



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

1401 EAST BROAD STREET
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA 23219-2000

Charles A. Kilpatrick, P.E.
Commissioner

October 15, 2014

To: District Construction Engineers
Area Construction Engineers
Construction Managers
District Maintenance Engineers
District Traffic Engineers
District Materials Engineers
Regional Operations Managers

From: Kerry A. Bates, P.E., State Construction Engineer

Subject: Trinity Industries ET-PLUS Terminals

In 2000, the Department approved the use of the Trinity Industries ET-PLUS terminal as a material that could be used for the pay item "Alternate Breakaway Cable Terminal (GR-9)" and placed it on the Approved Products List.

At the time of approval in 2000, Trinity's ET-PLUS terminal included 5" channels as part of the design submitted. In 2005, Trinity changed the 5" channels to 4" channels and did not notify the Department of the modification. Due to this modification, any Trinity ET-PLUS terminals with 4" channels are not, and have never been, approved for use in Virginia.

Effective immediately, on any contract that includes installing Alternate Breakaway Cable Terminal (GR-9), if the Contractor is planning to use Trinity's ET-PLUS that has 4" channels, that material is not approved for use and is not to be used.

Any GR-9 materials produced by Trinity that has 5" channels and butt weld (the material that was originally approved in 2000) are still on the Approved Products list (link to the list is below) and continue to be approved for use as shown on the Approved Products list.

<http://www.virginiadot.org/business/resources/LocDes/VDOTApprovedProducts.pdf>

As stated above, the Trinity ET-PLUS with 4" channels is not on the Approved Products list and is not to be used in Virginia. If a Contractor has already purchased these particular materials and has them in inventory designated for a specific project, the following options can be considered:

- The Contractor can elect to wait until sometime shortly after October 24, 2014, which is the date the Department has given Trinity to produce acceptable documentation and test results to determine whether or not to add the ET-PLUS with 4" channels to the Approved Products list. If the ET-PLUS with 4" channels is added to the Approved

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Products list, it would then be acceptable for use. If it is not added to the Approved Products list, it will continue to be unacceptable for use.

- The Contractor can initiate the process to have other acceptable materials as shown on the Approved Products list approved for use in installing Alternate Breakaway Cable Terminal (GR-9) items on the project.

On projects where the Contractor has already purchased Trinity ET-PLUS with 4" channels, the Department does not have any responsibility for the Contractor's purchase of this non-approved product.

Please let either myself, one of my Assistants, or Dennis Motley know if you have any questions concerning this and/or if you have questions on individual projects that relate to the particular set of conditions on that project related to this subject.

Cc: District Administrators
Engineering Division Administrators
Construction Division Assistant Division Administrators
Charles W. Patterson, P.E.
Dennis W. Motley
Jennifer B. Debruhl, Local Assistance Division