

Temporary Safety Measures Inspection

June 2012

Summary:

This Standard provides guidance on establishing an inspection system for Temporary Safety Measures applying to road works on National Roads.

**VOLUME 5 ASSESSMENT AND
PREPARATION OF ROAD
SCHEMES**

**SECTION 2 PREPARATION AND
IMPLEMENTATION**

PART 2

NRA HD 16/12

**TEMPORARY SAFETY MEASURES
INSPECTION**

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1 INTRODUCTION

General

1.1 The objective of this standard is to establish an inspection system for Temporary Safety Measures applying to road works, to ensure that the standard applying to Temporary Safety Measures at road works (referenced in 1.5 below), are properly applied, and to record possible impacts on the safety of traffic flow.

1.2 This standard addresses the requirements of the EU Directive 2008/96/EC on Road Infrastructure Safety Management (RISM) and its transposition into Irish Law under S.I. No. 472 of 2011.

1.3 This standard shall ensure that individual road authorities, Road Operators and Statutory Undertakers set out a process within their Safety Management Systems requirements that facilitate the implementation of this standard.

1.4 This standard does not provide information on the design and implementation of Temporary Safety Measures.

1.5 Reference should be made to the following documents for guidelines applicable to the design and implementation of Temporary Safety Measures:

- Chapter 8 of the *Traffic Signs Manual* published by the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport, and
- *Guidance for the Control and Management of Traffic at Road Works* issued jointly by Local Authorities, the National Roads Authority, the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport and by the Local Government Management Services Board.

1.6 Standardisation of the reporting format for the Temporary Safety Measures Inspections is desirable for the following reasons:

- It indicates to the inspection team the quantity and quality of the information required;
- It enables the NRA to directly compare common report information;

- It enables the NRA to monitor where certain issues are reoccurring from inspection to inspection;
- It enables easier monitoring of the quality and consistency of these inspections.

1.7 The standard report format is downloadable on NRA website.

www.nra.ie/Publications/RoadSafety

Definitions

1.8 *Authority:*

For National Roads the Authority is the National Roads Authority (NRA).

1.9 *Road Works:*

Occur where the normal function of the public road used by any road user, including non-motorised users, is affected or interrupted at any time to facilitate the construction or maintenance of the public road, public or private utilities or any adjoining or overhead sites.

1.10 *Road Operator:*

A road operator is defined as a company undertaking construction, maintenance or operation of a National Road under a contract agreement with the Authority, and in circumstances where direct responsibility for the construction, maintenance or operation of the section of road has been transferred to the company. A Road Operator may be appointed under a Public Private Partnership or other form of contract with the Authority.

1.11 *Safety Management System:*

The Safety, Health and Welfare at Works Act, 2005 requires an employer to provide systems of work that are planned, organised, performed, maintained and revised as appropriate so as to be, so far as is reasonably practicable, safe and without risk to health.

1.12 *Statutory Undertaker:*

Means the parties involved in conducting media or apparatus for water, sewage, electricity, gas, oil, telecommunications, data, steam, air, or other

services, and associated apparatus or structures, together with any privately owned services.

1.13 *Temporary Safety Measures Inspection:*

An inspection of Temporary Safety Measures at road works to ensure that standards on Temporary Safety Measures at road works are properly applied.

1.14 *Temporary Safety Measures Inspection Team:*

For the purposes of this standard a Temporary Safety Measures Inspection Team shall comprise of competent inspectors appointed by the Relevant Road Authority, as defined in Paragraph 2.4 of the document.

1.15 The current NRA training and experience requirements for Temporary Safety Measures Inspection Team are subject to change and is downloadable on NRA website.

www.nra.ie/Publications/RoadSafety

2 TEMPORARY SAFETY MEASURES INSPECTION

Temporary Safety Measures Inspection

2.1 Except as noted in Paragraph 2.2, Temporary Safety Measures Inspections shall apply to all National Roads.

Exemption

2.2 This standard does not apply to road tunnels which are covered by Directive 2004/54/EC of the European Parliament, but road works on the approaches to tunnel portals may be inspected.

Scope of Temporary Safety Measures Inspection

2.3 The primary purpose of a Temporary Safety Measures Inspection is to ensure that the standard applying to Temporary Safety Measures at Road Works are properly applied and to record possible impacts of Road Works on the safety of traffic flow.

2.4 Temporary Safety Measures Inspections shall be undertaken by the relevant bodies as follows:

- National Roads Authority will undertake inspections of Temporary Safety Measures on projects sanctioned/or procured by the Authority.
- Local authority will undertake inspections of Temporary Safety Measures on projects sanctioned and / or procured by the local authority.
- Statutory Undertaker/Road Operator will undertake inspections of Temporary Safety Measures on projects under their management.

2.5 The National Roads Authority will carry out random inspections of Local Authority, Road Operators and Statutory Undertaker's Temporary Safety Measures to verify that Temporary Safety Measures Inspections are being carried out in accordance with this standard.

2.6 The Temporary Safety Measures Inspection shall inspect the sections of Road Works that impact upon road users and the immediate

approaches to Road Works shall also be inspected.

Occurrence of Safety Inspection

2.7 The Directive states that "*Member States shall ensure that safety inspections are undertaken ...*". The Regulations state:

- *Safety inspections shall comprise periodic inspections of the road network, and.....be sufficiently frequent to safeguard adequate safety levels for the road infrastructure in question;*
- *Member states shall adopt guidelines on temporary safety measures applying to road works.*

2.8 The frequency of inspections of Temporary Safety Measures shall be generally determined by the duration of the Road Works and shall be subject to the following minimum requirements:

Duration of Road Works	% of sites to be inspected per annum	Frequency of Inspection
Exceeding 1 year in duration	100% of sites to be inspected	Quarterly
1 month to 1 year in duration	30% to 40% of sites to be inspected	Twice per year
Greater than 1 day, less than 1 month	10% to 20% of sites to be inspected	Single Inspection
1 day in duration	Random	Single Inspection

2.9 These are the intended intervals; however, there may be circumstances where it is sensible to shorten these periods, and the NRA will make a decision where it requires additional inspections. Circumstances where that might arise are:

- On very busy strategic routes, such as the M50;
- Where major incremental changes have been made to the Temporary Safety Measures.

Safety and Health

2.10 The inspection team should exercise caution when working in live traffic. Each Inspector must be familiar with, and comply with, current legislation and best practice in relation to occupational health and safety pertaining to inspection or other activities on a live carriageway.

2.11 Websites and other sources providing guidance on safety of works and other activities on live carriageways, should be checked regularly for updates. These include the HSA website www.hsa.ie.

3 REFERENCES

Chapter 8 of the *Traffic Signs Manual* published by the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport

Guidance for the Control and Management of Traffic at Road Works issued jointly by local authorities, the National Roads Authority, the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport and by the Local Government Management Services Board.

4 ENQUIRIES

All technical enquiries or comments on this standard should be sent in writing to:

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