



U.S. Department  
of Transportation  
**Federal Highway  
Administration**

# Memorandum

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Subject: Technical Advisory 5140.28 - Construction Loads on Bridges    Date: August 8, 2007

From:    Frederick G. Wright (Bud)  
          Executive Director (HOA-3)

To:        Division Administrators  
            Directors of Field Services  
            Federal Land Highway Division  
            Engineers

## **PURPOSE**

In the ongoing investigation of the collapse of the I-35W Bridge in Minneapolis, the National Transportation Safety Board has identified construction equipment and materials loading on the bridge as part of their review. While no conclusions have been reached, in an abundance of caution, we strongly advise the State Transportation Agencies and other bridge owners who are engaged in or contemplating any construction operation on their bridges to ensure that any construction loading and stockpiled raw materials placed on a structure do not overload its members.

For more discussion on this issue, please refer to the AASHTO Standard Specifications for Highway Bridges, 17<sup>th</sup> Edition, Division II, Section 8.15 or the AASHTO Load Resistance and Factor Design Bridge Design Specifications, 4<sup>th</sup> Edition, Section 3.

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