

U.S. Department of Transportation

Federal Highway
Administration

MAY 2 9 1990

400 Seventh St., S.W. Washington, D.C. 20590

Refer to: HNG-14

C. Richard Briden, P. E. Engineering Manager P & K Pole Products 84 Foundry Street Newark, New Jersey 07105

Dear Mr. Briden:

This is in response to your December 13, 1989, letter to Mr. Thomas O. Willett requesting acceptance by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) of your company's aluminum slipbase luminaire support for use on Federal-aid highway projects. A test was conducted to assess the compliance of the base with FHWA breakaway requirements, which cite Section 7 of the 1985 American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials' (AASHTO) Standard Specifications for Structural Supports for Highway Signs, Luminaires and Traffic Signals. You enclosed for our review a Southwest Research Institute report (Project No. 06-3116-503), dated November 1989, containing results of the pendulum test on an aluminum pole with this base design. Further information, including a film of the test, was transmitted with your letters of January 12 to Mr. Nicholas Artimovich and April 25 to Mr. Willett.

The test used an instrumented 1,800-pound pendulum fitted with a 10 stage crushable nose which simulates the left quarter point of a 1979 Volkswagen Rabbit. Impact speed was 20 mph. Details of the tested hardware and the measured and extrapolated results are summarized below:

10 inches O.D.

Test No. Pole Type

Aluminum, with aluminum shoe base mounted on a four bolt aluminum and steel slip base.

Pole Bottom Diameter Pole Wall Thickness Pole Base Bolt Circle Slip Base Bolt Circle

0.25 inches
12 inches (up to 15 inches acceptable)

21 inches (1-inch diameter bolts, lubricated, nuts torqued to 150 foot-pounds)

Anchor Bolt Bolt Circle
Mast Arm Length
Mounting Height
Pole, Arm, & Lum. Wt.
20-mph Test Delta V
60-mph Calculated Delta V
Stub Height

15 inches 15 feet 50 feet 548.0 pounds 12.9 f.p.s. 14.3 f.p.s. 3.5 inches

This information shows that the tested pole-base combination will meet the change in velocity and stub-height requirements adopted by the FHWA.

Thus, your company's aluminum slipbase for 10-inch 0.D. supports, with maximum support and luminaire weights of 575-pounds and minimum pole wall thicknesses of 0.250 inches, when installed as shown on the enclosed drawings, is acceptable for use on Federal-aid highway projects, if proposed by a State. This acceptance is limited to breakaway characteristics of the base and does not cover its structural features. Presumably, you will supply potential users with sufficient information on structural design limitations, including resistance to torsion and overturning, and on installation requirements to ensure proper performance. We anticipate that the States will require certification from P & K Pole Products that the bases furnished have essentially the same chemistry, mechanical properties, and geometry as the base used in the test, and that supports with those bases will meet the FHWA breakaway requirements.

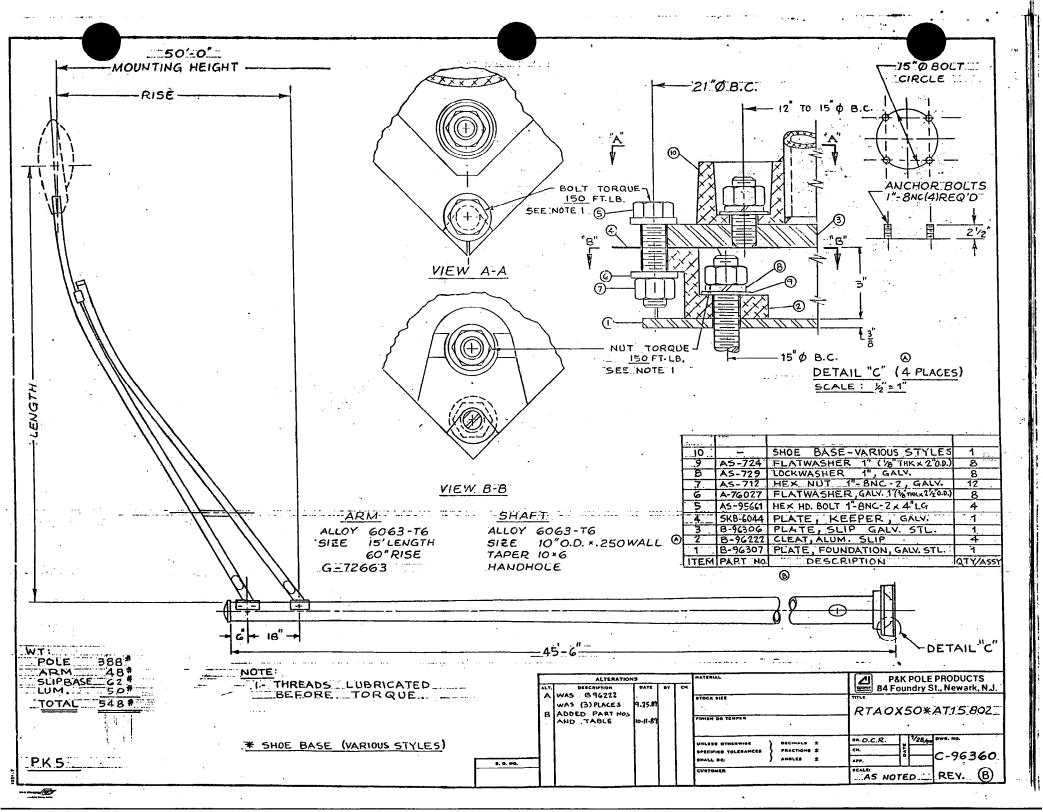
Sincerely yours,

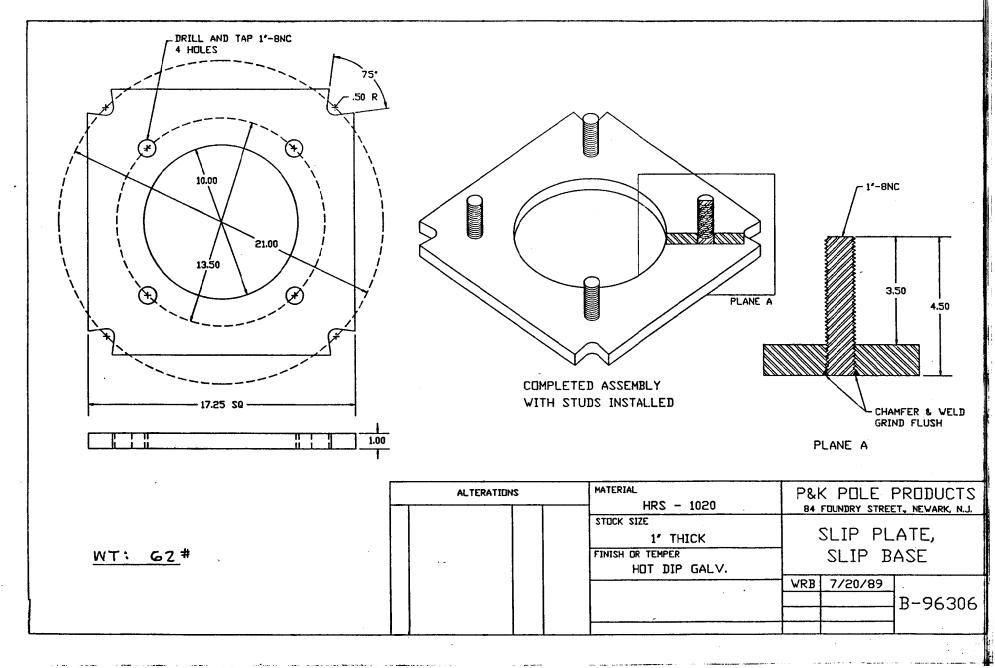
J.a. Starm

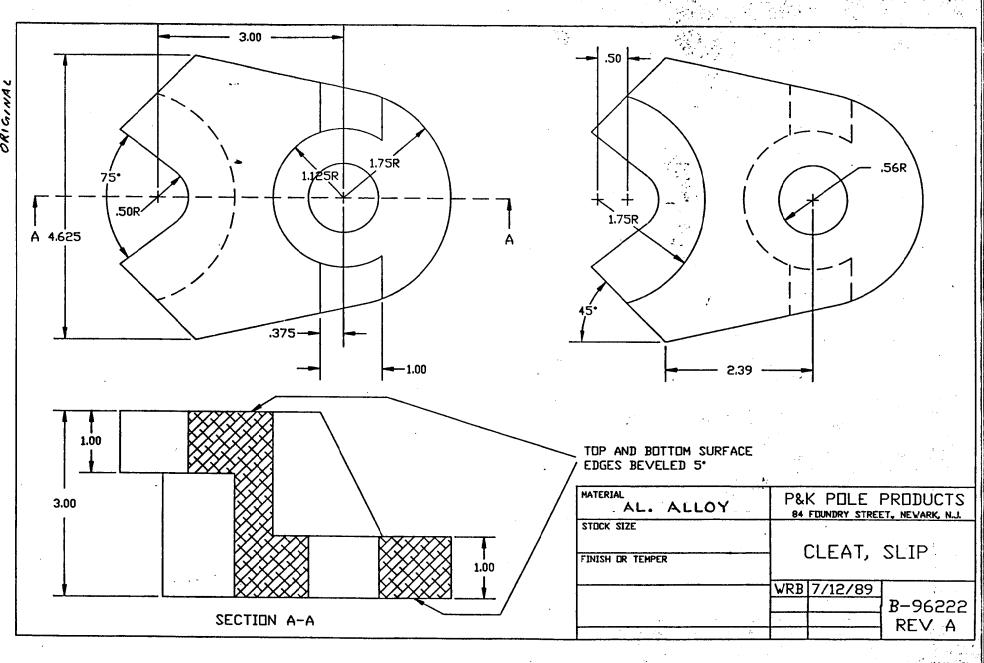
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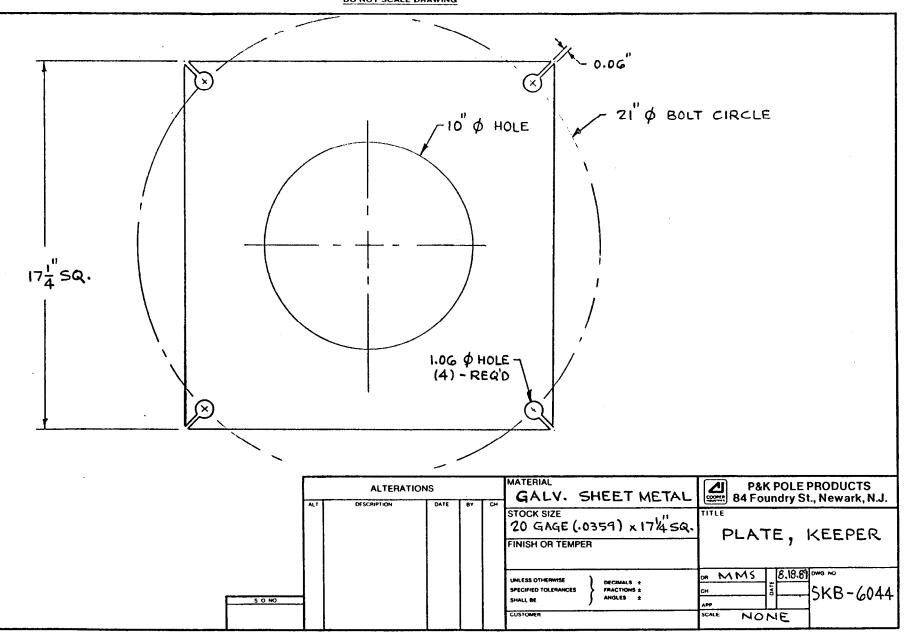
Chief, Federal-Aid and Design Division

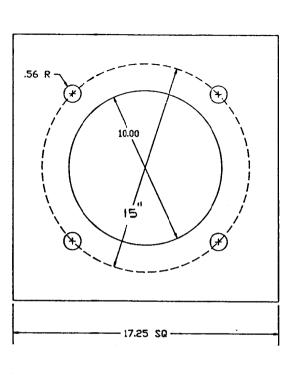
Enclosures











ALTERATIONS	MATERIAL	P&K POLE PRODUCTS
A 15" WAS 13-50 10/24/89	HRS - 1020	84 FOUNDRY STREET, NEWARK, N.J.
	375' THICK	FOUNDATION PLATE,
	FINISH OR TEMPER HOT DIP GALV.	SLIP BASE
		WRB 7/20/89
		B-96307
		REV. A