



Illinois Department of Transportation

Memorandum

To: Studies & Plans Squads PPM 80-02
From: J. N. Fiser Revised By: Tim Brandenburg
Subject: Proprietary Items
Date: March 27, 1991 Revision Date: April 23, 2004

PLAN PREPARATION MEMORANDUM 80-02

BACKGROUND

This memorandum revises Plan Preparation Memorandum 90.233P, Proprietary Items and supplements Chapter 5-102.1 of the Bureau of Operations Traffic Policies and Procedures Manual and Memorandum "Traffic Signal Equipment on Contracts" from R.W. Jones dated March 20, 1991 in providing guidelines regarding the specification of traffic signal equipment.

PROCEDURE

As a summary of the above, the Bureau of Design and Environment has recently instructed us regarding the use of proprietary items on contracts. As a rule, this is to be avoided. Only a few exceptions exist such as:

1. When replacing "in kind" is essential.
2. When specified by others who will have to maintain the item.
3. When three or more name brand items are listed to choose from.

Generally, proprietary items can only be specified when they are to be maintained by a local agency which has a brand preference. In this case, coordination and approval of the Traffic Operations Engineer is required. Proprietary Specification requests are on file and retained by the Traffic Operations Engineer.