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16. Abstract

The purpose of this series of tests is to verify the performance of the pedestal base sign installation when attached to the ground with a helical type screw-in foundation anchor assembly.

A square base pedestal sign installation attached to the ground with a helical type screw-in foundation anchor assembly successfully met the evaluation criteria set forth in National Cooperative Highway Research Program (*NCHRP Report 350*). The installation was fabricated using a Pelco (model SP 1014 TX) square cast aluminum traffic signal base with a 114 mm (4.5 in) O.D.× 3.96 m (13 ft) long spun aluminum pole. Attached to the pole was a 16 mm × 1.2 m × 1.2 m (0.625 inch × 48 inch × 48 inch) plywood warning sign with the bottom of the sign height 2.26 m (7.4 ft). In addition, a 305 mm (12.0 inch), LED lamp, flashing yellow signal beacon was mounted directly above and below the sign panel. The helical type screw-in foundation anchor assembly (model PB5306) was placed in *NCHRP Report 350* standard soil.

Under this project, the safety performance of selected work zone traffic control devices were evaluated through full-scale crash testing in accordance with *NCHRP Report 350* guidelines. The pedestal base sign support installation installed atop a screw-in helical type ground anchor was found to be in compliance with *NCHRP Report 350* guidelines and is considered suitable for implementation. Installations that deviate in construction significantly from the details presented herein may require additional engineering evaluation and/or testing.

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TESTING AND EVALUATION OF A PEDESTAL BASE SIGN SUPPORT

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DISCLAIMER

The contents of this report reflect the views of the authors, who are solely responsible for the facts and accuracy of the data, and the opinions, findings, and conclusions presented herein. The contents do not necessarily reflect the official views or policies of the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT), Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), The Texas A&M University System, or the Texas Transportation Institute. This report does not constitute a standard, specification, or regulation, and its contents are not intended for construction, bidding, or permit purposes. In addition, the above listed agencies assume no liability for its contents or use thereof. The use of names of specific products or manufacturers listed herein does not imply endorsement of those products or manufacturers. The engineer in charge of the project was Mr. Roger P. Bligh, P.E. #74550.

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I. INTRODUCTION

PROBLEM/BACKGROUND

FHWA has formally adopted the performance evaluation guidelines for highway safety features set forth in National Cooperative Highway Research Program (*NCHRP*) *Report 350* as a "Guide or Reference" document in <u>Federal Register</u>, Volume 58, Number 135, dated July 16, 1993, which added paragraph (a) (13) to 23 CFR, Part 625.5.⁽¹⁾ FHWA has mandated, starting in October 1998, only support structures that have successfully met the performance evaluation guidelines set forth in *NCHRP Report 350* may be used on the National Highway System (NHS) for new installations.

Previous full-scale crash tests have demonstrated the activation and crashworthiness of pedestal-style cast aluminum base support structures when attached to a traditional concrete base (Hayes E. Ross, Jr. and D. Lance Bullard, Jr., March 1989, unpublished). Several districts within TxDOT expressed interest in using helical, screw-in foundation anchors for these supports. Screw-in foundation anchors can significantly reduce installation cost and time. A sign crew using a screw-in anchor assembly can complete an installation in a single trip rather than having to wait for a conventional concrete footing to cure. However, before this system can be used, the crashworthiness of the support attached to a screw-in anchor foundation must be demonstrated through full-scale testing. Specifically, the screw-in foundation should provide sufficient anchorage capacity to prevent excessive ground motion and permit proper activation of the cast aluminum pedestal base during a vehicular collision.

OBJECTIVES/SCOPE OF RESEARCH

The objective of this study is to evaluate additional sign support structures and their anchor systems to determine the structures which perform satisfactorily when impacted by errant vehicles. The performance of these sign support structures would be evaluated in accordance with national safety performance guidelines set forth in *NCHRP Report 350* and the 1994 American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO) *Standard Specifications for Structural Supports for Highway Signs, Luminaires and Traffic Signals.*⁽²⁾

Researchers performed two full-scale crash tests on a pedestal base sign installation attached to the ground with a helical type screw-in foundation anchor assembly.

This report presents the details of the tests. Chapter II outlines the research approach of the study, including the crash test matrix, and the evaluation criteria. Descriptions of the sign support structures tested are presented in Chapter III. Results of the crash tests are presented in Chapter IV. A summary of findings, conclusions, and recommendations are presented in Chapter V.

II. STUDY APPROACH

CRASH TEST FACILITY

The test facilities at the Texas Transportation Institute's Proving Ground consist of an 809 hectare (2000 acre) complex of research and training facilities situated 16 km (10 mi) northwest of the main campus of Texas A&M University. The site, formerly an Air Force Base, has large expanses of concrete runways and parking aprons well suited for experimental research and testing in the areas of vehicle performance and handling, vehicle-roadway interaction, durability and efficacy of highway pavements, and safety evaluation of roadside safety hardware. The site selected for placement of the TxDOT sign installations was just off the edge of a wide expanse of concrete aprons that were originally used as parking aprons for military aircraft. These aprons consist of unreinforced jointed concrete pavement in 3.8 m by 4.6 m (12.5 ft by 15.0 ft) blocks nominally 152-203 mm (6-8 inch) deep. The aprons and runways are about 50 years old, and the joints have some displacement but are otherwise flat and level. The sign supports were installed in *NCHRP Report 350* standard soil. Chapter III presents further details of each of the installations.

CRASH TEST CONDITIONS

NCHRP Report 350 requires two tests for test level 3 evaluation of breakaway support structures:

NCHRP Report 350 test designation 3-60: This test involves an 820 kg (1806 lb) passenger vehicle (820C) impacting the support structure at a nominal speed and angle of 35 km/h (21.7 mi/h) and 0–20 degrees. The purpose of this test is to evaluate the breakaway, fracture, or yielding mechanism of the support and occupant risk.

NCHRP Report 350 test designation 3-61: The test involves an 820 kg (1806 lb) passenger car (820C) impacting the support structure at a nominal speed and angle of 100 km/h (62.1 mi/h) and 0–20 degrees. The test is intended to evaluate vehicle and test article trajectory and occupant risk.

Researchers performed both of these tests on the pedestal base support installation attached to a screw-in anchor assembly. The crash test and data analysis procedures were in accordance with guidelines presented in *NCHRP Report 350*. Brief descriptions of these procedures are presented in Appendix A.

EVALUATION CRITERIA

The crash tests performed were evaluated in accordance with *NCHRP Report 350*. As stated in *NCHRP Report 350*, "Safety performance of a highway appurtenance cannot be measured directly but can be judged on the basis of three factors: structural adequacy, occupant risk, and vehicle trajectory after collision." Accordingly, the following safety evaluation criteria from table 5.1 of *NCHRP Report 350* were used to evaluate the crash tests reported herein:

• Structural Adequacy

B. The test article should readily activate in a predictable manner by breaking away, fracturing, or yielding.

• Occupant Risk

- D. Detached elements, fragments or other debris from the test article should not penetrate or show potential for penetrating the occupant compartment, or present an undue hazard to other traffic, pedestrians, or personnel in a work zone. Deformation of, or intrusions into, the occupant compartment that could cause serious injuries should not be permitted.
- F. The vehicle should remain upright during and after collision although moderate roll, pitching and yawing are acceptable.
- H. Occupant impact velocities should satisfy the following:

Longitudinal Occupant	t Impact Velocity - m/s
<u>Preferred</u>	<u>Maximum</u>
3 (9.8 ft/s)	5 (16.4 ft/s)

I. Occupant ridedown accelerations should satisfy the following:

Longitudinal Occupant Ridedown Accelerations - g's		
<u>Preferred</u>	<u>Maximum</u>	
15	20	

• Vehicle Trajectory

- K. After collision it is preferable that the vehicle's trajectory not intrude into adjacent traffic lanes.
- N. Vehicle trajectory behind the test article is acceptable.

In addition, the 1994 AASHTO Specification states:

Satisfactory dynamic performance is indicated when the maximum change in velocity for a standard 1800 pound [817 kg] vehicle, or its equivalent, striking a breakaway support at speeds of 20 mi/h to 60 mi/h [32 km/h to 97 km/h] does not exceed 16 ft/s [4.87 m/s], but preferably does not exceed 10 ft/s [3.05 m/s] or less.

III. TEST ARTICLES

TEST INSTALLATION FOR TESTS 417920-1 AND 2

A pedestal base sign installation attached to the ground with a helical type screw-in foundation anchor assembly was constructed for crash testing and evaluation. The installation was fabricated using a Pelco (model SP 1014 TX) square cast aluminum traffic signal base with a 114 mm (4.5 in) O.D. \times 3.96 m (13 ft) long spun aluminum pole. Attached to the pole was a 16 mm \times 1.2 m \times 1.2 m (0.625 in \times 48 in \times 48 in) plywood warning sign with the bottom of the sign mounted at a height of 2.26 m (7.4 ft). In addition, a 305 mm (12.0 in), LED lamp, flashing yellow signal beacon was mounted directly above and below the sign panel. The helical type screw-in foundation anchor assembly (model PB5306) was placed in *NCHRP Report 350* standard soil. Figure 1 shows the details of the support structure and screw-in anchor. The system was constructed identically for each test. The screw-in anchors were installed using an auger truck, as shown in Figure 2. Photographs of the completed installation for the low-speed (35 km/h) and high-speed (100 km/h) tests are shown in Figures 3 and 4.



Figure 1. Pedestal Base Sign Support as Used in Tests 417920-1 and 417920-2.



Figure 1. Pedestal Base Sign Support as Used in Tests 417920-1 and 417920-2 (continued).







Figure 2. Installation of Anchor Used in Tests 417920-1 and 417920-2.



Figure 3. Pedestal Base Sign Support before Test 417920-1.



Figure 4. Pedestal Base Sign Support before Test 417920-2.

IV. CRASH TEST RESULTS

TEST NO. 417920-1 (NCHRP Report 350 TEST NO. 3-60)

A pedestal base sign support attached to a screw-in foundation, shown in Figure 1 and Figure 2, was evaluated in this crash test.

Test Vehicle

A 1994 Geo Metro, shown in Figures 5 and 6, was used for the crash test. Test inertia weight of the vehicle was 820 kg (1806 lb), and its gross static weight was 894 kg (1969 lb). The height to the lower edge of the vehicle bumper was 370 mm (14.6 inch), and it was 455 mm (18.0 inch) to the upper edge of the bumper. Additional dimensions and information on the vehicle are given in Appendix B, Figure 19. The vehicle was directed into the installation using the cable reverse tow and guidance system, and was released to be free-wheeling and unrestrained just prior to impact.

Soil and Weather Conditions

The test was performed the morning of December 16, 1999. Seven days before the test, 10 mm (0.4 inch) of rain fell; five days before, 3 mm (0.1 inch); and four days before, 20 mm (0.8 inch). No other rainfall occurred for the remaining 10 days prior to the test. The *NCHRP Report 350* standard soil in which the sign supports were placed was moistened slightly just prior to the test in order to settle the dust to ensure an unimpaired view for the high-speed cameras. Weather conditions at the time of testing were as follows: temperature: 9 °C (49 °F); relative humidity: 37 percent.

Test Description

The vehicle impacted the sign support head-on at a speed of 35.2 km/h (21.9 mi/h). At 0.002 s, the underside of the bumper of the vehicle contacted the pedestal base, and at 0.015 s, the pedestal base and pole moved. A crack on the field side of the pedestal base formed at 0.041 s. By 0.049 s, the pedestal base had fractured, and by 0.056 s, the pole bounced off the bumper of the vehicle. The vehicle lost contact with the pole at 0.126 s as the vehicle was traveling at a speed of 27.0 km/h (16.8 mi/h). At 0.481 s, the lower signal light contacted the vehicle at the top of the windshield near the roof, and at 0.507 s, the pole was parallel with the ground above the hood. The sign panel contacted the rear right corner of the roof of the vehicle at 0.569 s, and at 0.692 s, the pole lost contact with the rear window. By 0.719 s, the lower signal light lost contact with the roof of the vehicle as the vehicle was traveling at a speed of 26.6 km/h



Figure 5. Vehicle/Installation Geometrics for Test 417920-1.



Figure 6. Vehicle before Test 417920-1.

(16.5 mi/h). By 0.811 s, the upper warning beacon contacted the ground surface. Brakes on the vehicle were applied as the vehicle exited the test site and the vehicle came to rest 32.0 m (105.0 ft) from the impact point. Sequential photographs of the test can be found in Appendix C, Figure 21.

Damage to Test Installation

The pedestal base fractured into several pieces, as shown in Figures 7 and 8. The base of the pedestal moved 15 mm (0.6 inch) on the right front side and 10 mm (0.4 inch) on the left rear side. The sign panel detached from the top bracket. The top beacon detached, and the bottom beacon was cracked but remained attached to the pole. The debris extended 9.0 m (30.0 ft) downstream from the impact point.

Vehicle Damage

As shown in Figure 9, the vehicle sustained minimal damage to the bumper, hood, fan, radiator, and radiator support. Maximum exterior crush to the vehicle was 140 mm (5.5 inch) to the right front inner bumper at bumper height. Maximum deformation of the occupant compartment was 30 mm (1.2 inch) to the center of the roof. The interior of the vehicle is shown in Figure 10. Exterior vehicle crush and occupant compartment measurements are shown in Appendix B, Tables 3 and 4.

Occupant Risk Factors

Data from the accelerometer located at the vehicle center of gravity were digitized for evaluation of occupant risk and were computed as follows. In the longitudinal direction, the occupant impact velocity was 1.6 m/s (5.2 ft/s) at 0.397 s, the highest 0.010-s occupant ridedown acceleration was 0.4 g's from 0.653 to 0.663 s, and the maximum 0.050-s average acceleration was -3.9 g's between 0.013 and 0.063 s. In the lateral direction, the occupant impact velocity was 0.3 m/s (1.0 ft/s) at 0.397 s, the highest 0.010-s occupant ridedown acceleration was -0.4 g's from 0.585 to 0.595 s, and the maximum 0.050-s average was 0.4 g's between 0.075 and 0.125 s. These data and other pertinent information from the test are summarized in Figure 11. Vehicle angular displacements are shown in Appendix D, Figure 23, and vehicle accelerations versus time traces are presented in Appendix E, Figures 25 through 27.



Figure 7. After Impact Trajectory for Test 417920-1.







Figure 8. Installation after Test 417920-1.







Figure 9. Vehicle after Test 417920-1.



Figure 10. Interior of Vehicle for Test 417920-1.



Figure 11. Summary of Results for Test 417920-1, NCHRP Report 350 Test 3-60.

TEST NO. 417920-2 (NCHRP Report 350 TEST NO. 3-61)

A pedestal base sign support attached to a screw-in anchor foundation, shown in Figure 1 and Figure 3, was evaluated in this crash test.

Test Vehicle

A 1994 Geo Metro, shown in Figures 12 and 13, was used for the crash test. Test inertia weight of the vehicle was 820 kg (1806 lb), and its gross static weight was 896 kg (1974 lb). The height to the lower edge of the vehicle bumper was 370 mm (14.6 inch) and it was 455 mm (18.0 inch) to the upper edge of the bumper. Additional dimensions and information on the vehicle are given in Appendix B, Figure 20. The vehicle was directed into the installation using the cable reverse tow and guidance system, and was released to be free-wheeling and unrestrained just prior to impact.

Soil and Weather Conditions

The test was performed the afternoon of December 16, 1999. Seven days before the test, 10 mm (0.4 inch) of rain fell; five days before, 3 mm (0.1 inch); and four days before, 20 mm (0.8 inch). No other rainfall occurred for the remaining 10 days prior to the test. The *NCHRP Report 350* standard soil in which the sign supports were placed was moistened slightly just prior to the test in order to settle the The reference for wind direction is 90°

dust to ensure an unimpaired view for the high-speed cameras. Weather conditions at the time of testing were as follows: wind speed: 13 km/h (8 mi/h); wind direction: 180 degrees with respect to the vehicle (vehicle was traveling in a northerly direction); temperature: 19 °C (66 °F); relative humidity: 15 percent.



Test Description

The vehicle impacted the sign support head-on at a speed of 99.9 km/h (62.1 mi/h). At 0.002 s, the underside of the bumper of the vehicle contacted the pedestal base, and at 0.007 s the pedestal base and pole moved. By 0.019 s, the pedestal base had fractured, and by 0.026 s, a crack on the field side of the pedestal base formed. The post bounced off the bumper of the vehicle at 0.049 s, and at 0.100 s the vehicle lost contact with the pole. The vehicle lost contact with the pedestal base at 0.119 s as the vehicle was traveling at a speed of 94.2 km/h (58.5 mi/h). At 0.146 s, the lower beacon signal light contacted the vehicle at the middle of the roof, and at 0.175 s, the pole was parallel with the ground. The lower light lost contact with the roof of the vehicle, and the upper beacon signal light contacted the ground surface at 0.248 s as the vehicle



Figure 12. Vehicle/Installation Geometrics for Test 417920-2.



Figure 13. Vehicle before Test 417920-2.

was traveling at a speed of 94.2 km/h (58.5 mi/h). The sign panel detached from the pole at 0.277 s. Brakes on the vehicle were applied as it exited the test site, and the vehicle came to rest 86.9 m (285.1 ft) downstream from impact point and 3.0 m (9.8 ft) toward traffic lanes. Sequential photographs of the test can be found in Appendix C, Figure 22.

Damage to Test Installation

The pedestal base fractured into several pieces, as shown in Figures 14 and 15. The base of the pedestal sign moved 8 mm (0.3 in) on the right front side and 15 mm (0.6 in) on the left rear side. The sign panel detached from the pole. The top beacon signal detached, and the bottom beacon broke but stayed attached to the pole. The debris extended 30.0 m (98.4 ft) downstream, 1.5 m (5.0 ft) to the right, and 5.3 m (17.4 ft) to the left of the impact point.

Vehicle Damage

As shown in Figure 16, the vehicle sustained minimal damage to the bumper, hood, fan, radiator and radiator support. Maximum exterior crush to the vehicle was 200 mm (7.9 inch) to the left front inner bumper at bumper height. The interior of the vehicle is shown in Figure 17. Exterior vehicle crush and occupant compartment measurements are shown in Appendix B, Tables 5 and 6.

Occupant Risk Factors

Data from the accelerometer located at the vehicle center of gravity were digitized for evaluation of occupant risk and were computed as follows. In the longitudinal direction, the occupant impact velocity was 1.2 m/s (3.9 ft/s) at 0.521 s, the highest 0.010-s occupant ridedown acceleration was -0.3 g's from 0.959 to 0.969 s, and the maximum 0.050-s average acceleration was -2.8 g's between 0.001 and 0.051 s. In the lateral direction, the occupant impact velocity was 0.4 m/s (1.3 ft/s) at 0.521 s, the highest 0.010-s occupant ridedown acceleration was 0.2 g's from 0.538 to 0.548 s, and the maximum 0.050-s average was -0.3 g's between 0.059 and 0.109 s. These data and other pertinent information from the test are summarized in Figure 18. Vehicle angular displacements are shown in Appendix D, Figure 24, and vehicle accelerations versus time traces are presented in Appendix E, Figures 28 through 30.



Figure 14. After Impact Trajectory for Test 417920-2.






Figure 15. Installation after Test 417920-2.



Figure 16. Vehicle after Test 417920-2.



Figure 17. Interior of Vehicle for Test 417920-2.



Figure 18. Summary of Results for Test 417920-2, NCHRP Report 350 Test 3-61.

V. FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

An assessment of each test base on the applicable *NCHRP Report 350* safety evaluation criteria is provided below.

Low-Speed Test 417920-1 (NCHRP Report 350 Test 3-60)

• Structural Adequacy

- B. The test article should readily activate in a predictable manner by breaking away, fracturing, or yielding.
- <u>Result</u>: The cast aluminum pedestal base met the requirements for structural adequacy by fracturing and yielding to the vehicle.
- Occupant Risk
 - D. Detached elements, fragments or other debris from the test article should not penetrate or show potential for penetrating the occupant compartment, or present an undue hazard to other traffic, pedestrians, or personnel in a work zone. Deformation of, or intrusions into, the occupant compartment that could cause serious injuries should not be permitted.
- <u>Result</u>: The detached elements did not penetrate or show potential to penetrate the occupant compartment, or otherwise present undue hazard to others in the area. Maximum deformation of the occupant compartment was 30 mm (1.2 inch) (3 percent reduction of space) to the center of the roof.
 - F. The vehicle should remain upright during and after collision although moderate roll, pitching and yawing are acceptable.
- <u>Result</u>: The vehicle remained upright during and after the collision period.

11.						
	Longitudinal Occupant Impact Velocity - m/sPreferredMaximum3 (9.8 ft/s)5 (16.4 ft/s)					
<u>Result</u> :	Longitudinal occupant impact velocity was 1.6 m/s (5.2 ft/s).					
I.	Occupant ridedown accelerations should satisfy the following:					
	<u>Longitudinal Occupant Ridedown Accelerations - g's</u> <u>Preferred</u> <u>Maximum</u> 15 20					
<u>Result</u> :	Longitudinal ridedown acceleration was 0.4 g's and in the lateral ridedown acceleration was -0.4 g's.					
• Vehic	le Trajectory					
К.	After collision it is preferable that the vehicle's trajectory not intrude into adjacent traffic lanes.					
Result:	The vehicle did not intrude into adjacent traffic lanes.					
N.	Vehicle trajectory behind the test article is acceptable.					
<u>Result</u> :	The vehicle trajectory behind the test article is acceptable.					

Occupant impact velocities should satisfy the following:

The following supplemental evaluation factors and terminology, as presented in the FHWA memo entitled "Action: Identifying Acceptable Highway Safety Features," were used for visual assessment of test results:

◆ PASSENGER COMPARTMENT INTRUSION

1. Windshield Intrusion

H.

- a. No windshield contact
- b. Windshield contact, no damage
- c. Windshield contact, no intrusion
- d. Device embedded in windshield, no significant intrusion

2. Body Panel Intrusion

- e. Complete intrusion into passenger compartment
- f. Partial intrusion into passenger compartment

yes or <u>no</u>

LOSS OF VEHICLE CONTROL

- **1.** Physical loss of control
- 2. Loss of windshield visibility 4. Debris on pavement

PHYSICAL THREAT TO WORKERS OR OTHER VEHICLES

1. Harmful debris that could injure workers or others in the area

2. Harmful debris that could injure occupants in other vehicles

The debris was not dispersed in a pattern that could injure occupants in other vehicles or others in the area.

VEHICLE AND DEVICE CONDITION

1. Vehicle Damage

- a. None
- b. Minor scrapes, scratches or dents
- c. Significant cosmetic dents

2. Windshield Damage

- a. None
- b. Minor chip or crack
- c. Broken, no interference with visibility
- d. Broken and shattered, visibility restricted but remained intact

3. Device Damage

- a. None
- b. Superficial
- c. Substantial, but can be straightened

- d. Major dents to grill and body panels
- e. Major structural damage
- e. Shattered, remained intact but partially dislodged
- f. Large portion removed
- g. Completely removed
- d. Substantial, replacement parts needed for repair
- e. Cannot be repaired

In addition, the 1994 AASHTO Specification states:

Satisfactory dynamic performance is indicated when the maximum change in velocity for a standard 1800 pound [817 kg] vehicle, or its equivalent, striking a breakaway support at speeds of 20 mi/h to 60 mi/h [32 km/h to 97 km/h] does not exceed 16 ft/s [4.87 m/s], but preferably does not exceed 10 ft/s [3.05 m/s] or less.

Maximum change in velocity for this test was 2.3 m/s (7.5 ft/s). Result:

- 3. Perceived threat to other vehicles

High-Speed Test 417920-2 (NCHRP Report 350 Test 3-61)

• Structural Adequacy

- B. The test article should readily activate in a predictable manner by breaking away, fracturing, or yielding.
- <u>Result</u>: The cast aluminum pedestal base met the requirements for structural adequacy by fracturing and yielding to the vehicle.

• Occupant Risk

- D. Detached elements, fragments or other debris from the test article should not penetrate or show potential for penetrating the occupant compartment, or present an undue hazard to other traffic, pedestrians, or personnel in a work zone. Deformation of, or intrusions into, the occupant compartment that could cause serious injuries should not be permitted.
- Result:The detached elements did not penetrate or show potential
to penetrate the occupant compartment, or otherwise
present undue hazard to others in the area. No deformation
or intrusion of the occupant compartment occurred.
 - F. The vehicle should remain upright during and after collision although moderate roll, pitching and yawing are acceptable.
- <u>Result</u>: The vehicle remained upright during and after the collision period.
 - H. Occupant impact velocities should satisfy the following:

<u>Longitudinal Occupant Impact Velocity - m/s</u> <u>Preferred</u> <u>Maximum</u> <u>3</u>
5

Result: Longitudinal occupant impact velocity was 1.2 m/s (3.9 ft/s).

I. Occupant ridedown accelerations should satisfy the following:

Longitudinal Occupant Ridedown Accelerations - g's						
<u>Preferred</u>	<u>Maximum</u>					
15	20					

Longitudinal ridedown acceleration was -0.3 g's and in the Result: lateral ridedown acceleration was 0.2 g's.

Vehicle Trajectory

- K. After collision it is preferable that the vehicle's trajectory not intrude into adjacent traffic lanes.
- Result: The vehicle traveled in a straightforward manner and came to rest 86.9 m (9.8 ft) behind the sign support and 3.0 m (9.8 ft) toward traffic lanes.
 - N. *Vehicle trajectory behind the test article is acceptable.*
- Result: The vehicle trajectory behind the test article is acceptable.

The following supplemental evaluation factors and terminology, as presented in the FHWA memo entitled "Action: Identifying Acceptable Highway Safety Features," were used for visual assessment of test results:

PASSENGER COMPARTMENT INTRUSION

1. Windshield Intrusion

- a. No windshield contact
- b. Windshield contact, no damage
- c. Windshield contact, no intrusion
- d. Device embedded in windshield, no significant intrusion
- 2. Body Panel Intrusion yes or
- LOSS OF VEHICLE CONTROL
 - 3. Perceived threat to other vehicles 1. Physical loss of control
 - 2. Loss of windshield visibility 4. Debris on pavement

- f. Partial intrusion into passenger compartment

passenger compartment

e. Complete intrusion into

no

• PHYSICAL THREAT TO WORKERS OR OTHER VEHICLES

1. Harmful debris that could injure workers or others in the area

2. Harmful debris that could injure occupants in other vehicles

The debris was not dispersed in a pattern that could injure occupants in other vehicles or others in the area.

• VEHICLE AND DEVICE CONDITION

1. Vehicle Damage

- a. None
- b. Minor scrapes, scratches or dents
- c. Significant cosmetic dents

2. Windshield Damage

- a. None
- b. Minor chip or crack
- c. Broken, no interference with visibility
- d. Broken and shattered, visibility restricted but remained intact

3. Device Damage

- a. None
- b. Superficial
- c. Substantial, but can be straightened

- d. <u>Major dents to grill and body</u> <u>panels</u>
- e. Major structural damage
- e. Shattered, remained intact but partially dislodged
- f. Large portion removed
- g. Completely removed
- d. Substantial, replacement parts needed for repair
- e. Cannot be repaired

In addition, the 1994 AASHTO Specification states:

Satisfactory dynamic performance is indicated when the maximum change in velocity for a standard 1800 pound [817 kg] vehicle, or its equivalent, striking a breakaway support at speeds of 20 mi/h to 60 mi/h [32 km/h to 97 km/h] does not exceed 16 ft/s [4.87 m/s], but preferably does not exceed 10 ft/s [3.05 m/s] or less.

<u>Result</u>: Maximum change in velocity for this test was 1.6 m/s (5.2 ft/s).

CONCLUSIONS

A square base pedestal sign installation attached to the ground with a helical type screwin foundation anchor assembly successfully met the evaluation criteria set forth in *NCHRP Report 350.* A summary of the evaluation is provided in Tables 1 and 2. The installation was fabricated using a Pelco (model SP 1014 TX) square cast aluminum traffic signal base with a 114 mm (4.5 inch) O.D. \times 3.96 m (13 ft) long spun aluminum pole. Attached to the pole was a 16 mm \times 1.2 m \times 1.2 m (0.625 inch \times 48 inch \times 48 inch) plywood warning sign with the bottom of the sign height 2.26 m (7.4 ft). In addition, a 305 mm (12.0 inch), LED lamp, flashing yellow signal beacon was mounted directly above and below the sign panel. The helical type screw-in foundation anchor assembly (model PB5306) was placed in *NCHRP Report 350* standard soil using an auger truck provided by TxDOT.

IMPLEMENTATION STATEMENT

A pedestal base sign support installation installed atop a screw-in helical type ground anchor was evaluated through full-scale crash testing. The system met *NCHRP Report 350* guidelines and is considered suitable for implementation.

This report presents details of the pedestal base sign installation as tested. Installations that deviate in construction significantly from the details presented herein may require additional engineering evaluation and/or testing.

Те	st Agency: Texas Transpo	ortation Institute		Test No.: 417920-1 Test Date: 12		
	NCHRP Report 3.	50 Evaluation C	riteria	Test Results	Assessment	
Str	uctural Adequacy					
В.	The test article should rea by breaking away, fracturi	•	redictable manner	The cast aluminum pedestal base fractured and yielded to the vehicle.	Pass	
Oc	cupant Risk					
D.	Detached elements, fragm article should not penetrat the occupant compartment traffic, pedestrians, or per- of, or intrusions into, the o cause serious injuries shou	e or show potentia t, or present an unc sonnel in a work ze occupant compartn	l for penetrating lue hazard to other one. Deformations nent that could	The detached elements did not penetrate or show potential to penetrate the occupant compartment, or otherwise present undue hazard to others in the area. Maximum deformation of the occupant compartment was 30 mm (1.2 in) to the center of the roof.	Pass	
₩ F.		n upright during and after collision itching and yawing are acceptable.		The vehicle remained upright during and after the collision period.	Pass	
H.	Occupant impact velocitie	s should satisfy the	e following:			
	Occupant	Velocity Limits (n	n/s)	Longitudinal occupant impact velocity was 1.6 m/s	Pass	
	Component	Preferred	Maximum	(5.2 ft/s).	1 455	
	Longitudinal	3	5			
I.	Occupant ridedown accele	erations should sati	isfy the following:			
	Occupant Ridedov	wn Acceleration L	imits (G's)	Longitudinal ridedown acceleration was 0.4 g's.	Pass	
	Component	Preferred	Maximum	Longitudinal fidedown acceleration was 0.4 g s.	1 455	
	Longitudinal	15	20			
Ve	hicle Trajectory					
K.	K. After collision it is preferable that the vehicle's trajectory not intrude into adjacent traffic lanes.		The vehicle traveled in a straightforward manner and came to rest 32.0 m (105.0 ft) directly behind the sign support.	Pass		
N.	Vehicle trajectory behind	the test article is a	cceptable.	The vehicle trajectory behind the test article is acceptable.	Pass	

Table 1. Performance Evaluation Summary for Test 417920-1, NCHRP Report 350 Test 3-60.

Test Agency: Texas Transportation Institute				Test No.: 417920-2 Test Date: 12		
	NCHRP Report 3.	50 Evaluation C	riteria	Test Results	Assessment	
<u>Stru</u>	ctural Adequacy					
В.	The test article should rea by breaking away, fracture	•	redictable manner	The cast aluminum pedestal base fractured and yielded to the vehicle.	Pass	
Occ	cupant Risk					
 D. Detached elements, fragments or other debris from the test article should not penetrate or show potential for penetrating the occupant compartment, or present an undue hazard to other traffic, pedestrians, or personnel in a work zone. Deformations of, or intrusions into, the occupant compartment that could cause serious injuries should not be permitted. 				The detached elements did not penetrate or show potential to penetrate the occupant compartment, or otherwise present undue hazard to others in the area. No deformation or intrusion of the occupant compartment occurred.	Pass	
F.	The vehicle should remain although moderate roll, pi	n upright during an tching and yawing	d after collision are acceptable.	The vehicle remained upright during and after the collision period.	Pass	
H.	Occupant impact velocitie	s should satisfy the	e following:			
	Occupant	Velocity Limits (n	n/s)	Longitudinal occupant impact velocity was 0.8 m/s	Pass	
	Component	Preferred	Maximum	(2.6 ft/s).	Fass	
	Longitudinal	3	5			
I.	Occupant ridedown accele	erations should sati	isfy the following:			
	Occupant Ridedov	wn Acceleration L	imits (G's)	Longitudinal ridedown acceleration was 0.1 g's.	Pass	
	Component	Preferred	Maximum	Longitudinal fuedown acceleration was 0.1 g s.	F 455	
	Longitudinal	15	20			
Veł	nicle Trajectory					
K.	K. After collision it is preferable that the vehicle's trajectory not intrude into adjacent traffic lanes.		The vehicle traveled in a straightforward manner and came to rest 86.9 m (285.1 ft) behind the sign support and 3.0 m (9.8 ft) toward traffic lanes.	Pass		
N.	Vehicle trajectory behind	the test article is a	cceptable.	The vehicle trajectory behind the test article is acceptable.	Pass	

Table 2. Performance Evaluation Summary for Test 417920-2, NCHRP Report 350 Test 3-61.

REFERENCES

- H. E. Ross, Jr., D. L. Sicking, R. A. Zimmer and J. D. Michie, *Recommended Procedures for the Safety Performance Evaluation of Highway Features*, National Cooperative Highway Research Program Report 350, Transportation Research Board, National Research Council, Washington, D.C., 1993.
- 2. Standard Specifications for Structural Supports for Highway Signs, Luminaires, and Traffic Signals, American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO), Washington, D.C., 1994.

APPENDIX A. CRASH TEST PROCEDURES AND DATA ANALYSIS

APPENDIX A. CRASH TEST PROCEDURES AND DATA ANALYSIS

The crash test and data analysis procedures were in accordance with guidelines presented in *NCHRP Report 350*. Brief descriptions of these procedures are presented as follows.

ELECTRONIC INSTRUMENTATION AND DATA PROCESSING

The test vehicle was instrumented with three solid-state angular rate transducers to measure roll, pitch, and yaw rates; a triaxial accelerometer near the vehicle center of gravity (c.g.) to measure longitudinal, lateral, and vertical acceleration levels; and a back-up biaxial accelerometer in the rear of the vehicle to measure longitudinal and lateral acceleration levels. These accelerometers were ENDEVCO Model 2262CA, piezoresistive accelerometers with a ± 100 g range.

The accelerometers are strain gage type with a linear millivolt output proportional to acceleration. Angular rate transducers are solid state, gas flow units designed for high-"g" service. Signal conditioners and amplifiers in the test vehicle increase the low level signals to a ± 2.5 volt maximum level. The signal conditioners also provide the capability of an R-Cal or shunt calibration for the accelerometers and a precision voltage calibration for the rate transducers. The electronic signals from the accelerometers and rate transducers are transmitted to a base station by means of a 15 channel, constant bandwidth, Inter-Range Instrumentation Group (I.R.I.G.), FM/FM telemetry link for recording on magnetic tape and for display on a real-time strip chart. Calibration signals, from the test vehicle, are recorded before the test and immediately afterwards. A crystal controlled time reference signal is simultaneously recorded with the data. Pressure-sensitive switches on the bumper of the impacting vehicle are actuated prior to impact by wooden dowels to indicate the elapsed time over a known distance to provide a measurement of impact velocity. The initial contact also produces an "event" mark on the data record to establish the instant of contact with the installation.

The multiplex of data channels, transmitted on one radio frequency, is received and demultiplexed onto separate tracks of a 28 track (I.R.I.G.) tape recorder. After the test, the data are played back from the tape machine, filtered with Society of Automotive Engineers (SAE J211) filters, and digitized using a microcomputer, at 2000 samples per second per channel, for analysis and evaluation of impact performance.

All accelerometers are calibrated annually according to SAE J211 *4.6.1* by means of an ENDEVCO 2901, precision primary vibration standard. This device, and its support instruments, is returned to the factory annually for a National Institute of Standards Technology (NIST) traceable calibration. The subsystems of each data channel are also evaluated annually, using instruments with current NIST traceability, and the results factored into the accuracy of the total data channel, per SAE J211. Calibrations and evaluations are made any time data are suspect.

The digitized data are then processed using two computer programs: DIGITIZE and PLOTANGLE. Brief descriptions on the functions of these two computer programs are provided as follows.

The DIGITIZE program uses digitized data from vehicle-mounted linear accelerometers to compute occupant/compartment impact velocities, time of occupant/compartment impact after vehicle impact, and the highest 10-ms average ridedown acceleration. The DIGITIZE program also calculates a vehicle impact velocity and the change in vehicle velocity at the end of a given impulse period. In addition, maximum average accelerations over 50-ms intervals in each of the three directions are computed. For reporting purposes, the data from the vehicle-mounted accelerometers are then filtered with a 60 Hz digital filter and acceleration versus time curves for the longitudinal, lateral, and vertical directions are plotted using a commercially available software package (Excel).

The PLOTANGLE program uses the digitized data from the yaw, pitch, and roll rate transducers to compute angular displacement in degrees at 0.0002-s intervals and then instructs a plotter to draw a reproducible plot: yaw, pitch, and roll versus time. These displacements are in reference to the vehicle-fixed coordinate system, with the initial position and orientation of the vehicle-fixed coordinate system being that which existed at initial impact.

ANTHROPOMORPHIC DUMMY INSTRUMENTATION

An Alderson Research Laboratories Hybrid II, 50th percentile male anthropomorphic dummy, restrained with lap and shoulder belts, was placed in the driver's position of the 820C vehicle. The dummy was un-instrumented.

PHOTOGRAPHIC INSTRUMENTATION AND DATA PROCESSING

Photographic coverage of the test included two high-speed cameras: one placed behind the installation at an angle; and a second placed to have a field of view perpendicular to and aligned with the installation. A flash bulb activated by pressure sensitive tape switches was positioned on the impacting vehicle to indicate the instant of contact with the installation and was visible from each camera. The films from these high-speed cameras were analyzed on a computer-linked Motion Analyzer to observe phenomena occurring during the collision and to obtain time-event, displacement, and angular data. A BetaCam, a VHS-format video camera and recorder, and still cameras were used to record and document conditions of the test vehicle and installation before and after the test.

TEST VEHICLE PROPULSION AND GUIDANCE

The test vehicle was towed into the test installation using a steel cable guidance and reverse tow system. A steel cable for guiding the test vehicle was tensioned along the path, anchored at each end, and threaded through an attachment to the front wheel of the test vehicle. An additional steel cable was connected to the test vehicle, passed around a pulley near the impact point, through a pulley on the tow vehicle, and then anchored to the ground such that the tow vehicle moved away from the test site. A two to one speed ratio between the test and tow vehicle existed with this system. Just prior to impact with the installation, the test vehicle was released to be free-wheeling and unrestrained. The vehicle remained free-wheeling, i.e., no steering or braking inputs, until the vehicle cleared the immediate area of the test site, at which time brakes on the vehicle were activated to bring it to a safe and controlled stop.

APPENDIX B. TEST VEHICLE PROPERTIES AND INFORMATION

APPENDIX B. TEST VEHICLE PROPERTIES AND INFORMATION



Figure 19. Vehicle Properties for Test 417920-1.

Table 3. Exterior Crush Measurements for Test 417920-1.

VEHICLE CROSH WEASOREWENT SHEET						
Complete When Applicable						
End Damage	Side Damage					
Undeformed end width	Bowing: B1 X1					
Corner shift: A1	B2 X2					
A2						
End shift at frame (CDC) (check one) < 4 inches ≥ 4 inches	$\frac{\text{Bowing constant}}{2} = \underline{\qquad}$					

VEHICLE CRUSH MEASUREMENT SHEET¹

Note: Measure C1 to C6 from Driver to Passenger side in Front or Rear impacts-Rear to Front in Side impacts.

a :c		Direct D	amage								
Specific Impact Number	Plane* of C-Measurements	Width ** (CDC)	Max*** Crush	Field L**	C ₁	C ₂	C ₃	C ₄	C ₅	C ₆	±D
1	Front inner bumper	600	140	820	0	60	90	110	40	0	+200

¹Table taken from National Accident Sampling System (NASS).

*Identify the plane at which the C-measurements are taken (e.g., at bumper, above bumper, at sill, above sill, at beltline, etc.) or label adjustments (e.g., free space).

Free space value is defined as the distance between the baseline and the original body contour taken at the individual C locations. This may include the following: bumper lead, bumper taper, side protrusion, side taper, etc. Record the value for each C-measurement and maximum crush.

**Measure and document on the vehicle diagram the beginning or end of the direct damage width and field L (e.g., side damage with respect to undamaged axle).

***Measure and document on the vehicle diagram the location of the maximum crush.

Note: Use as many lines/columns as necessary to describe each damage profile.

 Table 4. Occupant Compartment Measurements for Test 417920-1.

Small Car

Occupant Compartment Deformation







	BEFORE	AFTER
A1	2020	2020
A2	2065	2065
A3	2025	2025
B1	970	970
B2	906	876
B3	975	975
B4	948	938
B5	870	870
B6	955	955
B7	774	774
B8	760	760
B9	780	780
C1	581	581
C2	705	705
C3	585	585
D1	290	290
D2	100	100
D3	280	280
E1	1230	1230
E2	1230	1230
F	1215	1215
G	1215	1215
н	1000	1000
I	1000	1000



Figure 20. Vehicle Properties for Test 417920-2.

Table 5. Exterior Crush Measurements for Test 417920-2.

VEHICLE CROSH WEASOREMENT SHEET						
Complete When Applicable						
End Damage	Side Damage					
Undeformed end width	Bowing: B1 X1					
Corner shift: A1	B2 X2					
A2						
End shift at frame (CDC) (check one) < 4 inches > 4 inches	$\frac{\text{Bowing constant}}{\frac{X1 + X2}{2}} = \underline{\qquad}$					

VEHICLE CRUSH MEASUREMENT SHEET¹

Note: Measure C1 to C6 from Driver to Passenger side in Front or Rear impacts-Rear to Front in Side impacts.

Q		Direct D	amage								
Specific Impact Number	Plane* of C-Measurements	Width ** (CDC)	Max*** Crush	Field L**	C ₁	C ₂	C ₃	C_4	C ₅	C ₆	±D
1	Front inner bumper	800	200	1000	+60	-40	-200	-100	-60	0	-60

¹Table taken from National Accident Sampling System (NASS).

*Identify the plane at which the C-measurements are taken (e.g., at bumper, above bumper, at sill, above sill, at beltline, etc.) or label adjustments (e.g., free space).

Free space value is defined as the distance between the baseline and the original body contour taken at the individual C locations. This may include the following: bumper lead, bumper taper, side protrusion, side taper, etc. Record the value for each C-measurement and maximum crush.

**Measure and document on the vehicle diagram the beginning or end of the direct damage width and field L (e.g., side damage with respect to undamaged axle).

***Measure and document on the vehicle diagram the location of the maximum crush.

Note: Use as many lines/columns as necessary to describe each damage profile.

Small Car

Occupant Compartment Deformation





	BEFORE	AFTER
A1	1440	1440
A2	267	267
A3	1448	1448
B1	980	980
B2	925	925
B3	980	980
B4	951	951
B5	875	875
B6	955	955
B7	780	780
B8	791	791
B9	779	779
C1	705	705
C2	705	705
C3	570	570
D1	285	285
D2	100	100
D3	275	275
E1	1225	1225
E2	1226	1226
F	1210	1210
G	1210	1210
н	1100	1000
I	1100	1100

APPENDIX C. SEQUENTIAL PHOTOGRAPHS

APPENDIX C. SEQUENTIAL PHOTOGRAPHS









0.000 s



0.049 s









0.291 s

Figure 21. Sequential Photographs for Test 417920-1 (Perpendicular and Oblique Views).







0.534 s



19/5













2.306 s

Figure 21. Sequential Photographs for Test 417920-1 (Perpendicular and Oblique Views) (continued).





0.000 s





0.024 s







0.061 s





Figure 22. Sequential Photographs for Test 417920-2 (Perpendicular and Oblique Views).







0.170 s



0.243 s







0.316 s





Figure 22. Sequential Photographs for Test 417920-2 (Perpendicular and Oblique Views) (continued).

APPENDIX D. VEHICLE ANGULAR DISPLACEMENTS



Roll, Pitch and Yaw Angles

Figure 23. Vehicular Angular Displacements for Test 417920-1.

+2



Figure 24. Vehicular Angular Displacements for Test 417920-2.

APPENDIX E. VEHICLE ACCELERATIONS



X Acceleration at CG

Figure 25. Vehicle Longitudinal Accelerometer Trace for Test 417920-1.



Y Acceleration at CG

Figure 26. Vehicle Lateral Accelerometer Trace for Test 417920-1.



Z Acceleration at CG

Figure 27. Vehicle Vertical Accelerometer Trace for Test 417920-1.



X Acceleration at CG

Figure 28. Vehicle Longitudinal Accelerometer Trace for Test 417920-2.



Y Acceleration at CG

Figure 29. Vehicle Lateral Accelerometer Trace for Test 417920-2.



Z Acceleration at CG

Figure 30. Vehicle Vertical Accelerometer Trace for Test 417920-2.