



Memorandum

U.S. Department
of Transportation

6300 Georgetown Pike
McLean, Virginia 22101

**Federal Highway
Administration**

Subject: **ACTION:** LTPP Directive D-42
Safety Considerations during LTPP Manual Distress Data Collection.

Date: January 5, 2005

From: Jack Springer *Jack Springer*
Long Term Pavement Performance Team

Reply to
Attn of: HRDI-13

To: Dr. Frank Meyer, PM - LTPP North Atlantic Regional Contract
Dr. Frank Meyer, PM - LTPP North Central Regional Contract
Mr. Mark Gardner, PM - LTPP Southern Regional Contract
Mr. Kevin Senn, PM - LTPP Western Regional Contract

Attached is Long Term Pavement Performance (LTPP) program directive D-42, which presents safety guidelines to be followed during LTPP manual distress data collection.

Please make this directive available to all personnel involved in distress data collection.

If you have any questions concerning this transmittal, please do not hesitate to call me at (202) 493-3144.



LONG TERM PAVEMENT PERFORMANCE PROGRAM DIRECTIVE



For the Technical Direction of the LTPP Program

Program Area: Monitoring

Directive Number: D-42

Date: January 5, 2004

Supersedes: N/A

Subject: Safety Considerations during LTPP Manual Distress Data Collection

Recent reviews have revealed that distress surveys are sometimes being performed without traffic control and during inclement weather. The Distress Identification Manual for the Long-Term Pavement Performance Program (DIM) states that "During the visual distress survey, safety is the first consideration, as with all field data collection activities. All raters must adhere to the practices and authority of the State or Canadian Province." Additionally distress surveys should not be performed without lane closures and adequate traffic control.

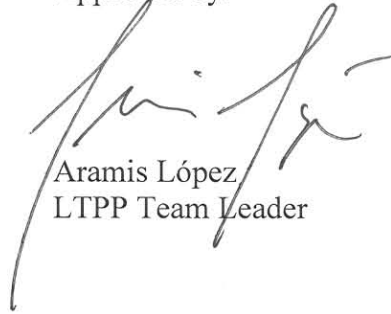
The following guidelines must be followed during all distress surveys:

- Raters must be aware of local safety regulations before arriving on site and follow them.
- Hard hats or yellow/orange baseball caps and reflectorized safety vests must be worn at all times in the field.
- Raters shall not begin a survey until traffic control is set up.
- Raters must stay within the traffic cones or lane closure at all times.
- Raters should avoid turning their backs to oncoming traffic.
- Raters should stay alert and keep an eye on oncoming traffic at all times.
- Faulting measurements must be done facing traffic.
- Raters must take extra care while performing Dipstick® measurements, especially while near the centerline.
- Raters should warn others of unsafe conditions such as wide loads or erratic drivers.
- Surveys should not be conducted in inclement weather or during periods of limited visibility.
- Surveys should be discontinued if conditions are judged to be unsafe by the rater.
- Use common sense, never get too comfortable, or complacent while conducting a survey.
- STAY ALERT! STAY SAFE!

The Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD), Part 6, Temporary Traffic Control, contains guidelines for lane closures and traffic control. Raters should be familiar with these guidelines. The MUTCD is accessible online at <http://mutcd.fhwa.dot.gov/>.

Prepared by: LTPP Headquarters

Approved by:



Aramis López
LTPP Team Leader