

31 October 2012

To whom it may concern

Dear Sir/Madam

DISCONTINUATION OF 3-CABLE WIRE ROPE BARRIER SYSTEMS

Further to the recent NZ Transport Agency decision to adopt the AASHTO Manual for Assessing Safety Hardware (MASH-1) for the purposes of evaluating new safety hardware on the State highway network. Following consultation with the current road safety barrier suppliers in the New Zealand market, the NZ Transport Agency is withdrawing all approvals/acceptances for 3 cable wire rope barrier systems, in favour of 4 cable systems.

From 1 January 2013, all wire rope barrier systems to be installed on the State highway network are to be 4 cable wire rope barrier systems, tested to a minimum of NCHRP350 Test Level 4. These systems will be listed in the NZ Transport Agency Specification M23 Road Safety Hardware Systems, available on the NZ Transport Agency website.

This decision is consistent with that recently undertaken by the Australian road controlling authorities through the Austroads National Safety Barrier Assessment Panel (ANSBAP) committee.

Components for existing 3 cable wire rope barrier installations may continue to be supplied for maintenance and repair purposes, but all new installations must be to the new standard. Where an existing installation is significantly damaged, then consideration should be given to upgrading to the higher standard.

Please circulate with your organisation as appropriate.

Yours sincerely



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