

**DATE:** December 14, 2006

**TO:** Region Engineers  
System Managers  
Development Engineers

**FROM:** Mark A. Van Port Fleet  
Engineer of Design

**SUBJECT:** Electronic Information to Contractors

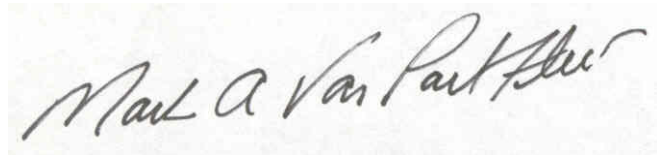
Contractor requests for electronic information continue to increase as the industry realizes significant cost savings with machine controlled grading and stakeout. MDOT's MACH1 (Machine Assisted Construction of Highways) pilot is being developed to provide contractors with electronic construction information at the time of advertisement. This pilot is scheduled to take place next summer. If successful, new road design processes will be developed and implemented. Until that time we are making the following recommendations on what to provide contractors upon request.

- Provide CADD files in native MicroStation V8 format. Most contractors would prefer to receive AutoCADD files. MDOT places the responsibility of conversion on the contractors. MicroStation V8 files can be converted to AutoCADD with a minimal effort.
- For machine control grading purposes CADD files should contain edge of pavement, edge of shoulder, curb lines, ditch lines, sidewalks and road centerline. These 2D lines allow the machine operator to identify where they are on the project. If the contractor is intending to export information from the CADD files for stakeout they will also need all CADD graphics related to pay items.
- The contractor will also need a proposed Digital Terrain Model (DTM). It is possible to make a crude proposed DTM by essentially connecting the dots between cross sections. This method is only as accurate as the cross sections. Additional cross sections in areas of vertical curve, super elevation, intersections and drive openings may be necessary. If design staff do not have the time to create the proposed DTM, the responsibility should be shifted to the contractor. The contractor can be provided with the profile and cross section CADD files for their use in developing the proposed DTM.

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The electronic information is being provided after the fact and is not part of the contract documents. Prior to delivering the electronic information, please have the contractor sign and return the attached disclaimer.

If you have any questions, please contact Dan Belcher at (517) 335-2182.

A handwritten signature in black ink on a light-colored background. The signature reads "Mark A. Van Pelt" in a cursive script.

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Engineer of Design

Attachment

cc: L. Tibbits  
J. Polasek  
B. O'Brien  
J. Reincke  
M. DeLong  
J. Culp  
Project Managers  
T. Frake  
S. Beck  
L. Felsing  
D. Belcher

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**Signature of Contractor**

**Date**

**(MUST be SAME person that signed the construction contract with MDOT)**

December 14, 2006