

IOWA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

To Office Bridges and Structures Date December 1, 2007
Attention All Employees Ref No. 521.1
From Gary Novey
Office Bridges and Structures
Subject Method's Memo No. 181 (Office Policy for Checking Piers by LRFD)

Some rather significant differences have been noted between piers designed using the LRFD Specification versus the Standard Specification. The differences have prompted the new policy below.

Piers that are approved to be designed by the LRFD Specifications shall be designed, as a minimum, by the design engineer using the LRFD code with RC-Pier. The check engineer shall check the design using the LRFD and the Standard Specifications. Check engineers shall use RC-Pier to do the LRFD pier check and the in-house pier programs to perform the Standard Specifications check. Checks done according to the Standard Specifications shall use HS20 live loading.

This policy is to help get a better understanding of the difference between the two specifications. Significant differences between the two checks with respect to pile/spread footing design, column reinforcement design, and cap reinforcement design should be brought to the attention of Mike Nop and Gary Novey.

This policy is effective immediately and will remain in effect until further notice.

GAN/mn/bj