

IOWA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

To Office: Bridges and Structures

Date: May 13, 2002

Attention: All Employees

Ref. No.: 521.2

From: Gary Novey

Office: Bridges and Structures

Subject: MM No. 65(Limit Steel Girder Lengths Between Field Splices 120 ft)

When designing steel girder bridges, try to limit the shipping lengths to a maximum of 120 feet (36.5 m). With segments less than 80 feet, the designer should consider combinations with other section to reduce the number of field splices keeping in mind the maximum shipping length and dead load inflection locations. This policy should allow more local fabricators the option of bidding on the projects.

GAN/DGB/jw