



U.S. Department  
of Transportation  
**Federal Highway  
Administration**

February 22, 2021

1200 New Jersey Ave., SE  
Washington, D.C. 20590

In Reply Refer To:  
HSST-1/WZ-424

Mr. Henry A. Ross  
Plasticade  
100 Howard Avenue, Des Plaines  
IL 60018  
USA

Dear Mr. Ross:

This letter is in response to your November 23, 2020 request for the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) to review a roadside safety device, hardware, or system for eligibility for reimbursement under the Federal-aid highway program. This FHWA letter of eligibility is assigned FHWA control number WZ-424 and is valid until a subsequent letter is issued by FHWA that expressly references this device.

### **Decision**

The following device is eligible within the length-of-need, with details provided in the form which is attached as an integral part of this letter:

- Plasticade SS620A Sign Stand with corrugated plastic signs (60-in)

### **Scope of this Letter**

To be found eligible for Federal-aid funding, new roadside safety devices should meet the crash test and evaluation criteria contained in the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials' (AASHTO) Manual for Assessing Safety Hardware (MASH). However, the FHWA, the Department of Transportation, and the United States Government do not regulate the manufacture of roadside safety devices. Eligibility for reimbursement under the Federal-aid highway program does not establish approval, certification or endorsement of the device for any particular purpose or use.

This letter is not a determination by the FHWA, the Department of Transportation, or the United States Government that a vehicle crash involving the device will result in any particular outcome, nor is it a guarantee of the in-service performance of this device. Proper manufacturing, installation, and maintenance are required in order for this device to function as tested.

This finding of eligibility is limited to the crashworthiness of the system and does not cover other structural features, nor conformity with the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices.

## **Eligibility for Reimbursement**

Based solely on a review of crash test results and certifications submitted by the manufacturer, and the crash test laboratory, FHWA agrees that the device described herein meets the crash test and evaluation criteria of the AASHTO's MASH. Therefore, the device is eligible for reimbursement under the Federal-aid highway program if installed under the range of tested conditions.

- Name of system: Plasticade SS620A Sign Stand with corrugated plastic signs (60-in)  
 Type of system: Work Zone  
 Test Level: Test Level 3  
 Testing conducted by: Texas A&M Transportation Institute (TTI)  
 Date of request: November 23, 2020

FHWA concurs with the recommendation of the accredited crash testing laboratory on the attached form.

In accordance with FHWA's Memo "Federal-aid Reimbursement Eligibility Process for Safety Hardware Devices" dated November 12, 2015, FHWA will make note of any reported damage to a test vehicle's fuel tank, oil pan, or other feature that might serve as a surrogate of the fuel tank. AASHTO's MASH states "Although not a specific factor in assessing test results, integrity of a test vehicle's fuel tank is a potential concern. It is preferable that the fuel tank remains intact and not be punctured. Damage or rupture of the fuel tank, oil pan, or other feature that might serve as a surrogate of the fuel tank should be reported". A test report included in this submittal documenting Test 3-71 at 90 degrees states "there was a small cut in the oil pan", and Test 3-71 at 0 degrees states "there was slight damage to the oil pan".

## **Full Description of the Eligible Device**

The device and supporting documentation, including reports of the crash tests or other testing done, videos of any crash testing, and/or drawings of the device, are described in the attached form.

## **Notice**

This eligibility letter is issued for the subject device as tested. Modifications made to the device are not covered by this letter. Any modifications to this device should be submitted to the user (i.e., state DOT) as per their requirements.

You are expected to supply potential users with sufficient information on design, installation and maintenance requirements to ensure proper performance.

You are expected to certify to potential users that the hardware furnished has the same chemistry, mechanical properties, and geometry as that submitted for review, and that it will meet the test and evaluation criteria of AASHTO's MASH.

Issuance of this letter does not convey property rights of any sort or any exclusive privilege. This letter is based on the premise that information and reports submitted by you are accurate and correct. We reserve the right to modify or revoke this letter if: (1) there are any inaccuracies in the information submitted in support of your request for this letter, (2) the qualification testing was flawed, (3) in-service performance or other information reveals safety problems, (4) the system is significantly different from the version that was crash tested, or (5) any other information indicates that the letter was issued in error or otherwise does not reflect full and complete information about the crashworthiness of the system.

### **Standard Provisions**

- To prevent misunderstanding by others, this letter of eligibility designated as FHWA control number WZ-424 shall not be reproduced except in full. This letter and the test documentation upon which it is based are public information. All such letters and documentation may be reviewed upon request.
- This letter shall not be construed as authorization or consent by the FHWA to use, manufacture, or sell any patented system for which the applicant is not the patent holder.
- This FHWA eligibility letter is not an expression of any Agency view, position, or determination of validity, scope, or ownership of any intellectual property rights to a specific device or design. Further, this letter does not impute any distribution or licensing rights to the requester. This FHWA eligibility letter determination is made based solely on the crash-testing information submitted by the requester. The FHWA reserves the right to review and revoke an earlier eligibility determination after receipt of subsequent information related to crash testing.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Michael S. Griffith". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "M" and "G".

Michael S. Griffith  
Director, Office of Safety Technologies  
Office of Safety

Enclosures

## Request for Federal Aid Reimbursement Eligibility of Highway Safety Hardware

|                  |  |  |   |
|------------------|--|--|---|
| <b>Submitter</b> | Date of Request:   | November 23, 2020                        | <input checked="" type="radio"/> New <input type="radio"/> Resubmission |
|                  | Name:  | Henry A. Ross                            |   |
|                  | Company:   | Plasticade                               |   |
|                  | Address:   | 100 Howard Avenue, Des Plaines, IL 60018 |   |
|                  | Country:   | U.S.A.                                   |   |
| To:              | Michael S. Griffith, Director<br>FHWA, Office of Safety Technologies |  |   |

I request the following devices be considered eligible for reimbursement under the Federal-aid highway program.

**Device & Testing Criterion** - Enter from right to left starting with Test Level ! - ! - ! ! - ! - !

| System Type                                     | Submission Type   | Device Name / Variant  | Testing Criterion | Test Level |
|---|---|--|-------------------|------------|
| WZ:CrashWorthyWork Zone Traffic Control Devices | <input checked="" type="radio"/> Physical Crash Testing<br><input type="radio"/> Engineering Analysis | Plasticade®SS620A Sign Stand with corrugated plastic signs (60-in) | AASHTO MASH       | TL3        |

By submitting this request for review and evaluation by the Federal Highway Administration, I certify that the product(s) was (were) tested in conformity with the AASHTO Manual for Assessing Safety Hardware and that the evaluation results meet the appropriate evaluation criteria in the MASH.

**Individual or Organization responsible for the product:**

|  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
| Contact Name:  | Henry A. Ross                            | Same as Submitter <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Company Name:  | Plasticade                               | Same as Submitter <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Address:   | 100 Howard Avenue, Des Plaines, IL 60018 | Same as Submitter <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Country:   | U.S.A.                                   | Same as Submitter <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Enter below all disclosures of financial interests as required by the FHWA 'Federal-Aid Reimbursement Eligibility Process for Safety Hardware Devices' document.   |  |   |
| Texas A&M Transportation Institute (TTI) was contracted by Plasticade® to perform full-scale crash testing of the Plasticade®SS620A Sign Stand with corrugated plastic signs. There are no shared financial interests in the Plasticade®SS620A Sign Stand with corrugated plastic signs by TTI, or between Plasticade® and TTI, other than costs involved in the actual crash tests and reports for this submission to FHWA. |  |   |
| 690900-PLP 16-17-18 (60-in)  |  |   |

## PRODUCT DESCRIPTION

|                     |   |  |
|---------------------|---|--|
| <b>Help</b>         | <p> <input checked="" type="radio"/> New Hardware or Significant Modification                  <input type="radio"/> Modification to Existing Hardware         </p> <p>             The Plasticade®SS620A Sign Stand is a proprietary sign stand tested to hold corrugated plastic sign panels at 60 inches above grade. Each sign stand was tested with a 48 inch square diamond-shaped Plasticade® corrugated plastic sign panel. Above the sign, three conspicuity flags were mounted at the top of the stand. A 40-lb sand bag was placed on each of the four legs of the sign stand to hold the stands in place. Each sign stand weighed 60.8lb (exclusive of the sand bags).         </p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>CRASH TESTING</b></p> <p>             By signature below, the Engineer affiliated with the testing laboratory, agrees in support of this submission that all of the critical and relevant crash tests for this device listed above were conducted to meet the MASH test criteria. The Engineer has determined that no other crash tests are necessary to determine the device meets the MASH criteria.         </p> |  |
| Engineer Name:      | D. Lance Bullard, Jr., P.E.   |  |
| Engineer Signature: | <b>D. Lance Bullard, Jr.</b>  | Digitally signed by D. Lance Bullard, Jr.<br>Date: 2020.11.22 08:06:17 -06'00' |
| Address:            | 1254 Avenue A, Bldg 7091, Bryan, Texas 77807  | Same as Submitter <input type="checkbox"/>                                     |
| Country:            | U.S.A.  | Same as Submitter <input type="checkbox"/>                                     |


A brief description of each crash test and its result: Help

| Required Test Number | Narrative Description  | Evaluation Results          |
|----------------------|--|-----------------------------|
| 3-70 (1100C)         | 3-70 MASH states that Test 3-70 for small vehicles is considered optional for work-zone traffic control devices weighing less than 220 lb, because velocity changes during low-speed impacts with free-standing, lightweight features will be within acceptable limits. The Plasticade® SS620A Sign Stand weighed 60.8 lb (excluding the sand bags). Therefore, MASH Test 3-70 was not performed on this traffic control device. Non-critical, not conducted | Non-Critical, not conducted |

| Required Test Number | Narrative Description  | Evaluation Results |
|----------------------|--|--------------------|
| 3-71 (1100C)         | <p>The results of test 690900-PLP17 are found in TTI Test Report number 690900-PLP13-18. In this test, a sign stand with a corrugated plastic sign mounted 60 inches from grade to the bottom of sign was impacted. The sign stand was aligned 90° to the test vehicle. The test vehicle was traveling at an impact speed of 62.9 mi/h when it contacted the sign stand at an impact angle of 90°. The post and the sign came to rest 5 ft downstream and 8 ft to the left of the impact. One base leg landed 206 ft downstream and in line with the impact, while the remaining base assembly remained under the car and came to rest 378 ft downstream and in line with the impact. There was a small cut in the oil pan, but no fuel tank damage was observed.</p> <p>Maximum exterior crush to the vehicle was 0.75 inches in the hood. No occupant compartment deformation or intrusion was observed.</p> <p>The results of test 690900-PLP18 are found in TTI Test Report number 690900-PLP13-18. In this test, a sign stand with a corrugated plastic sign mounted 60 inches from grade to the bottom of sign was impacted. The sign stand was aligned 0° to the test vehicle. The test vehicle was traveling at an impact speed of 61.5 mi/h when it contacted the sign stand at an impact angle of 0°. The sign panel, post, and two of the legs came to rest 8 ft downstream and in line with the impact, and the remaining base assembly was trapped under the car and came to rest 380 ft downstream and 7 ft to the left of the impact. No damage to the windshield or fuel tank was observed, however there was slight damage to the oil pan. Maximum exterior crush to the vehicle was 1.0 inch in the front plane 16 inches to the right of the centerline at bumper height and hood height.</p> <p>MASH does not require instrumentation of the vehicle when impacting lightweight, freestanding work zone traffic control devices weighing less than 220 lb, therefore the occupant risk factors were not calculated for this test. The Plasticade® SS620A Sign Stand weighed 60.8 lb (excluding the sand bags).</p> <p>The device performed acceptably for MASH test 3-71 with an impact angle of 90° and 0°.</p> | PASS               |

|              |  |      |
|--------------|--|------|
| 3-72 (2270P) | <p>The results of test 690900-PLP16 are found in TTI Test Report number 690900-PLP13-18. In this test, a sign stand with a corrugated plastic sign mounted 60 inches from grade to the bottom of sign was impacted. The test vehicle was traveling at an impact speed of 62.1 mi/h when it contacted the first sign stand at an impact angle of 90°. The vehicle was traveling at an impact speed of 60.1 mi/h and impact angle of 0° when it contacted the second sign stand. The base of the first impacted sign stand came to rest 8 ft downstream and in line with the impact. The sign panel came to rest 55 ft downstream and 8 ft to the left. The post came to rest 75 ft downstream and 25 ft to the left of the impact. For the second sign stand, two of the legs landed 5 ft downstream, and the post came to rest 30 ft downstream. The base of the second sign stand came to rest 450 ft downstream, and the sign panel came to rest 15 ft downstream and 13 ft to the left of the centerline. The windshield was cracked over an area that was 21 inches x 31 inches and 1.5 inches deep, but there were no holes or tears in the windshield laminate. No fuel tank damage was observed. Maximum exterior crush to the vehicle was 2.0 inches in the front plane 13 inches to the right and left of the centerline of the vehicle at bumper height. Maximum occupant compartment deformation was 1.5 inches in the windshield.</p> <p>MASH does not require instrumentation of the vehicle when impacting lightweight, freestanding work zone traffic control devices weighing less than 220 lb, therefore the occupant risk factors were not calculated for this test. The Plasticade® SS620A Sign Stand weighed 60.8 lb (excluding the sand bags). The device performed acceptably for MASH test 3-72 with impact angles of 0° and 90°.</p> | PASS |
|--------------|--|------|

Full Scale Crash Testing was done in compliance with MASH by the following accredited crash test laboratory (cite the laboratory's accreditation status as noted in the crash test reports.):

|  |   |  |
|--|---|--|
| Laboratory Name:   | Texas A&M Transportation Institute  |  |
| Laboratory Signature:  | Digitally signed by Darrell L. Kuhn<br>'Date: 2020.11.20 16:18:15 -06'00'  |  |
| Address:   | 1254 Avenue A, Bldg 7091, Bryan, Texas 77807  | Same as Submitter <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Country:   | U.S.A   | Same as Submitter <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Accreditation Certificate Number and Dates of current Accreditation period : | ISO 17025-2017 Laboratory<br>A2LA Certificate Number: 2821.01<br>Valid To: April 30, 2021   |  |

Submitter Signature\*: **Henry A. Ross** Digitally signed by Henry A. Ross  
Date: 2020.12.03 10:14:16 -06'00'

Submit Form

## ATTACHMENTS

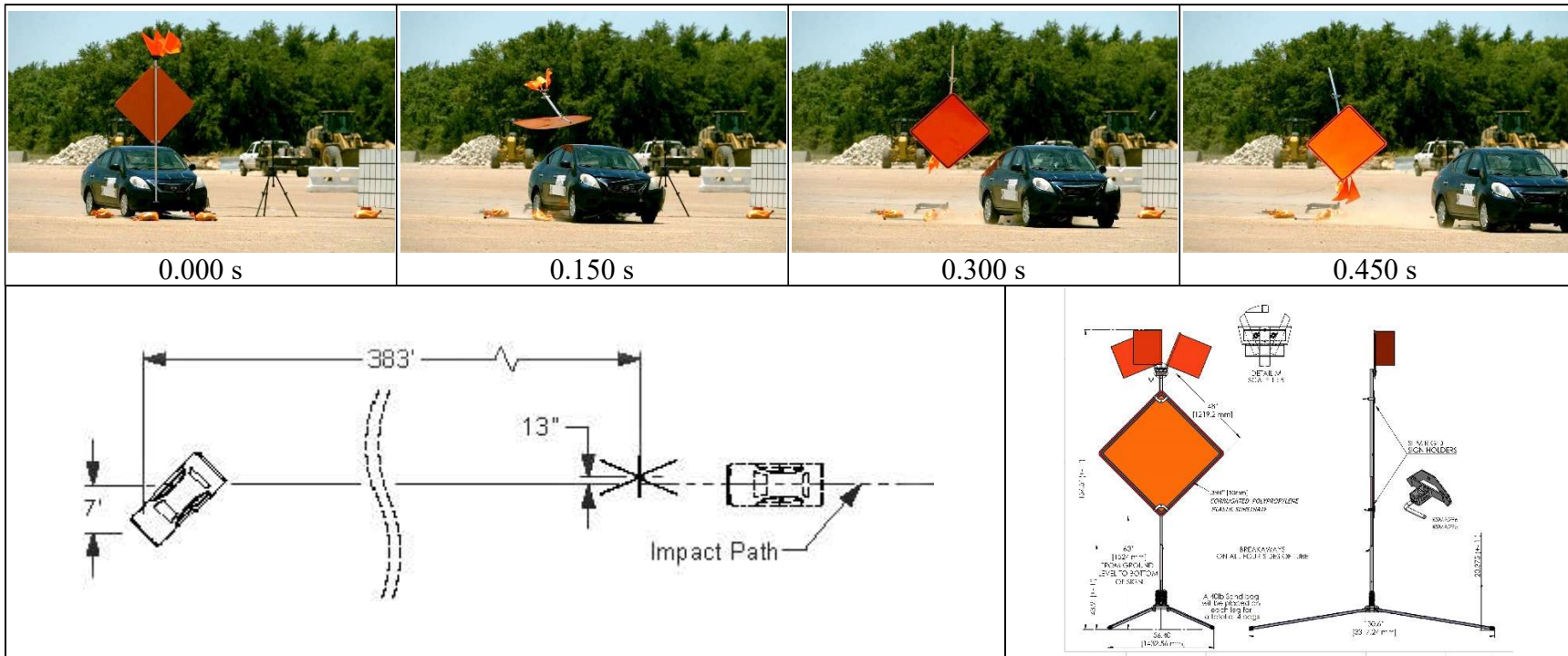
Attach to this form:

- 1) Additional disclosures of related financial interest as indicated above.
- 2) A copy of the full test report, video, and a Test Data Summary Sheet for each test conducted in support of this request.
- 3) A drawing or drawings of the device(s) that conform to the Task Force-13 Drawing Specifications [[Hardware Guide Drawing Standards](#)]. For proprietary products, a single isometric line drawing is usually acceptable to illustrate the product, with detailed specifications, intended use, and contact information provided on the reverse. Additional drawings (not in TF-13 format) showing details that are relevant to understanding the dimensions and performance of the device should also be submitted to facilitate our review.

FHWA Official Business Only:

| Eligibility Letter |      |           |
|--------------------|------|-----------|
| Number             | Date | Key Words |
|                    |      |           |





**General Information**

Test Agency ..... Texas A&M Transportation Institute (TTI)  
 Test Standard Test No. .... MASH Test 3-71 at 0°  
 TTI Test No. .... 690900-PLP18  
 Test Date ..... 2020-06-12

**Test Article**

Type ..... Work-Zone Traffic Control Device  
 Name ..... Plasticade® SS620A sign stand with  
 corrugated plastic signs mounted at 60  
 inches  
 Installation Height..... 60 inches to bottom of sign panel  
 Material or Key Elements ... 48-inch square diamond-shaped  
 Plasticade® sign panel mounted on a four-  
 legged 13-ft 8¾-inch stand and held in  
 place by two slim, rigid sign holders  
 Soil Type and Condition ..... Concrete pavement, dry; 4 sand bags

**Test Vehicle**

Type/Designation ..... 1100C  
 Make and Model ..... 2014 Nissan Versa  
 Curb ..... 2436 lb  
 Test Inertial ..... 2444 lb  
 Dummy ..... 165 lb  
 Gross Static ..... 2609 lb

**Impact Conditions**

Speed Sign Stand #1 ..... 61.5 mi/h  
 Angle Sign Stand #1 ..... 0°

**Kinetic Energy #1** ..... 309 kip-ft

**Exit Conditions**

Speed Sign Stand #1 ..... 59.3 mi/h

**Post-Impact Trajectory**

Stopping Distance ..... 383 ft downstream  
 7 ft left of center

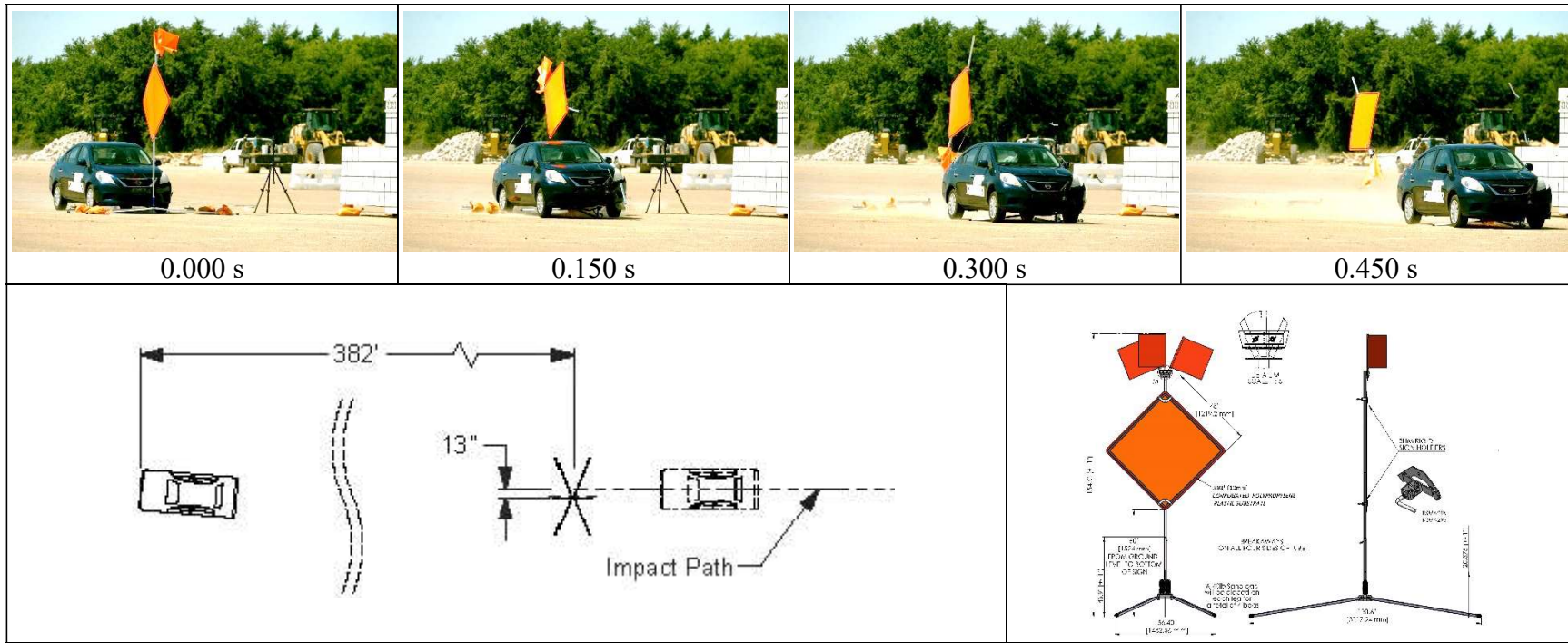
**Maximum Test Debris Scatter**

Sign Stand #1 ..... 380 ft downstream  
 7 ft left of center

**Vehicle Damage**

VDS ..... 12FR1  
 CDC ..... 12FREN1  
 Max. Exterior Deformation..... 1.0 inch  
 OCDI ..... FS0000000  
 Max. Occupant Compartment  
 Deformation ..... None  
 Windshield Damage ..... None

**Figure 10.6. Summary of Results for MASH Test 3-71 at 0 Degree on Plasticade® SS620A Sign Stand with Corrugated Plastic Signs Mounted at 60 inches.**



**General Information**

Test Agency ..... Texas A&M Transportation Institute (TTI)  
 Test Standard Test No. .... MASH Test 3-71 at 90°  
 TTI Test No. .... 690900-PLP17  
 Test Date ..... 2020-06-12

**Test Article**

Type ..... Work-Zone Traffic Control Device  
 Name ..... Plasticade® SS620A sign stand with corrugated plastic signs mounted at 60 inches  
 Installation Height ..... 60 inches to bottom of sign panel  
 Material or Key Elements ... 48-inch square diamond-shaped Plasticade® sign panel mounted on a four-legged 13-ft 8¾-inch stand and held in place by two slim, rigid sign holders

**Soil Type and Condition** .....

Concrete pavement, dry; 4 sand bags

**Test Vehicle**

Type/Designation ..... 1100C  
 Make and Model ..... 2014 Nissan Versa  
 Curb ..... 2436 lb  
 Test Inertial ..... 2444 lb  
 Dummy ..... 165 lb  
 Gross Static ..... 2609 lb

**Impact Conditions**

Speed Sign Stand #1 ..... 62.9 mi/h  
 Angle Sign Stand #1 ..... 90°

**Kinetic Energy #1** .....

323 kip-ft  
**Exit Conditions**  
 Speed Sign Stand #1 ..... 61.2 mi/h

**Post-Impact Trajectory**

Stopping Distance ..... 382 ft downstream and on centerline

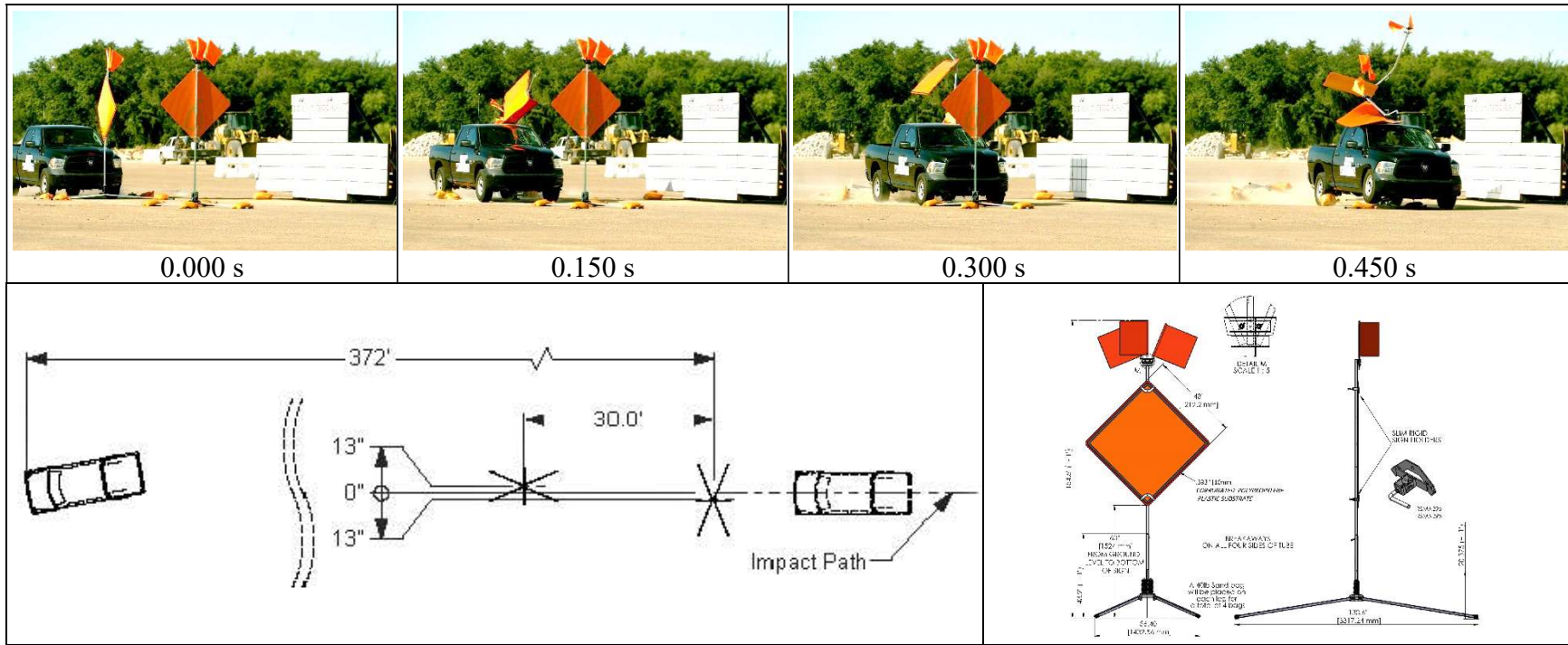
**Maximum Test Debris Scatter**

Sign Stand #1 ..... 378 ft downstream and in line

**Vehicle Damage**

VDS ..... 12FL1  
 CDC ..... 12FLEN1  
 Max. Exterior Deformation ..... 0.75 inches  
 OCDI ..... FS0000000  
 Max. Occupant Compartment Deformation ..... None  
 Windshield Damage ..... None

**Figure 9.6. Summary of Results for MASH Test 3-71 at 90 Degrees on Plasticade® SS620A Sign Stand with Corrugated Plastic Signs Mounted at 60 inches**



**General Information**

Test Agency..... Texas A&M Transportation Institute (TTI)  
 Test Standard Test No..... MASH Test 3-72 at 90° and 0°  
 TTI Test No. .... 690900-PLP16  
 Test Date ..... 2020-06-12

**Test Article**

Type ..... Work-Zone Traffic Control Device  
 Name..... Plasticade® SS620A sign stands with corrugated plastic signs mounted at 60 inches  
 Installation Height..... 60 inches to bottom of sign panel  
 Material or Key Elements 48-inch square diamond-shaped Plasticade® sign panel mounted on a four-legged 13-ft 8¾-inch stand and held in place by two slim, rigid sign holders

**Soil Type and Condition**

..... Concrete pavement, dry; 4 sand bags

**Test Vehicle**

Type/Designation ..... 2270P  
 Make and Model ..... 2014 RAM 1500  
 Curb..... 4962 lb  
 Test Inertial ..... 5008 lb  
 Dummy ..... No dummy  
 Gross Static ..... 5008 lb

**Impact Conditions**

Speed Sign Stand #1 ..... 62.1 mi/h  
 Angle Sign Stand #1 ..... 90°  
 Speed Sign Stand #2 ..... 60.1 mi/h  
 Angle Sign Stand #2 ..... 0°

**Kinetic Energy #1 & #2**..... 646 & 605 kip-ft

**Exit Conditions**

Speed Sign Stand #1 ..... 60.1 mi/h  
 Speed Sign Stand #2 ..... 58.0 mi/h

**Post-Impact Trajectory**

Stopping Distance..... 372 ft downstream centerline

**Maximum Test Debris Scatter**

Sign Stand #1 ..... 75 ft downstream  
 Sign Stand #2 ..... 25 ft left of center  
 ..... 450 ft downstream  
 ..... 13 ft left of center

**Vehicle Damage**

VDS ..... 12FL1/12FR1  
 CDC ..... 12FLEN1/12FREN1  
 Max. Exterior Deformation..... 2.0 inches  
 OCDI..... FS0000000  
 Max. Occupant Compartment Deformation ..... 1.5 inches  
 Windshield Damage ..... Cracked, but no hole

**Figure 8.6. Summary of Results for MASH Test 3-72 at 0° and 90° on Plasticade® SS620A Sign Stands with Corrugated Plastic Signs Mounted at 60 inches.**

8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

D

D

C

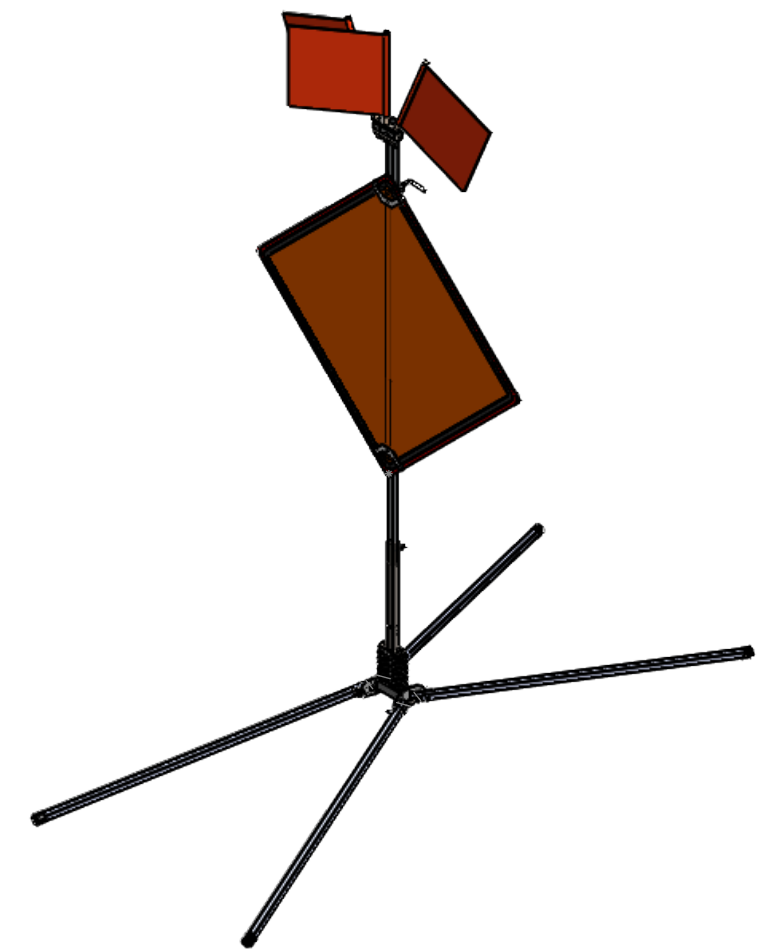
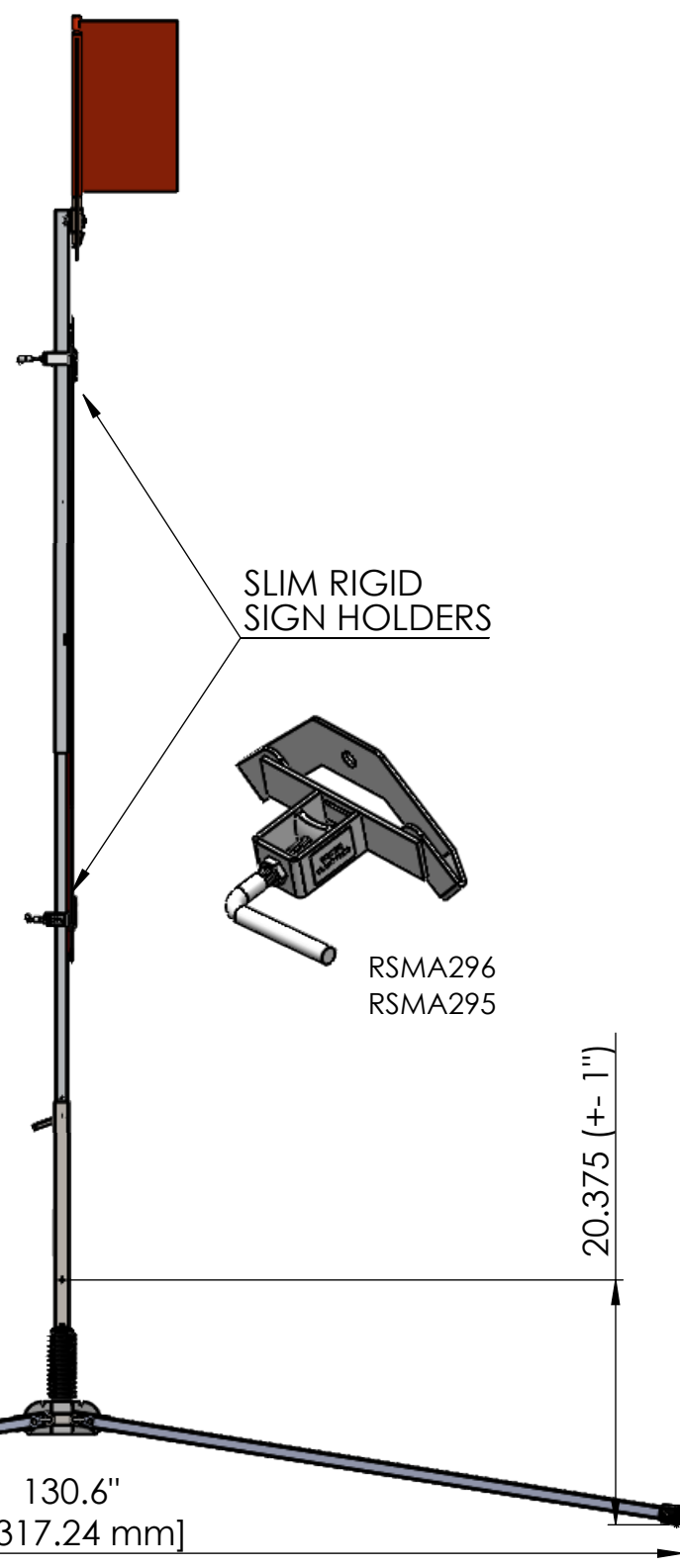
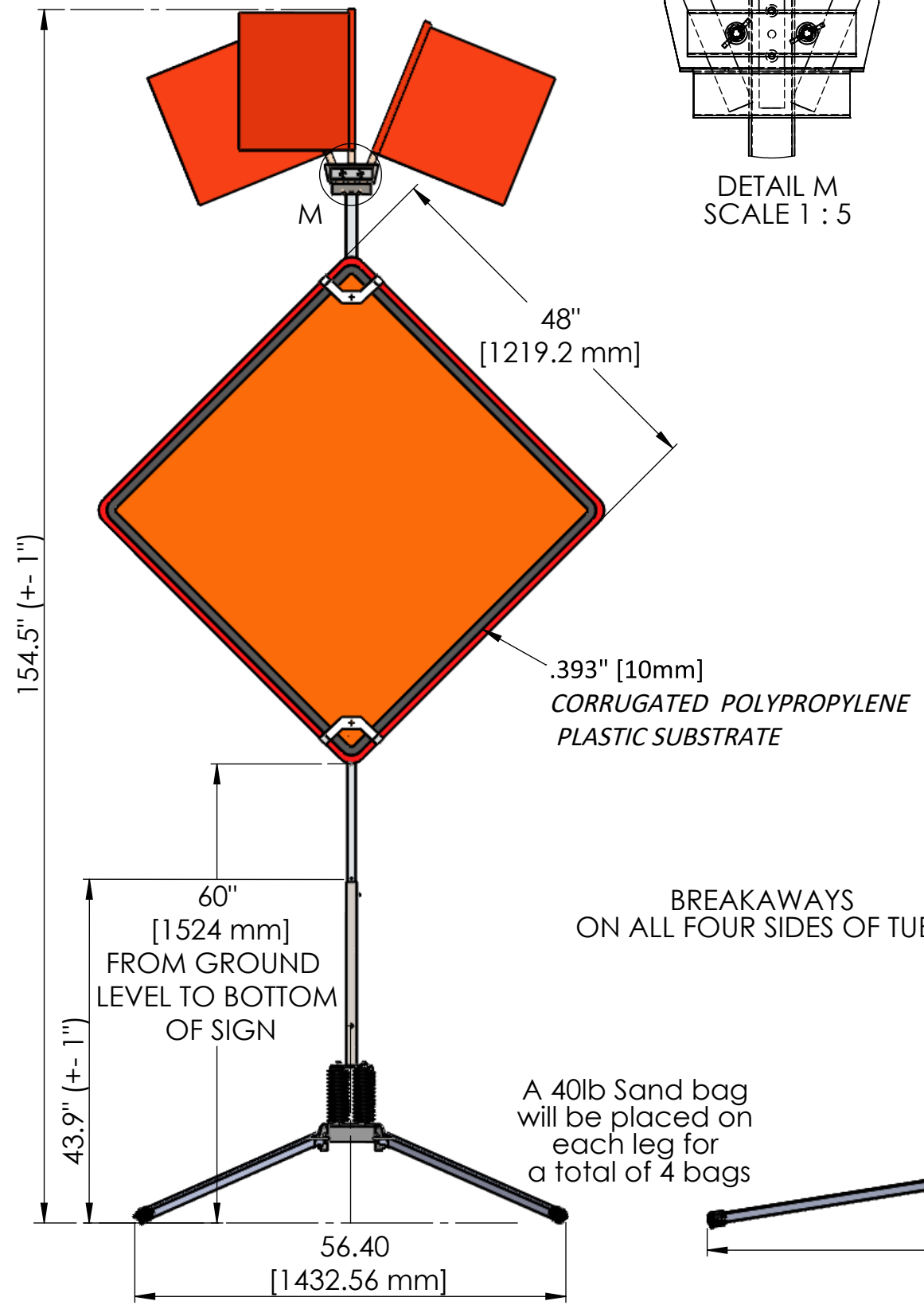
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|  |                               |   |  |
|--|-------------------------------|---|--|
| <b>PLASTICADE</b>  |                               | PLASTICADE INC.<br>7700 N AUSTIN AVE<br>SKOKIE IL<br>1-800-470-3300 |  |
| DRAWN<br>BAS   | NAME<br>BAS                   | DATE<br>11/17/2020  |  |
| UNLESS OTHERWISE SPECIFIED:<br>DIMENSIONS ARE IN INCHES (mm).<br>TOLERANCES:<br>FRACTIONAL: X/X ± 1/16 [1.6mm]<br>DECIMAL: X.X ± .0625 X.XX ± .032 X.XXX ± .015"<br>DEGREES: ±0.5° |                               |   |  |
| PROPRIETARY AND CONFIDENTIAL   |                               |   |  |
| THE INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THIS DRAWING IS THE SOLE PROPERTY OF PLASTICADE INC.  |                               |   |  |
| SIZE<br><b>B</b>   | DWG. NO.<br>SS620A CRASH TEST | REV<br><b>A</b>   |  |
| SCALE: 1:20  |                               | SHEET 2 OF 4  |  |

8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1