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Bridge Design Section  
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John Bel Edwards, Governor  
Shawn D. Wilson., Ph.D., Secretary

MEMORANDUM

TO: ALL CONSULTANTS  
ALL BRIDGE DESIGNERS

FROM: PAUL FOSSIER, P.E.  
BRIDGE DESIGN ENGINEER ADMINISTRATOR

SUBJECT: BRIDGE DESIGN TECHNICAL MEMORANDUM NO. 70 (BDTM.70)  
OFF-SYSTEM BRIDGE LOAD RATING 

DATE: February 27, 2017

DOTD Bridge Rating group has prepared a list of documents to assist off-system bridge owners in their efforts to meet the bridge load rating (Metric #13) and bridge file requirements (Metric #15) of the FHWA *Metrics for the Oversight of the National Bridge Inspection Program*. Metric #13 requires that every bridge in the state of Louisiana be load rated for their safe load carrying capacity in accordance with the *AASHTO Manual for Bridge Evaluation (MBE)* for all state legal vehicles and routine permit loads. Metric # 15 requires that files for every bridge in the state of Louisiana be prepared and maintained as described in the *MBE*.

The prepared documents are listed as follows:

1. Frequently Asked Questions for Off-System Bridge Load Rating
2. Procedures for Submitting Load Ratings
3. Locating Bridge Plans and Documents Guidelines
4. Cross Sectional Measurements
5. Priority Criteria for Selecting Bridges for Re-rating
6. COPCSS Superstructure Rating Example in BrR
7. COSLAB Superstructure Rating Example in BrR

These documents have been published on the Bridge Design website under Downloads/Bridge Load Rating/Off-System.

This technical memorandum is posted on the LA DOTD Website under [Inside La DOTD > Divisions - Engineering > Bridge Design > Technical Memoranda – BDTMs.](#)

Please contact Ms. Dana Feng (225-379-1060, [dana.feng@la.gov](mailto:dana.feng@la.gov)) if you have questions or comments.

PF/df

Attachment

Cc: Janice Williams (Chief Engineer)  
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District Administrators, ADA Engineering, ADA Operations, District Area Engineers and District Bridge Engineers