

## **ENGINEERING DIRECTIVE**

Patricia Leavenworth (signature on original)

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CHIEF ENGINEER

### **MASH Compliant Permanent Impact Attenuators**

This Engineering Directive requires that new installations of Permanent Impact Attenuators on MassDOT projects or on MassDOT-owned facilities must conform to the performance requirements contained in the 2016 edition of the *Manual for Assessing Safety Hardware (MASH)*, as further described below.

#### **New Construction or Reconstruction**

For all projects advertised on or after January 1, 2019, all installations of Permanent Impact Attenuators must be MASH compliant.

#### **Active Construction or Reconstruction**

For projects advertised prior to January 1, 2019, contractors may continue to install Permanent Impact Attenuators in accordance with the relevant contract documents for each contract, unless otherwise directed by MassDOT on a case-by-case basis.

#### **Maintenance and Accident Recovery**

Effective immediately, each Permanent Impact Attenuator that is found to be damaged beyond repair shall be replaced with a MASH compliant Permanent Impact Attenuator. MassDOT may allow exceptions to this requirement if no appropriate MASH compliant systems are available and on the market for specific locations requiring attention. In these cases, MassDOT will allow appropriate NCHRP-350 compliant systems to be installed. All decisions to install non-MASH compliant systems shall be properly documented in the work file for each location.

#### **Additional Information**

This Directive only applies to Permanent Impact Attenuators and does not apply to Temporary Impact Attenuators and Truck-Mounted Impact Attenuators used in work zones.

This Directive provides information that is consistent with the AASHTO/FHWA Joint Implementation Agreement for MASH, dated January 7, 2016. That agreement established a series of dates for the installation of various MASH compliant roadside safety devices.

For a list of MASH compliant Impact Attenuators that may be installed on MassDOT projects or on MassDOT-owned facilities, refer to MassDOT's Qualified Traffic Control Equipment webpage on [Mass.gov](http://Mass.gov).