



Traffic Guidelines Manual

ORIGINATOR Director, Bureau of Traffic Operations		1-16-3
CHAPTER 1	General	
SECTION 16	Committees	
SUBJECT 3	Traffic Engineering Materials & Technology Standards	

INTRODUCTION

When requests are received from the Regions, vendors and contractors for use of new traffic engineering materials and technologies, it is necessary to follow the steps shown in the flowchart to consider the technology for possible use. If the technology is evaluated and found successful, results of the evaluation *may* lead to development of standards and specifications for use of such products and technologies in Wisconsin.

PROCEDURE

Typically, Regional staff, vendors or contractors suggest the use of a new material or technology for use in the WisDOT projects. Before a product can be used in the field, its expected benefits must be considered and an evaluation plan developed.

The appropriate standing committee or BTO Program lead must first consider the feasibility of the product (i.e., cost, benefits, disadvantages, life expectancy, etc.) in order to make a decision in pursuing the use of this product. If it is a proprietary product or is not in compliance with the MUTCD an experimental work plan must be submitted to FHWA for their review and approval before any further progress is made with the product. Refer to TGM 1-16-2, FHWA approvals for a list of items that require Federal approval.

The BTO Program lead prioritizes the use of the product depending on scheduling of pilot projects and funding for the use of the product. This product *may* be piloted in an improvement project, ODP project or set up in a special contract. If the BTO Program lead cannot effectively find a project or funding for use of the material or technology, he/she will provide feedback to the vendor for the reason not choosing the product. If the product is approved for a pilot test, the UW TOPS Lab or the Bureau of Technical Services Quality Assurance Unit *may* provide or assist with the testing and evaluation of the product.

If the product is successful in the testing and evaluation process and WisDOT chooses to standardize its use, standards and specifications must be developed in

order to implement statewide. BTO staff will work with BPD and/or BTS staff to develop and publish language allowing the use of the material or technology in statewide projects. If the product is not successful or WisDOT chooses not to use the product, the BTO program lead *should* provide feedback to the vendor.

