MEMO
August 29, 2013

To: District Engineers

From: Gregg A. Freeby, P.E.
Director, Bridge Division

Subject: New Microstation Font for Bridge Design Drawings

The Bridge Division and its consultant engineers will begin using new fonts on bridge design drawings for projects initiated September 1, 2013 and beyond. These new fonts are TrueType fonts developed for engineering drawings by the Florida Department of Transportation and offer several key advantages over our currently used fonts:

- Improves readability
- Requires less page space for text without reducing font size
- Provides identical appearance across different applications such as Excel, Word, AutoCAD, etc.
- Facilitates dynamic linking of Microstation files with Microsoft files such as Word and Excel files.

The fonts used by the Bridge Division will be:

- FDOT (general purpose text and dimensions)
- FDOTBold (bold font for titles and title blocks)
- FDOTMono (tabular information from external sources such as Excel or PGSuper).

For general PS&E development TXLEROY Font=22 or LEROY Font=1 remain approved per the PS&E Preparation Manual. TXLEROY Font=22 was developed to address 11 x 17 plot output and add certain engineering symbols. GEOPAK specific routines default to TXLEROY Font=22.

Bridge Division Standard Drawings will be converted to the new fonts in their normal revision cycle. Three standards – AJ, SEJ-A, and SEJ-S(O) – currently employ the new fonts. Until conversion is complete, it is acceptable to have standard drawings with different fonts in the plan set. If modification of a standard drawing is necessary for a specific project, the font should remain as given in the original drawing. A future revision of the Bridge Detailing Guide will also reflect use of the new font.

A LANDesk package has been created to install these new fonts on a TxDOT PC. Please submit a TxDOT NOW ticket to request installation. This package is specific to Win 7 x64 and MicroStation V8i only.

Package name: TxDOT Bridge Division fonts (FDOT True Type Fonts) – Install (Win7 x64)
Location: Public Packages > DIV > BRG > Install

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Consultant engineering firms doing business with TxDOT can obtain the new true type fonts from the Bridge Standards web page. See http://www.dot.state.tx.us/business/standardplanfiles.htm.

Questions on implementation of the new fonts should be directed to Dacio Marin III, P.E., at 512/416-2223, Tyra Gentry at 512/416-2198, or Jon Ries at 512/416-2191.

Note: Original Signed by Gregg A. Freeby

CC:
- Federal Highway Administration
- Bridge Design Consultants
- Administration
- Division and Office Directors
- Directors of Transportation Planning and Development
- District Bridge Engineers
- Bridge Division Employees