

**IOWA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

To Office Bridges and Structures Date December 30, 2004  
Attention All Employees Ref No. 521.3  
From Gary Novey  
Office Bridges and Structures  
Subject Method's Memo No. 73 (Use of Special Prestressed Beam Designs)

The special beam designation bid item for prestressed beams should be used when one of the following modifications are made to the standards:

1. Changes in concrete strength.
2. Changes in strand pattern
3. Changes in beam length.

The beams shall be designated with an "S" for a special beam and the bid item, 2407-0550000 "BEAMS PRETENSIONED CONCRETE, " for English and 2407--100000, "BEAMS PRETENSIONED CONCRETE, " for metric used. For example a modified 95 ft D beam would be listed as:

2407-0550000 "BEAMS PRETENSIONED CONCRETE, SLXD95"

A note should be provided in the bid item reference list describing why the special bid item was used. Also, for situations where the beam length may be non-standard or variable, the length should be left off the bid item and the lengths provided in the bid item reference.

The "S" designation should not be used for situations where the lengths of the shear stirrups are modified because of the large haunches. However, a note should be provided in the bid item reference list that the stirrup lengths have been changed

GAN /DGB/bj