

Special Specification 6186

Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) Ground Box



1. DESCRIPTION

Construct, furnish, install or remove Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) ground boxes for fiber optic communication infrastructure complete with lids.

2. MATERIALS

Provide new materials that comply with the details shown on the plans, the requirements of this Item, and the requirements of the following items:

- Item 420, "Concrete Substructures,"
- Item 421, "Hydraulic Cement Concrete,"
- Item 432, "Riprap,"
- Item 440, "Reinforcement for Concrete,"
- Item 471, "Frames, Grates, Rings, and Covers,"
- Item 618, "Conduit", and
- Item 620, "Electrical Conductors."

Provide new ITS ground boxes constructed of precast concrete or polymer concrete in accordance with the National Electrical Code (NEC) and National Electrical Manufacturers Association (NEMA) standards, most current version. Faulty fabrication or poor workmanship in materials, equipment, or installation will be justification for rejection. Provide manufacturer's warranties or guarantees when offered as a customary trade practice.

2.1. **Precast Concrete.** Provide precast concrete ground boxes and aprons that comply with the details shown on the plans, the requirements of this Item, and in accordance with the following:

- construct ground boxes with Class A concrete in accordance with Item 421, "Hydraulic Cement Concrete," unless otherwise directed,
- provide American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) A 615 Grade 60 reinforcement steel in accordance with Item 440, "Reinforcing Steel," and
- provide steel for the frames and covers in accordance with Item 471, "Frames, Grates, Rings, and Covers," unless otherwise approved by the Engineer.

2.1.1. **Loading Requirements.** Designed to withstand American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO) H-20 loading. Manufacturer must furnish certification of conformance with H-20 loading.

2.2. **Polymer Concrete.** Manufacture ground box and ground box cover from polymer concrete reinforced with 2 continuous layers of fiberglass fabric. Provide fabricated precast polymer concrete ground boxes and aprons that comply with the details shown on the plans, the requirements of this Item, and in accordance with American Standards Institute (ANSI)/Society of Cable Telecommunications Engineers (SCTE) - ANSI/SCTE 77, most current version.

- **Polymer Concrete.** Construct polymer concrete from catalyzed polyester resin, sand, and aggregate. Polymer concrete containing chopped fiberglass or fiberglass-reinforced plastic is prohibited. Ensure a minimum compressive strength of 11,000 psi.

- **Fiberglass Fabric.** The base glass on the fiberglass fabric must be alumina-limeborosilicate type “E” glass. The reinforcing fabric must line the entire inner and outer surfaces. Obtain approval for the fabric prior to production.

- 2.2.1. **Loading Requirements.** All polymer concrete boxes and covers must meet all test provisions of the ANSI/SCTE 77 Tier 22 requirements. All polymer concrete boxes and covers will be UL Listed or manufacture must provide a certification from an NRTL or factory-testing documentation witnessed and certified by professional engineer licensed in Texas.

Ensure ground box withstands 800 lb. per sq. ft. of force applied over the entire sidewall with less than 1/4 in. deflection per foot length of box. Ensure ground box and ground box cover withstand a test load of 33,750 lb. over a 10 in. x 20 in. area centered on the cover with less than 1/2 in. deflection at the design load of 22,500 lb.

3. EQUIPMENT

- 3.1. **Size.** Provide ITS ground boxes meeting the configuration types detailed in Table 1.

Table 1
Ground Box Inside Dimensions

Type	Width (Inches)	Length (Inches)	Depth (Inches)
Type 1 (Precast)	24	36	36, 48, or 60
Type 2 (Precast)	36	60	36, 48, or 60
Type 1 (Polymer)	24	36	24, 36, or 48
Type 2 (Polymer)	36	60	24, 36, or 48

- 3.2. **Shape.** Provide ITS ground boxes rectangular in shape.
- 3.3. **Aprons.** Provide concrete aprons for ground boxes installed in native ground as shown on the plans. Aprons will be omitted when the ground boxes are located in riprap, sidewalk, or landscape pavers.
- 3.4. **Bolts.** Provide stainless steel penta bolts or special keyed bolts, as required by Department, with associated hardware as shown on plans. Provide self-draining bolt holes. Washers must be provided with all bolts.
- 3.5. **Accessories.** Include all necessary provisions for knockouts, cable racking, adapters and terminators for proper conduit and cable installation.
- 3.5.1. **Knockouts.** Provide knockouts at the factory to accommodate the appropriate number and size of conduits entering the ground box as shown in the plans. Within the factory, score or provide indentation on each outside wall identifying additional conduit entry points for future expansion that does not impact the rebar structure. Place a bell fitting on the end of each conduit to ensure a flush fit inside the ground box. Place concrete grout in the knockout (inside and out), around the conduit and bell fitting to ensure a neat and watertight fit. Ensure that the grout does not enter the inside of the conduit.
- 3.5.2. **Cable Racking.** Provide steel (ASTM A-153), non-metallic glass reinforced nylon, or equivalent cable rack assemblies with the dimensions shown on the plans.
- 3.5.3. **Terminators.** Terminators must be appropriately sized for the conduits indicated on plans and must be an airtight and watertight connection.

Terminators for the PVC conduits should be placed symmetrically about the centerline of the box at the depth shown on plans.

Terminators that do not have conduits attached must be capped and sealed as shown on the plans.

Install the quantity, size, and location of terminators as shown on plans.

3.6. **Cover Requirements.**

3.6.1. **Type of Cover.** Provide the following types of covers based on the type of ground box:

- Precast concrete ground box: Provide a 1-piece or 2-piece galvanized steel or cast iron cover depending on the ground box type. Provide a torsion assisted cover for Type 2 ground box with lids that can open freely a minimum 90° each and lock in place with locking latches or a pin-lock inserted in the hinge. Covers must be grounded in accordance with the requirements of the most current version of the NEC. Provide the cover with drop handles.
- Polymer concrete ground box: Provide a 1-piece or 2-piece cover depending on the ground box type, bolted to the ground box. Cover must have a minimum of 2 lifting eyes.

3.7. **Label.** Permanently mark all ground boxes and covers with the manufacturer's name or logo and model number. Legibly imprint each cover with a permanently marked logo in letters at least 1 in. high as follows: "DANGER—HIGH VOLTAGE TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT", unless otherwise directed. Glue in logos are prohibited.

3.8. **Security.** Equip all ground box covers with a stainless steel penta head or keyed bolting system that will securely hold the cover in place. Provide an appropriate means to secure or lock the cover in place as required by the plans.

3.9. **Skid Resistance.** All ground box covers must be skid resistant and should have a minimum coefficient of friction of 0.50 on the top surface of the cover. Provide certification minimum coefficient of friction value is met as part of material documentation.

3.10. **Strength Requirements.** The following ground box strengths are required based on the following 2 applications.

3.10.1. **Deliberate Roadway Traffic.** Precast concrete ground boxes with steel covers must be used in locations that may experience deliberate, continuous vehicular traffic, such as near the shoulder or an auxiliary lane, or immediately adjacent to the unprotected edge of pavement. Do not place ground boxes in the paved travel lanes or shoulder of highways, frontage roads, streets, bridges, or driveways.

Ground boxes and covers located in these areas must be rated for heavy-duty traffic loading and meet an AASHTO H-20 design loading.

Precast concrete ground boxes and covers located in non-deliberate heavy vehicular traffic must still meet AASHTO H-20 design loading.

3.10.2. **Non-Deliberate Heavy Vehicular Traffic.** Polymer concrete ground boxes and covers may be used in off roadway applications subject to occasional non-deliberate heavy vehicular traffic, such as driveways, along sidewalks, parking lots and behind non-mountable curb. Polymer ground boxes and covers located in these areas must meet ANSI/SCTE Tier 22 loading requirements.

4. **CONSTRUCTION**

Perform work in accordance with the details shown on the plans and the requirements of this Item.

Use established industry and utility safety practices when installing or removing ground boxes located near underground utilities. Consult with the appropriate utility company before beginning work.

- 4.1. **Installation.** Install ground boxes as shown on the plans. Maintain spacing as shown on the plans.

Ground box locations may be revised to fit existing field conditions or to better facilitate the installation of the conduit system with approval by the Engineer.

Field-locate ground boxes to avoid steep slopes and low-lying locations with poor drainage.

Construct ground box cover to fit properly on ground box.

When installing ground boxes in surfaced areas, make the tops of the ground boxes flush with the finished surface.

- 4.1.1. **Gravel at Base of Ground Box.** Install all ground boxes on a bed of crushed rock at the base of the excavation as shown on the plans. Place 12 in. of washed, crushed stone (1.5 in. nominal) which extends 6 in. in all directions from the perimeter of the box. Lightly tamp the gravel immediately prior to the placement of the ground box to reduce settlement. Crushed gravel will not be paid directly, but be considered subsidiary to this Item.

- 4.1.2. **Cable Racking Installation.** Provide and locate cable rack assemblies designed to support up to 25 ft. of slack for each fiber optic cable inside each Type 1 ground box, 100 ft. of slack for each fiber optic cable inside each Type 2 ground box, slack associated with other communication cabling, and any splice enclosure as shown on the plans or as directed. Cable racks may be installed at the factory or in the field. Place the racks in a manner so as not to impede access in and out of the ground box.

Ground metallic cable rack assemblies to grounding system inside ground box in accordance with the most current version of the NEC.

Use fasteners with an ultimate pull out strength of at least 2500 lb. and ultimate shear strength of at least 3000 lb. When securing cable racks to side walls of ground box in the field, seal all penetrations to the side wall to prevent moisture and contaminant penetration. Sufficient cable supports must be provided for the particular of conductors or cables coiled or passing through the ground as shown on the plans or directed by the Engineer.

- 4.1.3. **Buried Installation.** When shown in the plans or identified in the General Notes, bury ground boxes for security measures. When burying ground boxes, provide polymer concrete ground boxes meeting ANSI/SCTE Tier 22 loading requirements.

Provide 12 in. cover between ground surface and top of ground box lid. Prior to backfilling, provide a 30 lb. felt paper over the entire ground box extending a minimum of 2 in. from either side to prevent backfill materials from entering ground box.

- 4.2. **Excavation and Backfill.** Ensure excavation and backfill for ground boxes meets the requirements as set forth by Item 400, "Excavation and Backfill for Structures." For buried ground boxes, compact backfill material in order to prevent depressions in ground surface from occurring over the ground box.

- 4.3. **Testing.** Ground box and cover must be tested by a laboratory independent of the manufacturer to meet loading requirements. Certificate of such tests must be submitted to the Engineer for approval.

- 4.4. **Documentation Requirements.** Submit documentation for this Item consisting of the following for Engineer approval prior to installation:

- record Global Positioning System (GPS) coordinates using NAD83 datum for all ground boxes prior to backfill. Identify location to obtain coordinates on drawing detail,
- shop drawings,

- concrete mix design,
- material specifications for ground box, lid, cable racks, bolts, and skid resistance for cover
- testing certification for loading requirements,
- hot, cold, and wet weather plan, and
- backfill material composition.

Shop drawings should clearly detail the following for ground boxes, at a minimum:

- | | | |
|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| ■ dimensions | ■ terminators | ■ cover |
| ■ knockouts | ■ adapters | ■ load rating |
| ■ cable racks | ■ bolts | ■ cover lock |

- 4.5. **Removal.** Remove existing ground boxes and concrete aprons to at least 6 in. below the conduit level. Uncover conduit to a sufficient distance so that 90° bends can be removed and conduit reconnected. Clean the conduit in accordance with Item 618, "Conduit." Replace conduit within 5 ft. of the ground box. Remove old conductors and install new conductors as shown on the plans. Backfill area with material equal in composition and density to the surrounding area. Replace surfacing material with similar material to an equivalent condition.

5. MEASUREMENT

This Item will be measured by each ground box installed or removed.

6. PAYMENT

The work performed and materials furnished in accordance with this Item and measured as provided under "Measurement" will be paid for at the unit price bid for "ITS Ground Box (Precast Concrete)" of the various types and sizes specified or "ITS Ground Box (Polymer Concrete)" of the various types and sizes specified and for "Remove ITS Ground Box".

- 6.1. **Furnish and Install.** This price is full compensation for excavating and backfilling; constructing, furnishing and installing the ITS ground boxes and concrete aprons when required; and all labor, tools, equipment, materials, transportation, accessories, documentation, testing and incidentals.

Conduit will be paid for under Item 618, "Conduit" and Special Specification 6016, "ITS Multi-Duct Conduit."

Electrical conductors will be paid for under Item 620, "Electrical Conductors."

- 6.2. **Remove.** This price is full compensation for removing and disassembling ground boxes and concrete aprons; excavation, backfilling, and surface placement; removing old conductors; disposal of unsalvageable materials; and materials, equipment, labor, tools, and incidentals. Cleaning of conduit is subsidiary to this Item. Conduit replaced within 5 ft. of the ground box will be subsidiary to this Item.