



## COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
1401 EAST BROAD STREET  
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA 23219-2000

**Date:** August 11, 2015

**To:** Virginia Community of Utilities;  
VDOT Location & Design, R/W and Utilities, Construction, Materials, and Local Assistance

**From:** Jeff Bragdon, P.E. – State Hydraulics and Utilities Engineer – L&D  
Matt Reynolds – State Utilities and Property Manager – R/W and Utilities  
VDOT, 1401 East Broad Street, Richmond, VA 23219

**Subject:** Supplemental Specification SS22401-0908 (dated November 15, 2007) and Buy America Requirements

This correspondence is to draw your attention to Supplemental Specification SS22401-0908 (dated November 15, 2007), created by VDOT to replace parts of Section 224 of the 2007 Road and Bridge Specifications, that moved away from ASTM A48 Grade 30S and towards AASHTO M105 and M306 Grade 35 for Gray Iron and Ductile Iron Castings, respectively. This Supplemental Specification (SS) has been placed in all contracts that require castings. According to the hierarchy of specifications, plans, and supplemental specifications, special provisions and special provisions copied notes, an SS overrides the plans and specifications.

We bring this to your attention, due to prevailing concerns in properly meeting Buy America Requirements for all projects that utilize any federal participating funds. We have found that various municipal specifications still promote adherence to ASTM A48 Grade 30S, whereby some of these castings are not produced domestically. As a State Agency, we strive to provide for competition among our construction and materials vendors, in order to obtain the best products for the best price, while also adhering to required quality standards.

With this correspondence, we respectfully request that you be cognizant of VDOT's effort in editing documents of projects administered by VDOT that have not yet gone out to bid, as well as to encourage municipalities to consider revising standards and specifications to not further jeopardize compliance with Buy America Requirements or any project involving federal funding sources.

**Attachment:** SS22401-0908 November 15, 2007

**GUIDELINES — FOR PROJECTS REQUIRING ITEMS CAST FROM METAL TO A SPECIFIC DESIGN IN A MANUFACTURING PLANT.**

**SS22401-0908** November 15, 2007

VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
2007 ROAD AND BRIDGE SUPPLEMENTAL SPECIFICATIONS

**SUPPLEMENTAL SECTION 224—CASTINGS**

**SECTION 224—CASTINGS** of the Specifications is amended as follows:

**Section 224.02—Materials** is amended as follows:

The following is added as the first paragraph:

All casting suppliers/manufacturers shall have an approved QA/QC plan on file with the Department. Junction boxes that are to be installed within that portion of the roadway not protected by a guardrail or barrier shall be designed in accordance with the requirements of AASHTO M306 and M105, Class 35B.

**Section 224.02(b)** is replaced with the following:

(b) **Gray iron castings** used in that portion of the roadway not protected by a guardrail or barrier shall conform to the requirements of AASHTO M306 and M105, Class 35B. All other castings shall conform to AASHTO M105, Class 35B.

**Section 224.02(c)** is replaced with the following:

(c) **Ductile iron castings** used in that portion of the roadway not protected by a guardrail or barrier shall conform to AASHTO M306. All other ductile iron castings shall conform to ASTM A536, Grade 60-40-18.

**Section 224.03—Detail Requirements** is replaced with the following:

If castings are supplied from materials conforming to Sections 224.02 (a), (d) and (e) of the Specifications, all tolerances and workmanship requirements for castings shall conform to AASHTO M306. If used in that portion of the roadway not protected by a guardrail or barrier, the load testing shall conform to the requirements of AASHTO M306. When the alternate load test is used, test bars shall be present and fully identifiable with regard to the casting lot. Each casting in a lot must have the same markings as all of the other castings in the lot; if not, each group of castings with the same markings within the original lot, becomes a new lot.