



U.S. Department
of Transportation

**Federal Highway
Administration**

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

JUL 6 1991

Refer to: HNG-14

Mr. Robert A. Sik
Vice President, Akron Foundry Company
2728 Wingate Avenue
P.O. Box 27028
Akron, Ohio 44319-0009

Dear Mr. Sik:

This is in response to your July 13 letter to Mr. Artimovich requesting acceptance by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) of Feralux CS-300 and CS-370 cast aluminum transformer bases for use on Federal-aid highway projects. Tests were conducted to assess compliance of the bases 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. The Southwest Research Institute forwarded copies of the five crash test reports (Project No. 06-3116-516), dated June 1990, containing results of the pendulum tests on various aluminum and steel poles with these bases. Fully dimensioned drawings and material test reports on the aluminum castings had been received from you on May 31.

The tests 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. A summary of the tested hardware is presented below:

<u>Test Number</u>	<u>Feralux Part Number</u>	<u>Height of Base</u>	<u>Tested Pole Type</u>
Test-AF-1	Feralux CS-300	9 inches	8 inches Aluminum
Test-2	Feralux CS-300	9 inches	9 inches Steel
Test-17	Feralux CS-300	9 inches	8 inches Aluminum
Test-13	Feralux CS-370	9 inches	10 inches Steel
Test-15	Feralux CS-370	9 inches	10 inches Steel

Details of the tested hardware are shown in Enclosure I. Test parameters and measured and extrapolated test results and are shown on Enclosure II as part of Test Series IV. This information shows that the tested pole-base combinations will meet the change in velocity and stub-height requirements adopted by the FHWA.

The 16.5 fps calculated change in velocity of Test 13 exceeds FHWA requirements. However, as the calculated changes in velocities nearly always over estimate the 60 mph results, we will consider the results of Test 13 as meeting the new FHWA requirements.

Thus, the transformer bases manufactured for Feralux, as shown on the enclosed drawings, are acceptable for use on Federal-aid highway projects within the range of conditions tested, if proposed by a State. This acceptance is limited to breakaway characteristics of the bases and does not cover their structural features. Presumably, Feralux will supply potential users with sufficient information on structural design limitations and on installation requirements to ensure proper performance. We anticipate that the States will require certification from Feralux that the bases furnished have essentially the same chemistry, mechanical properties, and geometry as those used in the tests, and that supports with those bases will meet the FHWA breakaway requirements.

Since these breakaway support designs are proprietary items, to be used in a Federal-aid highway project they; (a) must be supplied through competitive bidding with equally suitable unpatented items; (b) the State highway agency must certify that they are essential for synchronization with existing highway facilities, or that no equally suitable alternate exists; or (c) they must be used for research or for a distinctive type of construction on relatively short sections of road for experimental purposes. Our regulations concerning proprietary products are contained in Title 23, Code of Federal Regulations, Section 635.411, a copy of which was provided with previous correspondence.

Sincerely yours,



L. A. Staron
Chief, Federal-Aid and Design Division

Enclosures

Endorsement to FHWA field offices: All of the transformer bases covered by this letter and Geometric and Roadside Design Acceptance Letters LS-18 and LS-19 were manufactured by Akron Foundry Company. For marketing purposes Akron Foundry has requested these three acceptance letters to cover what is essentially two 9-inch high transformer base models that will be manufactured by Akron Foundry and sold by three firms: Feralux, Pole Lite, and Akron Foundry. One model has top and bottom bolt circle ranges of 11.5 inches to 12.5 inches. It will carry a marking of CS-300 for Feralux, F-1300 for Pole Lite, and TB-AF6-9" for Akron. The other has top and bottom bolt circle ranges of 14.5 inches to 15.25 inches. It will carry a marking of CS-370 for Feralux, F-1302 for Pole Lite, and 9" for Akron. A separate series of tests was run to cover the Feralux model designations, while another series was run to cover the combined Pole Lite and Akron designations. It is our understanding that in production the Feralux bases will only be marked with Feralux's base numbers. On the other hand, bases to be marketed by either Pole Lite or Akron will be manufactured showing both suppliers' model numbers and before being shipped, one model number will be removed so that only the nominal supplier's model number will remain.

USE ST'D AKRON FOUNDRY TB1 BOTTOM CASTING

USE 2 3/4 DIA. x 1 5/16 I.D. x 1/2 TK. WASHERS FOR 1 1/4" ANCHORAGE

14.50 / 15.25 DIA. TOP & BOTTOM B.C.

.14 NOMINAL
±.030

14.50/15.25
DIA. B.C.

14.50/15.25
DIA. B.C.

6.00 CUT-OFF
12.00 OVERALL

5.5 x 7.75 DOOR OPENING

FERALUX

11.75
DIA.

15.31 SQ.

114.75 SQ.

MIG 4043

1/4

2.00

7.00

.62

9.00

WITH INTERNAL CORNER WELDS

356 T6 ALUMINUM ALLOY PER ASTM B108

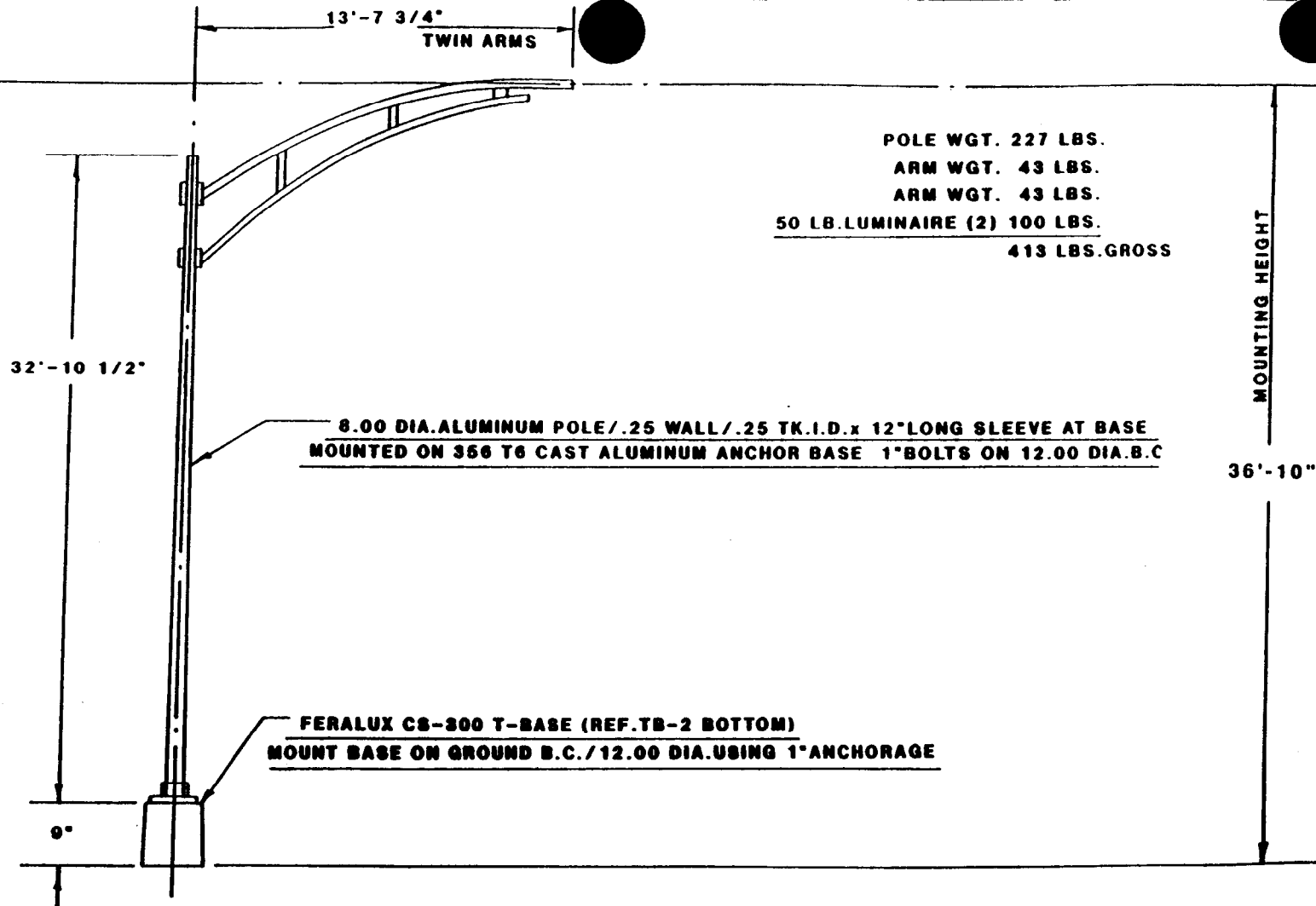
AKRON FOUNDRY CO.

FOR FERALUX INC.

5-1-90

CS-370

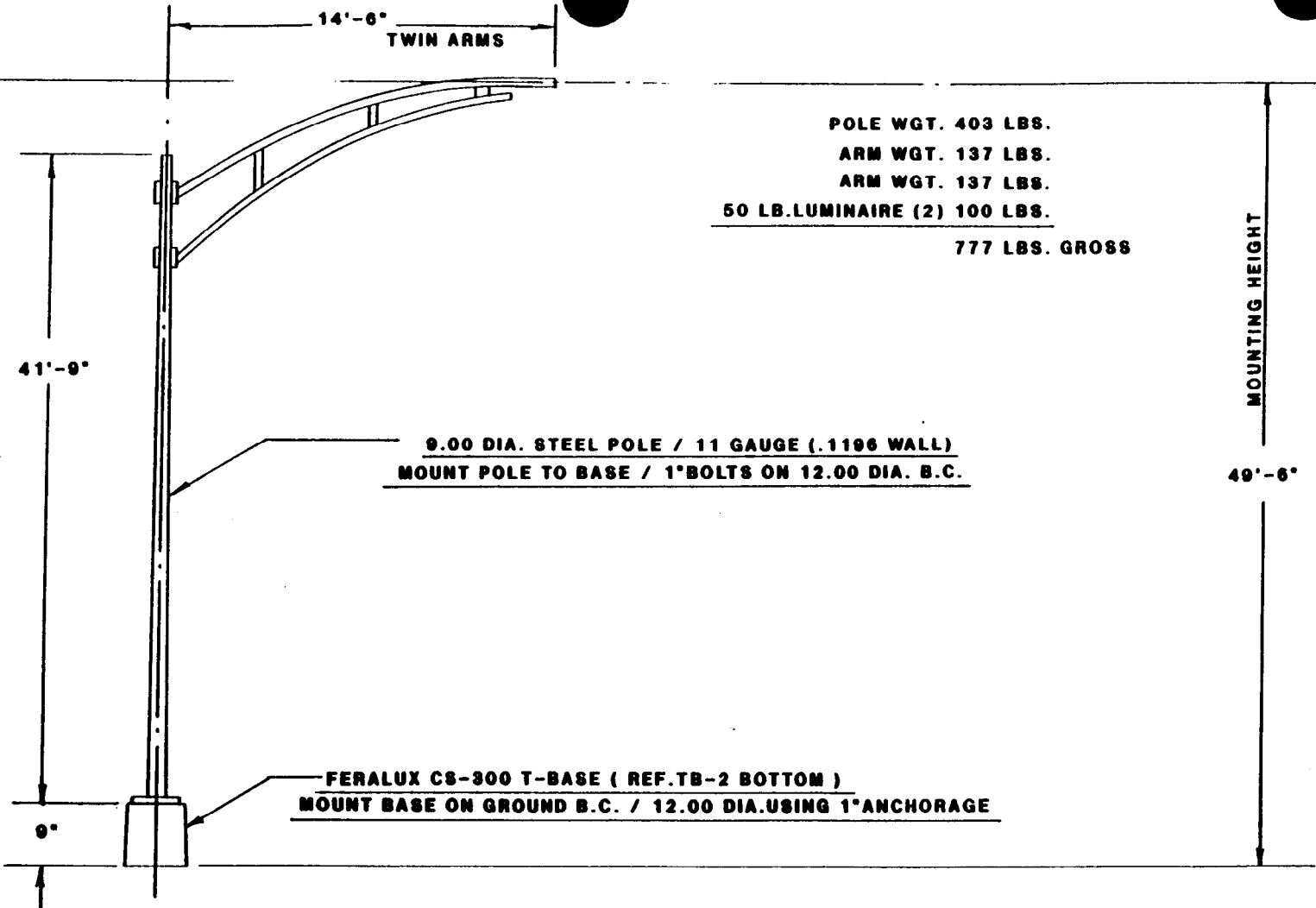
1985 AASHTO REQUIREMENTS / 1800 LB PENDULUM TEST



1986 AASHTO REQUIREMENTS / 1800 LB. PENDULUM TEST

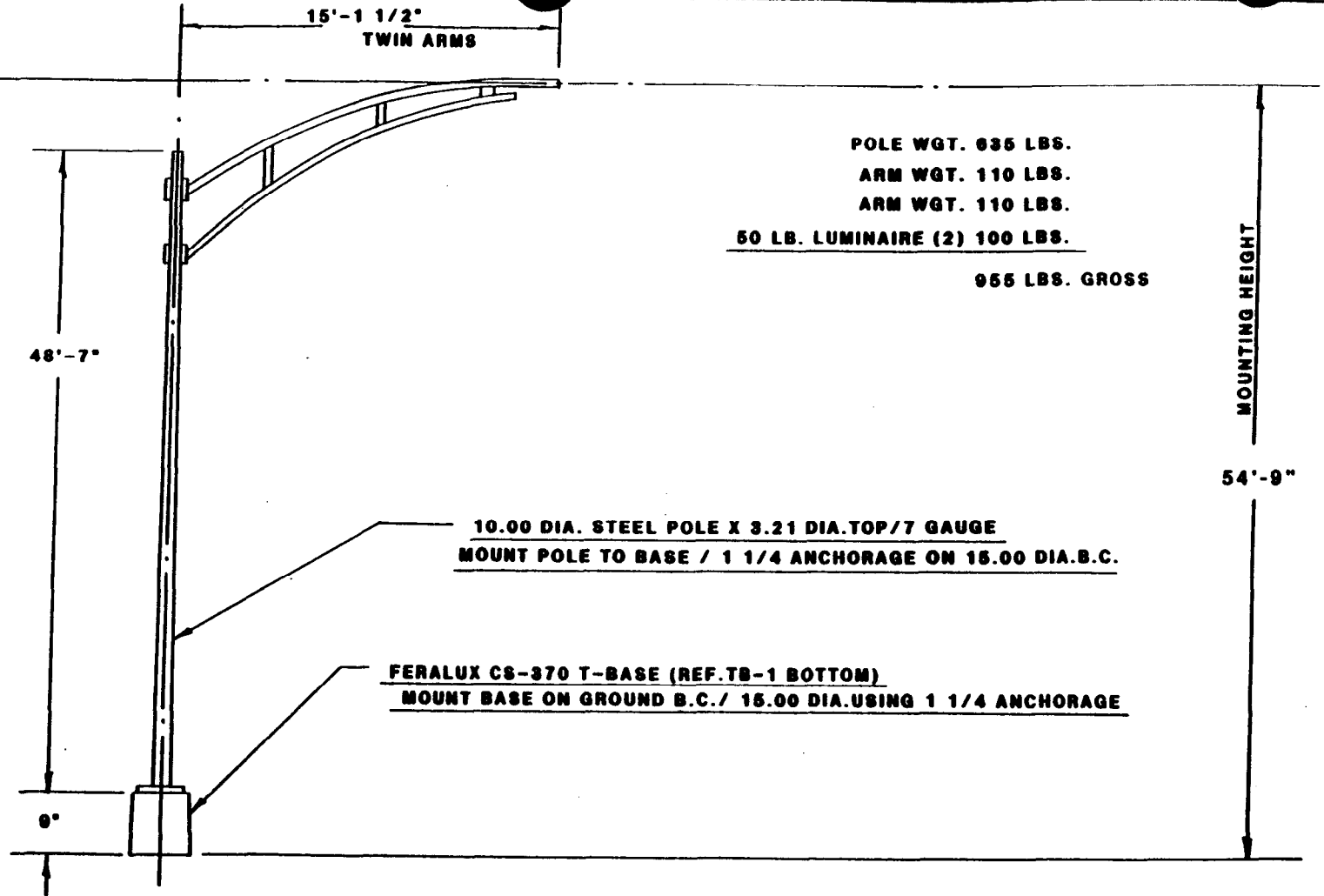
AKRON FOUNDRY TEST AF-1 ON FERLUX CS-300 T-BASE
PROJECT 06-3116-816

Figure 3. Assembly Drawing, Test AF-1



1985 AASHTO REQUIREMENTS / 1800 LB. PENDULUM TEST
 AKRON FOUNDRY TEST 2 ON FERALUX CS-300 T-BASE
 PROJECT 06-3116-516

Figure 3. Assembly Drawing, Akron Foundry Test 2



1985 AASHTO REQUIREMENTS / 1800 LB. PENDULUM TEST

AKRON FOUNDRY TEST 13 ON FERALUX CS-370 T-BASE
PROJECT 06-3116-616

Figure 3. Assembly Drawing, Akron Foundry Test 13

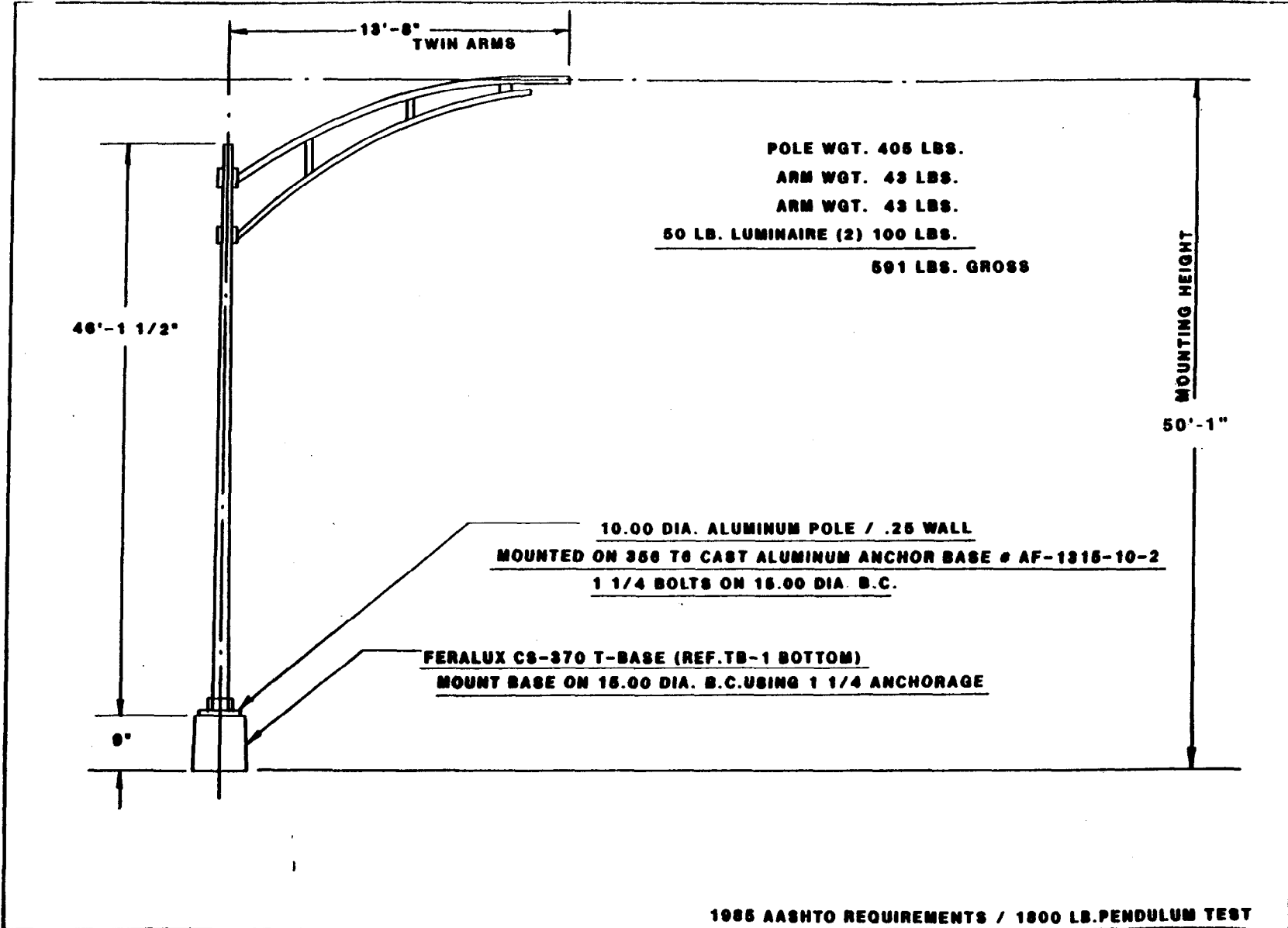
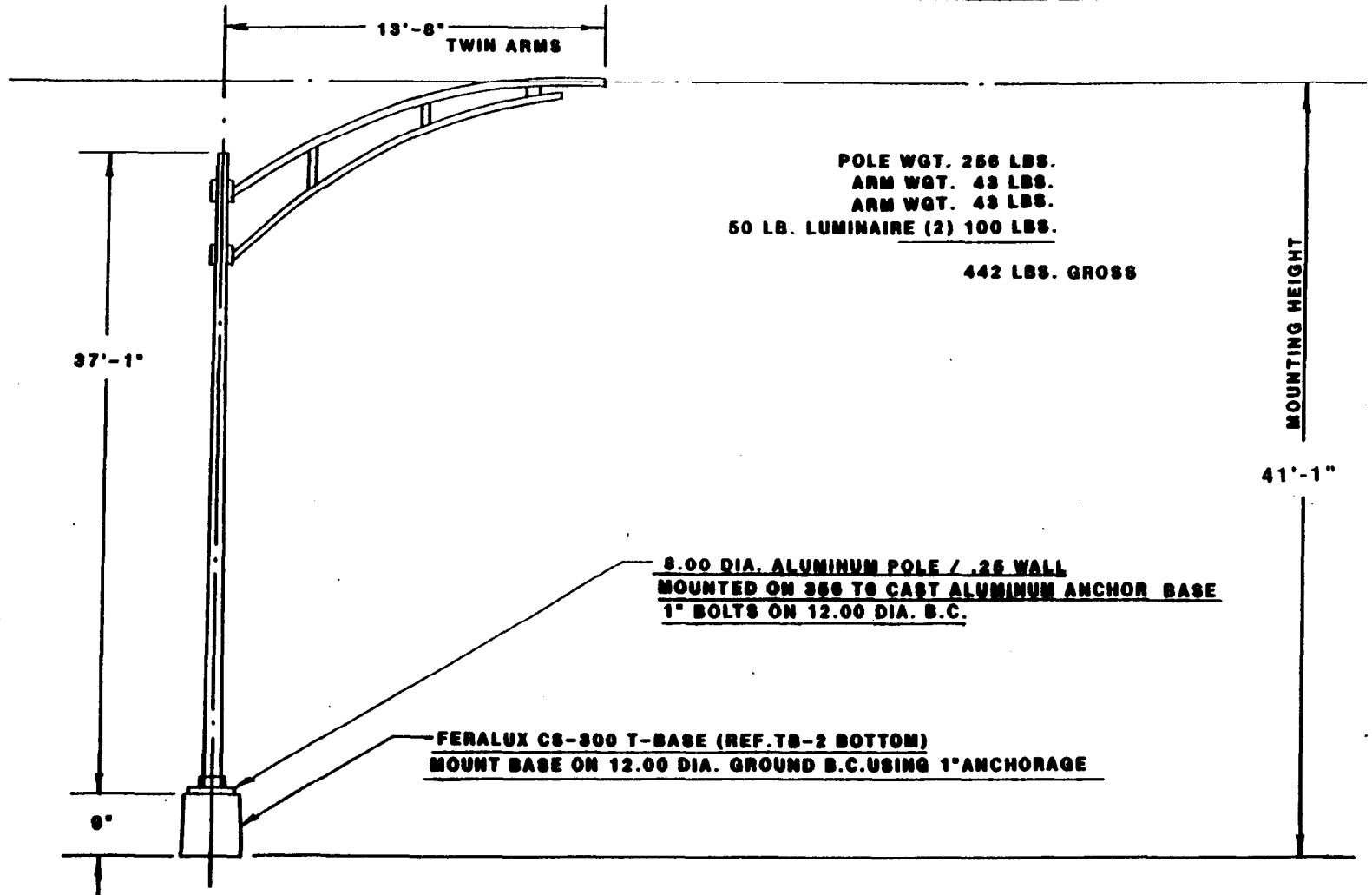


Figure 3. Assembly Drawing, Akron Foundry Test 15



1985 AASHTO REQUIREMENTS / 1800 LB.PENDULUM TEST
AKRON FOUNDRY TEST 17 ON FERLUX CS-300 T-BASE
PROJECT 08-3116-516

Figure 3. Assembly Drawing, Akron Foundry Test 17

Test Series	Test Number	Base Number	Test : Delta V : @ 20mph : (fps)	Calc'd Delta V (fps)	Stub Height (in.)	Pole Weight W/arm & Dummy (pounds)	Pole Type	Nominal Luminaire Mounting Height (feet)	Mast Arm Length (ft) ++	Base Bottom Bolt Circle Diameter (in.)	Bottom Bolt Diameter (in.)	Bottom Washer Outside Diameter (in.)	Bottom Washer Thick- ness (in.)	Base Top Bolt Circle Diameter (in.)	Top Bolt Diameter (in.)	Top Washer Outside Diameter (in.)	Top Washer Thick- ness (in.)
IV	AF-1	FERALUX CS-300	3.4	6.4	2.0	413	ALUMINUM	36.83	13.65	12	1	2 3/4	1/2	12	1	2 3/4	1/2
IV	TEST-1	TB-AF-6-9 POLE LITE F-1300	4.7	6.8	2.0	413	ALUMINUM	36.83	13.65	12	1	2 3/4	1/2	12	1	2 3/4	1/2
IV	TEST-2	FERALUX-CS-300	5.3	11.1	2.0	777	STEEL	49.50	14.50	12	1	2 3/4	1/2	12	1	2 3/4	1/2
IV	TEST-10	TB-AF-6-9 POLE LITE F-1300	5.0	11.0	2.0	777	STEEL	49.50	13.65	12	1	2 3/4	1/2	12	1	2 3/4	1/2
IV	TEST-11	TB-AF-6-9 POLE LITE F-1300	4.9	7.0	2.0	442	ALUMINUM	41.00	13.65	12	1	2 3/4	1/2	12	1	2 3/4	1/2
IV	TEST-12	TB3-AF-1517-17 I.W.++	7.9	17.1	2.0	955	STEEL	55.42	15.13	15	1.25	2 3/4	1/2	15	1.25	2 3/4	1/2
IV	TEST-13	FERALUX CS-370	6.6	16.5	2.0	955	STEEL	54.75	15.13	15	1.25	2 3/4	1/2	15	1.25	2 3/4	1/2
IV	TEST-14	TB-AF-5-9 POLE LITE F-1302	7.6	14.8	2.0	955	STEEL	54.75	15.13	15	1.25	2 3/4	1/2	15	1.25	2 3/4	1/2
IV	TEST-15	FERALUX CS-370	6.9	10.5	2.0	591	ALUMINUM	50.08	13.65	15	1.25	2 3/4	1/2	15	1.25	2 3/4	1/2
IV	TEST-16	TB-AF-5-9 POLE LITE F-1302	5.8	10.1	2.0	591	ALUMINUM	50.08	13.65	15	1.25	2 3/4	1/2	15	1.25	2 3/4	1/2
IV	TEST-17	FERALUX CS-300	4.5	6.9	2.0**	442	ALUMINUM	41.08	13.65	12	1	2 3/4	1/2	12	1	2 3/4	1/2

+ I.W. signifies Internal Weld

* Anchor bolt nuts should not be torqued over 150 foot - pounds.

++ All tests run with twin mast arms.

** A small shard of aluminum remained between 2 and 3 inches above the base plate.