

Section 10.9

STRUCTURAL STEEL AND MISCELLANEOUS METAL COMPONENTS

10.9.1 Purpose

To provide a process for the evaluation and disposition of proposals for acceptance of structural steel and miscellaneous metal components that are not in compliance with the contract documents. This procedure is intended for use to address the occasional nonconforming component that is defective or damaged, and where replacement is deemed unnecessary. Repeated production of nonconforming components is not acceptable and the cause of such problems must be resolved in order to avoid consistently inferior components.

10.9.2 Authority

Section 334.048, Florida Statutes (F.S.)

FHWA Approved: January 28, 2005

10.9.3 References

Section 460, "Structural Steel and Miscellaneous Metals," Standard Specifications for Road and Bridge Construction

FDOT State Materials Office, Materials Manual, Procedure No. 675-000-000

10.9.4 Definitions

Nonconforming Components: Components that have been damaged, are defective or that are not in full conformance with the contract documents.

Minor Defect: Any defect or damage (nonconforming work) that can be repaired using a Fabrication Facility's Approved Repair Procedure or a Standardized (FDOT) Repair Procedure.

Major Defect: Any defect or damage (nonconforming work) that is not classified as a Minor Defect, as defined above.

Project Administrator: The Department's representative who reports to the District Construction Engineer (DCE) and may be either a Department employee of the District or an employee of an engineering firm which is serving as the Department's Consultant Construction Engineering and Inspection (CEI) representative in charge of the project for which the structural steel products are being supplied.

Lead Verification Inspector: The representative of the Consultant CEI firm retained by the Department that is in charge of QA inspection at the fabrication facility at which the component is being produced.

10.9.5 General

Nonconforming components containing specific defects or damage which are classified as "Minor" shall be repaired in accordance with approved repair procedures or standardized FDOT repair procedures.

For defects or damage covered by this procedure and which are classified as "Major", the Contractor must comply with **Specification 460-4.6**, which requires the submittal of a repair proposal to the Project Administrator and specifies what the contents of the proposal shall be. Components in the fabricating facility, which require repairs, shall not be shipped to the project site until such repairs are complete and the member has been accepted by the Department. If the component is repaired and determined to be acceptable to the Department, the component shall be stamped by the fabricator indicating that it meets specification requirements. Producer stamped members arriving at the job site shall not be rejected by project personnel for reasons other than obvious shipping damage which makes the member unacceptable. Questions of acceptability of stamped members, which have not incurred shipping damage, are to be resolved with proper input from the Lead Verification Inspector at the shipping point prior to rejection at the job site.

10.9.6 Proposal Format and Requirements

The Contractor's proposal shall be in writing and consist of the following information:

- (A) A cover letter prepared on the Contractor's letterhead and addressed to the Project Administrator briefly describing the component and the proposed credit to the contract proportionate to the defect or specification nonconformance. For each fabrication facility and for each project within that fabrication facility, submittals must be numbered consecutively beginning with the number one, at the start of each project.

- (B) A completed **Nonconforming Structural Steel and Miscellaneous Metal Component Data Sheet (Data Sheet)**, [Form No. 675-010-10](#), prepared by the fabricator or Contractor and countersigned by the Lead Verification Inspector to indicate agreement with the described defect or nonconformance feature. If not in agreement with the information or description, the Lead Verification Inspector shall either reject the submittal indicating reason(s) for rejection or modify the submittal as necessary. In the latter event, the preparer (Contractor or Fabricator) shall initial and date the submittal indicating agreement or disagreement with the modifications.

A list of supporting information such as sketches, documentation, calculations, etc., must be included in the appropriate space on the **Data Sheet**. Supporting information regarding specification noncompliance in the form of separate documents is only necessary when space on the **Data Sheet** is inadequate for containing the required data. All the supporting information required for the form must be prepared by, or be under the supervision of, the Contractor's Engineer of Record who shall sign and seal one (1) complete copy of the supporting information which shall serve as the Project Administrator's record copy.

10.9.7 Review and Evaluation

(A) Resident Level Responsibilities

The Project Administrator shall review the Contractor's proposal and enlist the assistance of the various offices within the Department, the Engineer of Record, the Verification Inspection Consultant and the FHWA as deemed appropriate. Upon completion of the evaluation, the Project Administrator may accept the Contractor's proposed acceptable repair method and cost reduction, negotiate a fair cost for an acceptable repair method, or reject the unacceptable repair proposal.

10.9.8 Disposition and Distribution

(A) Resident Level Responsibilities

The Project Administrator shall indicate acceptance in the response and distribute the proposal and the disposition to appropriate District personnel in addition to the following offices:

Project File	1 copy (signed and sealed)
State Materials Office	1 copy
FHWA Area Engineer	1 copy (Federal-Aid Full Oversight Jobs Only)
Lead Verification Inspector	1 copy