA-2	350	2118 kg	Min. Deflection	99.3 km/hr	0.31 m
ZG-USA-3	MASH	2208 kg	Min. Deflection	101.5 km/hr	0.41 m
ZG-USA-4	350	2118 kg	Standard	100.9 km/hr	1.83 m
ZG-USA-5	MASH	2208 kg	Standard	104.0 km/hr	1.93 m
ZG-USA-6	350	8165 kg	Standard	80.5 km/hr	1.45 m

<sup>\*</sup> This column shows the maximum dynamic deflection of the top of the barrier.

Crash tests performed included tests 3-10U ("U" refers to tests run in compliance with the update to the NCHRP Report 350, now known as MASH-08) and 3-11 for the minimum deflection arrangement and tests 3-11 and 4-12 for the standard arrangement. Prior to crash testing we concurred in your request that the MASH-08 small passenger vehicle be considered a "worst case scenario" and a proper substitute for the 820C vehicle called for in Report 350. Enclosed with this acceptance letter are drawings of the test article and test summary sheets. The tests and the results met the FHWA requirements.

## **Findings**

The system described above and detailed in the enclosed drawings is acceptable for use on the NHS under the range of conditions tested, when acceptable to a State. When used across a bridge joint it should be noted that the Zoneguard<sup>TM</sup> can accommodate approximately 10 inches of movement.

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

 This acceptance is limited to the crashworthiness characteristics of the system and does not cover the structural features, nor does it cover conformity with the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices.

- Any changes that may adversely influence the crashworthiness of the system 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 system being marketed is significantly different from the version that was crash tested, we reserve the right to modify or revoke our 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 it will meet the crashworthiness requirements of the FHWA and the NCHRP Report 350.
- To prevent misunderstanding by others, this letter of acceptance is designated as number B-176 and shall not be reproduced except in full. This letter and the test documentation upon which it is based are public information. All such letters and documentation may be reviewed at our office upon request.
- The Zoneguard<sup>TM</sup> portable longitudinal steel barrier system is a patented product and considered proprietary. If proprietary devices/systems are specified by a highway agency for use on Federal-aid projects, except exempt, non-NHS 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 the 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.
- This acceptance letter shall not be construed as authorization or consent by the FHWA to use, manufacture, or sell any patented device/system for which the applicant is not the patent holder. The acceptance letter is limited to the crashworthiness characteristics of the candidate device/system, 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.

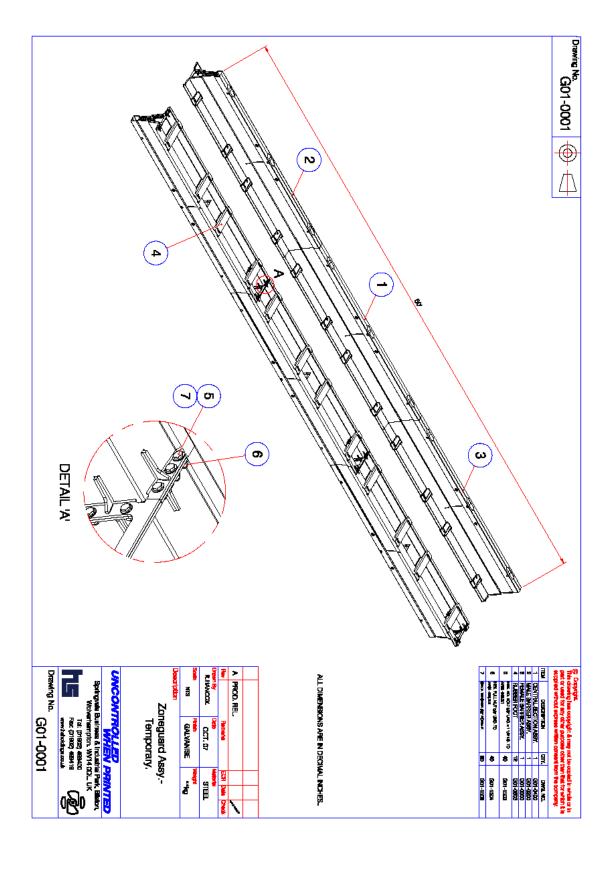
Sincerely yours,

David A. Nicol

Director, Office of Safety Design

Office of Safety

**Enclosures** 



**General Information** 

**Table 4.1 – Summary of Test Results and Conditions** 



Tost Agoney	Southwest Research Institute			
<b>.</b>				
Test Number	ZG-USA-6			
Test Date	10/03/2007			
Test Category	4-12			
Test Article				
Type	Longitudinal Barrier			
Installation Length	76.2 m (250 ft)			
Nom. Barrier Height0.82 m (2.69 ft)				
Type of Primary BarrierPortable Steel Barrier				
Type of Filliary Darrier	Fortable Steel Darriel			
Soil	NA – Installed on Concrete			
Soil	NA – Installed on Concrete			
Soil Test Vehicle	NA – Installed on ConcreteSingle Unit Truck			
Soil Test Vehicle Type Designation	NA – Installed on ConcreteSingle Unit Truck			
Soil Test Vehicle Type Designation	NA – Installed on ConcreteSingle Unit Truck8000S1997 International 4700/DT466E			
Soil Test Vehicle Type Designation Model	NA – Installed on ConcreteSingle Unit Truck8000S1997 International 4700/DT466E8165			
Soil Test Vehicle Type Designation Model Mass (kg)	NA – Installed on Concrete Single Unit Truck8000S1997 International 4700/DT466E81658165			

Impact Conditions	Test Article Deflection				
Speed (km/hr)80.5	Dynamic (top of barrier) 1.45 m (4.75 ft)				
Angle (degrees)14.6	Dynamic (base of barrier) 1.27 m (4.17 ft)				
Exit Conditions	Permanent (base of barrier) 1.14 m (3.75 ft)				
Speed (km/hr)76 (calculated)	Vehicle Damage				
Angle (degrees)0	Exterior				
Occupant Risk Values	CDC11LFWW2				
Impact Velocity (m/s)	VDS11-LFQ-1				
x-direction0.9	Interior				
y-direction1.4	OCDILF0000000				
Ridedown Accelerations (g's)	Max. Deform. (mm)0				
x-direction2.7					
y-direction12.2					
Post Impact Vehicular Behavior					
Maximum Roll Angle (degrees)6.1 @ 0.888 sec.					
Maximum Pitch Angle (degrees)4.4 @ 0.412 sec.					
Maximum Yaw Angle (degrees)17.2 @ 0.684 sec.					