



Number: E-04-001

Date: July 30, 2003

## ENGINEERING DIRECTIVE

Thomas F. Brosdenick

### USE OF THE ENGLISH SYSTEM OF MEASUREMENTS

Effective October 1, 2003, the Massachusetts Highway Department will formally revert to using the U.S. Customary (English) system of measurements for all work.

This Directive supersedes Engineering Directives E-95-004 and E-95-005, which previously instituted the Metric system of measurements for MassHighway.

#### New Projects

Effective immediately, all new projects may be started in English units and survey data may be processed in English units at the discretion of the project proponent.

All projects initiated on or after October 1, 2003 must be completed using the English system of measurements for all work.

#### Active Projects

Projects already started in Metric units, including projects for which survey data has already been processed, should be continued in Metric units, but may be converted to English units at the discretion of the project proponent. All costs associated with any such conversions shall be borne solely by the project proponent (the entity responsible for funding the design phase services.) In general, conversions to English units should not be made unless such conversions are expected to result in overall project savings.

#### Proper Conversion Units

In cases where the project documents are being prepared in English units but where current versions of relevant design or reference manuals are only available in Metric units, the Metric units shall be converted to logical English units with the approval of the MassHighway Division or Section responsible for updating and maintaining each particular manual. All unit conversion decisions shall be properly documented in the project files.

### Public Information

Effective October 1, 2003, all public information related to MassHighway projects and activities (Public Hearings, media inquiries, correspondence to citizens and elected officials, etc.) should be provided in English units. In cases where a conversion to English units would be unreasonable, such as for plans already completed in Metric units, information may continue to be provided in Metric units. MassHighway personnel should make every effort to assist the public relative to this matter so that all information can be easily understood.