



**Project Special Provisions**  
*(Version 12.1)*  
**Signals and Intelligent Transportation Systems**

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## 1. SIGNAL HEADS

### 1.1. MATERIALS

#### A. General:

Fabricate vehicle signal head housings and end caps from die-cast aluminum. Fabricate 12-inch and 16-inch pedestrian signal head housings and end caps from die-cast aluminum. Fabricate 9-inch pedestrian signal head housings, end caps, and visors from virgin polycarbonate material. Provide visor mounting screws, door latches, and hinge pins fabricated from stainless steel. Provide interior screws, fasteners, and metal parts fabricated from stainless steel or corrosion resistant material.

Fabricate tunnel and traditional visors from sheet aluminum.

Paint all surfaces inside and outside of signal housings and doors. Paint outside surfaces of tunnel and traditional visors, messenger cable mounting assemblies, pole and pedestal mounting assemblies, and pedestrian pushbutton housings. Have electrostatically-applied, fused-polyester paint in highway yellow (Federal Standard 595C, Color Chip Number 13538) a minimum of 2.5 to 3.5 mils thick. Do not apply paint to the latching hardware or rigid vehicle signal head mounting brackets for mast-arm attachments.

Have the interior surfaces of tunnel and traditional visors painted an alkyd urea black synthetic baking enamel with a minimum gloss reflectance and meeting the requirements of MIL-E-10169, "Enamel Heat Resisting, Instrument Black."

For pole mounting, provide side of pole mounting assemblies with framework and all other hardware necessary to make complete, watertight connections of the signal heads to the poles and pedestals. Fabricate the mounting assemblies and frames from aluminum with all necessary hardware, screws, washers, etc. to be stainless steel. Provide mounting fittings that match the positive locking device on the signal head with the serrations integrally cast into the brackets. Provide upper and lower pole plates that have a 1 ¼-inch vertical conduit entrance hubs with the hubs capped on the lower plate and 1 ½-inch horizontal hubs. Ensure that the assemblies provide rigid attachments to poles and pedestals so as to allow no twisting or swaying of the signal heads. Ensure that all raceways are free of sharp edges and protrusions, and can accommodate a minimum of ten Number 14 AWG conductors.

For pedestal mounting, provide a post-top slipfitter mounting assembly that matches the positive locking device on the signal head with serrations integrally cast into the slipfitter. Provide stainless steel hardware, screws, washers, etc. Provide a minimum of six 3/8 X 3/4-inch long square head bolts for attachment to pedestal. Provide a center post for multi-way slipfitters.

For light emitting diode (LED) traffic signal modules, provide the following requirements for inclusion on the Department's Qualified Products List for traffic signal equipment.

1. Sample submittal,
2. Third-party independent laboratory testing results for each submitted module with evidence of testing and conformance with all of the Design Qualification Testing specified in section 6.4 of each of the following Institute of Transportation Engineers (ITE) specifications:
  - Vehicle Traffic Control Signal Heads – Light Emitting Diode (LED) Circular Signal Supplement
  - Vehicle Traffic Control Signal Heads – Light Emitting Diode (LED) Vehicle Arrow Traffic Signal Supplement

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- Pedestrian Traffic Control Signal Indications –Light Emitting Diode (LED) Signal Modules.

(Note: The Department currently recognizes two approved independent testing laboratories. They are Intertek ETL Semko and Light Metrics, Incorporated with Garwood Laboratories. Independent laboratory tests from other laboratories may be considered as part of the QPL submittal at the discretion of the Department,

3. Evidence of conformance with the requirements of these specifications,
4. A manufacturer’s warranty statement in accordance with the required warranty, and
5. Submittal of manufacturer’s design and production documentation for the model, including but not limited to, electrical schematics, electronic component values, proprietary part numbers, bill of materials, and production electrical and photometric test parameters.
6. Evidence of approval of the product to bear the Intertek ETL Verified product label for LED traffic signal modules.

In addition to meeting the performance requirements for the minimum period of 60 months, provide a written warranty against defects in materials and workmanship for the modules for a period of 60 months after installation of the modules. During the warranty period, the manufacturer must provide new replacement modules within 45 days of receipt of modules that have failed at no cost to the State. Repaired or refurbished modules may not be used to fulfill the manufacturer’s warranty obligations. Provide manufacturer’s warranty documentation to the Department during evaluation of product for inclusion on Qualified Products List (QPL).

**B. Vehicle Signal Heads:**

Comply with the ITE standard “Vehicle Traffic Control Signal Heads”. Provide housings with provisions for attaching backplates.

Provide visors that are 8 inches in length for 8-inch vehicle signal head sections. Provide visors that are 10 inches in length for 12-inch vehicle signal heads.

Provide a termination block with one empty terminal for field wiring for each indication plus one empty terminal for the neutral conductor. Have all signal sections wired to the termination block. Provide barriers between the terminals that have terminal screws with a minimum Number 8 thread size and that will accommodate and secure spade lugs sized for a Number 10 terminal screw.

Mount termination blocks in the yellow signal head sections on all in-line vehicle signal heads. Mount the termination block in the red section on five-section vehicle signal heads.

Furnish vehicle signal head interconnecting brackets. Provide one-piece aluminum brackets less than 4.5 inches in height and with no threaded pipe connections. Provide hand holes on the bottom of the brackets to aid in installing wires to the signal heads. Lower brackets that carry no wires and are used only for connecting the bottom signal sections together may be flat in construction.

For messenger cable mounting, provide messenger cable hangers, wire outlet bodies, balance adjusters, bottom caps, wire entrance fitting brackets, and all other hardware necessary to make complete, watertight connections of the vehicle signal heads to the messenger cable. Fabricate mounting assemblies from malleable iron or steel and provide serrated rings made of aluminum. Provide messenger cable hangers and balance adjusters that are galvanized before being painted. Fabricate balance adjuster eyebolt and eyebolt nut from stainless steel or galvanized malleable iron. Provide messenger cable hangers with U-bolt clamps. Fabricate washers, screws, bolts, clevis pins, cotter pins, nuts, and U-bolt clamps from stainless steel.

For mast-arm mounting, provide rigid vehicle signal head mounting brackets and all other hardware necessary to make complete, watertight connections of the vehicle signal heads to the mast

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arms and to provide a means for vertically adjusting the vehicle signal heads to proper alignment. Fabricate the mounting assemblies from aluminum, and provide serrated rings made of aluminum. Provide stainless steel cable attachment assemblies to secure the brackets to the mast arms. Ensure all fastening hardware and fasteners are fabricated from stainless steel.

Provide LED vehicular traffic signal modules (hereafter referred to as modules) that consist of an assembly that uses LEDs as the light source in lieu of an incandescent lamp for use in traffic signal sections. Use LEDs that are aluminum indium gallium phosphorus (AlInGaP) technology for red and yellow indications and indium gallium nitride (InGaN) for green indications. Install the ultra bright type LEDs that are rated for 100,000 hours of continuous operation from -40°F to +165°F. Design modules to have a minimum useful life of 60 months and to meet all parameters of this specification during this period of useful life.

For the modules, provide spade terminals crimped to the lead wires and sized for a #10 screw connection to the existing terminal block in a standard signal head. Do not provide other types of crimped terminals with a spade adapter.

Ensure the power supply is integral to the module assembly. On the back of the module, permanently mark the date of manufacture (month & year) or some other method of identifying date of manufacture.

Tint the red, yellow and green lenses to correspond with the wavelength (chromaticity) of the LED. Transparent tinting films are unacceptable. Provide a lens that is integral to the unit with a smooth outer surface.

**1. LED Circular Signal Modules:**

Provide modules in the following configurations: 12-inch circular sections, and 8-inch circular sections. All makes and models of LED modules purchased for use on the State Highway System shall appear on the current NCDOT Traffic Signal Qualified Products List (QPL).

Provide the manufacturer's model number and the product number (assigned by the Department) for each module that appears on the 2012 or most recent Qualified Products List. In addition, provide manufacturer's certification in accordance with Article 106-3 of the *Standard Specifications*, that each module meets or exceeds the ITE "Vehicle Traffic Control Signal Heads – Light Emitting Diode (LED) Circular Signal Supplement" dated June 27, 2005 (hereafter referred to as VTCSH Circular Supplement) and other requirements stated in this specification.

Provide modules that meet the following requirements when tested under the procedures outlined in the VTCSH Circular Supplement:

Module Type	Max. Wattage at 165° F	Nominal Wattage at 77° F
12-inch red circular	17	11
8-inch red circular	13	8
12-inch green circular	15	15
8-inch green circular	12	12

For yellow circular signal modules, provide modules tested under the procedures outlined in the VTCSH Circular Supplement to insure power required at 77° F is 22 Watts or less for the 12-inch circular module and 13 Watts or less for the 8-inch circular module.

Note: Use a wattmeter having an accuracy of ±1% to measure the nominal wattage and maximum wattage of a circular traffic signal module. Power may also be derived from voltage, current and power factor measurements.

## 2. MICROWAVE VEHICLE DETECTOR

### 2.1. DESCRIPTION

Furnish and install a microwave vehicle detection unit and manufacturer recommended cables and hardware in accordance with the plans and specifications.

### 2.2. MATERIALS

Provide a detector for either side-fire or forward-fire configuration with a mounting height of 16 inches or greater for normal operation. Ensure the detector will detect vehicle in sunny, cloudy, rainy, snowy, and foggy weather conditions with self-tuning to auto-adjust in changing environmental conditions. Ensure the detector can operate from the voltage supplied by a NEMA and Type-170 traffic signal cabinet. Ensure the detector can provide detection calls to the traffic signal controller within a NEMA and Type-170 cabinet. Ensure the detector will put out a constant call in the event of a component failure or loss of power. Ensure the detector has an operating temperature range of -20 to 150 degrees F. Ensure a water resistant housing for the detector.

For advance pulse detection, ensure the detector senses vehicles in motion at a range of 200 feet with an operating frequency of 10.525 GHz +/- 25MHz.

For stop bar presence detection, ensure the detector outputs a constant call while a vehicle is in the detection zone. Ensure the presence detection unit can cover a detection zone as shown on the plans and has an effective range of at least 75 feet from the detector unit to the aim point on the road surface.

For units without an integrated card rack interface, provide Form C output relay contacts rated a minimum of 3A, 24VDC.

If a laptop is used to adjust detector settings, ensure that software is licensed for use by the Department and by any other agency responsible for maintaining or operating the microwave detection system. Provide the Department with a license to duplicate and distribute the software as necessary for design and maintenance support.

### 2.3. CONSTRUCTION METHODS

Install the microwave vehicle detector in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations.

Monitor and maintain the detector unit during construction to ensure microwave vehicle detector is functioning properly and aimed for the detection zone shown in the plans. Refer to Subarticle 1700-3 (D) Maintenance and Repair of Materials of the *Standard Specifications* for failure to maintain the microwave detection system.

## 3. PORTABLE TRAFFIC SIGNAL SYSTEM

### 3.1. DESCRIPTION

Furnish, install, place in operation, repair, maintain, relocate, and remove portable traffic signal systems. Comply with the provisions of Section 1700 of the 2012 *Standard Specifications for Roads and Structures*.

### 3.2. MATERIALS

Provide a complete portable traffic signal system that is totally mobile and capable of being relocated as traffic conditions demand. Design the system for operation both with and without an external power source. Furnish two signal control trailers with two vehicle signal heads per trailer and one operator unit for each portable traffic signal system. Furnish transmitters, generators, batteries, controls, back-up systems and all other components necessary to operate the system.

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Ensure each system meets the physical display and operational requirements of conventional traffic signals as specified in PART IV of the *Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD)* and the *North Carolina Supplement to the MUTCD* in effect on the date of advertisement.

Used equipment will be acceptable if the equipment is in good working condition. Contractor retains ownership of the portable traffic signal systems.

Provide yellow 12-inch aluminum or polycarbonate vehicle signal heads with 10-inch tunnel visors, backplates and Light Emitting Diode (LED) modules. Provide aluminum signal heads and backplates listed on the Department's Qualified Products List (QPL) for traffic signal equipment. Provide polycarbonate signal heads and visors that comply with the provisions pertaining to Signal Heads within these *Project Special Provisions* with the following exceptions:

Fabricate signal head housings, end caps, and visors from virgin polycarbonate material. Provide U.V. stabilized polycarbonate plastic with a minimum thickness of  $0.1 \pm 0.01$  inches that is highway yellow (Federal Standard 595C, Color Chip 13538). Ensure the color is incorporated into the plastic material before molding the signal head housings and end caps. Ensure the plastic formulation provides the following physical properties in the assembly (tests may be performed on separately molded specimens):

Test	Required	Method
Specific Gravity	1.17 minimum	ASTM D 792
Vicat Softening Temperature, °F	305-325	ASTM D 1525
Brittleness Temperature, °F	Below -200	ASTM D 746
Flammability	Self-extinguishing	ASTM D 635
Tensile Strength, yield, PSI	8500 minimum	ASTM D 638
Elongation at yield, %	5.5-8.5	ASTM D 638
Shear, strength, yield, PSI	5500 minimum	ASTM D 732
Izod impact strength, ft-lb/in [notched, 1/8 inch]	15 minimum	ASTM D 256
Fatigue strength, PSI at 2.5 mm cycles	950 minimum	ASTM D 671

To minimize signal head movement due to wind, mount top and bottom of signal heads to the signal head supports.

Provide 120V AC powered LED modules listed on the QPL, or provide 12V DC powered LED modules that meet the *ITE VTCSH Part 2: Light Emitting Diode (LED) Vehicle Signal Modules (Interim Purchase Specification)* with the exception of paragraphs 5.2, 5.3, 5.7, and testing associated with 120V AC. Ensure DC powered LED modules operate with input power between 9V DC and 15V DC.

Provide trailers that have durable paint in highway orange, Federal Standard 595C Color Chip ID # 12473 with a minimum paint thickness of 2.5 mils.

Provide trailers with a 12-volt trailer lighting system complying with *Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations 393*, safety chains, and a 2-inch ball hitch. When provided, locate generators, fuel tanks, batteries and electronic controls in protective housings that are provided with locks to restrict access.

Design the trailer assembly and signal supports to withstand an 80 MPH wind load with the signal supports raised in the operating position. Provide independent certification from a registered Professional Engineer that the assembly meets this 80 MPH wind load requirement. Provide a

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reliable hydraulic, electric or manual means for raising and lowering the signal support members. Provide screw-type stabilizing and leveling devices with a self-leveling foot to support the unit in the operating position on slopes 1V:3H or flatter when detached from the transporting vehicle.

During manual operation, ensure the system provides a means of informing the operator of signal indications, such as a light on the back of each signal head that illuminates when the signal displays a red indication.

Design the portable traffic signal system to perform without interruption during the time it is in operation.

Where a traffic actuated system is required, provide a system control unit that is capable of pre-timed operation, traffic actuated operation, a variable green time interval dependent upon vehicle actuations, and programmable yellow clearance and red clearance intervals. Furnish all sensors to monitor vehicle demands for vehicle actuation per the Project Special Provisions and Section 1098 of the Standard Specifications.

Design the systems to be fail-safe. Ensure the system monitors the following conditions: lack of green, yellow, and red signal indication voltage, total loss of indication on any approach, presence of multiple signal indications on any approach, conflicting green/yellow signal indications, and low power condition. In the event any of these conditions are detected, immediately begin flashing operation of red indications in all directions.

Provide either hard-wired, microwave, or radio controlled type communications for pre-timed and traffic actuated portable traffic signal systems. In the event a loss of communication is detected, immediately begin flashing operation of red indications in all directions.

Ensure systems that use wireless communication links continuously monitor and verify proper transmission and reception of data used to monitor and control each signal head. Ensure ambient mobile or other radio transmissions or adverse weather conditions do not affect the system. Encode signal transmissions digitally to protect radio transmissions from interference. Do not violate FCC regulations and ensure radio frequencies are appropriate for portable signal equipment applications.

Upon detecting a malfunction, ensure all signals go to a flashing red condition and the operator is notified by a reliable means approved by the Engineer. Provide a battery back-up system for generator and direct current powered signal systems to power the warning means and "flashing red" condition. Provide a back-up system with a 72-hour minimum reserve.

Ensure the system meets the Environmental Standards for traffic signals in accordance with NEMA TS-1, Section 2.

**3.3. CONSTRUCTION METHODS**

Do not use portable traffic signal systems in a work area with intersecting streets or driveways, unless directed by the Engineer.

Do not install portable traffic signal within 300 feet of at-grade railroad crossing.

During automatic operation, ensure the motorist has an unobstructed view of opposing traffic.

Ensure the distance between signal units does not exceed 500 feet unless otherwise shown on the plans or directed by the Engineer. If modification to the distance between signal units is required after the units are positioned, relocate the signals or the system and make the necessary timing revisions only as directed by the Engineer.

Submit a traffic signal timing plan to the Engineer for approval a minimum of two weeks prior to installation. Include the following items in the plan: distance between stop bars, speed limit to be posted during operation, each approach grade, recommended yellow change interval, recommended red clearance interval, recommended minimum and maximum green intervals. Make timing changes to approved signal timing plan only as authorized by the Engineer. Keep a written record of all timing changes.

Allow only trained operators to set up and operate the system. Provide an experienced operator at all times for each portable traffic signal system during periods of manual operation. Do not violate

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yellow change and red clearance intervals during periods of manual operation. During manual operation, ensure the operator has an unobstructed view of the motorists and all signal head units. Locate the operator as close to the center of the operation as possible.

Perform all maintenance operations required by the system manufacturer including periodic cleaning of the systems. Ensure properly skilled and trained maintenance personnel are available to maintain the system in good working order and to perform all emergency and preventive maintenance as recommended by the system manufacturer.

Furnish the Engineer with the name, office telephone number, cellular (mobile) telephone number, and pager number of the supervisory employee who will be responsible for maintenance and repair of equipment during all hours.

For all failures, malfunctions, or damage to this equipment, begin necessary repairs within four hours of notification. Complete repairs within eight hours of notification. Comply with Section 150 for maintenance of traffic flow. The inability to contact the supervisory employee or prearranged alternate will not extend repair time requirements.

In the event that the system becomes inoperative, be prepared at all times to revert to flagging operations or suspend all construction activities requiring the use of the portable traffic signal system until the system is restored to proper operation. Implement flagging operations as shown on 2012 Roadway Standard Drawing No. 1101.02 Sheet 1 (Closure of one lane of a Two-lane, Two-way Highway).

When not in operation, remove signal heads from the view of traffic or cover signal heads with burlap bags or bags made of non-ripping material specifically designed for covering signal heads. Do not use trash bags of any type. Remove, cover, fold, or turn all inappropriate signs so that they are not readable by oncoming traffic.

**3.4. MEASUREMENT**

Actual number of days portable traffic signal systems are furnished, installed, operated, removed, and accepted.

No measurement will be made for operation, relocation, maintenance, removal of each system, or use of flaggers during repair periods as these will be considered incidental to furnishing, installing, and operating the portable traffic signal systems.

No measurement will be made for signal controller, communication cable, messenger cable, wireless communication, inductive loop sawcut, loop emulator detection system, machine vision detection system, microwave detection system, detector channel/unit, detector lead-in cable, trenching, vehicle signal heads, signal head support assemblies, signal cable, and traffic signal software as these will be considered incidental to furnishing, installing, and operating the portable traffic signal systems.

**Refer to “Temporary Traffic Signal System” Special Provision for payment.**

**4. TEMPORARY STATIONARY TRAFFIC SIGNAL SYSTEM**

**4.1. DESCRIPTION**

Furnish, install, place in operation, repair, maintain, reposition, and remove the temporary stationary traffic signal system. Comply with the provisions of Section 1700 of the 2012 *Standard Specifications for Roads and Structures* and the generic Project Special Provisions for Signals and Intelligent Transportation Systems located at:

<http://www.ncdot.org/doh/preconstruct/traffic/ITSS/>



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Provide a complete temporary traffic signal system including but not limited to 12-inch vehicle signal heads, signal cable, messenger cable, wood poles, guy assemblies, inductive detection loops, microwave vehicle detectors, lead-in cable, trenching, riser assemblies, required signs, detector units, 2070 controller with 336 pole mounted cabinet, and appropriate pavement markings.

All traffic signal equipment must be in compliance with the plans provided by NCDOT (**plans will be provided upon request from the contractor**), the project special provisions, and the 2012 *Standard Specifications for Roads and Structures*.

**4.3. CONSTRUCTION METHODS**

NCDOT will provide the temporary stationary traffic signal plans **30 days after written request** is submitted to the Engineer. Plan requests shall consist of the following information: a drawing showing the exact location of the stopbars (include Stations), speed limit posted during operation, percent grade on each approach, times and duration of operation.

Ensure that the signal meets the physical display and operational requirements of conventional traffic signals as specified in PART IV of the *Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD)* and the *North Carolina Supplement to the MUTCD* in effect on the date of advertisement.

Perform all maintenance operations required by the manufacturer. Have properly skilled and trained maintenance personnel available to maintain the system in good working order and to perform all emergency and preventive maintenance as recommended by the equipment manufacturer.

Furnish the Engineer with the name, office telephone number, cellular (mobile) telephone number, and pager number of the supervisory employee who will be responsible for maintenance and repair of equipment during all hours.

In the event that the signal becomes inoperative, be prepared at all times to revert to a flagging operation or suspend all construction activities requiring the use of the temporary stationary traffic signal system until the signal is restored to proper operation.

Remove signals within two weeks of completion of work requiring the use of temporary stationary traffic signal system.

**4.4. MEASUREMENT**

Actual number of days that each Temporary Stationary Traffic Signal System is operated.

No measurement will be made for operation, relocation, maintenance, removal of each signal system, or use of flaggers during repair periods as these will be considered incidental to furnishing, installing, and operating the Temporary Traffic Signal System.

Any Temporary Stationary Traffic Signal System used for less than one hour will be considered incidental to the operation that required the use of such signal.

No measurement will be made for signal controller, communication cable, messenger cable, wireless communication, inductive loop sawcut, loop emulator detection system, machine vision detection system, microwave detection system, detector channel/unit, detector lead-in cable, trenching, vehicle signal heads, signal head support assemblies, signal cable, and traffic signal software as these will be considered incidental to furnishing, installing, and operating the Temporary Traffic Signal System.

**Refer to "Temporary Traffic Signal System" Special Provision for payment.**