



Company Name: _____ Job Site Location: _____

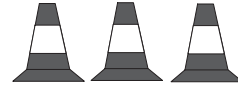
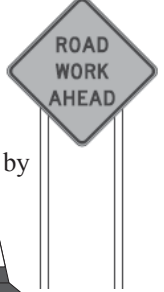
Date: _____ Start Time: _____ Finish Time: _____ Foreman/Supervisor: _____

Topic 83: Temporary Traffic Control (Shoulder Work Part B)

Introduction: Shoulder work can be dangerous if the proper safety precautions are not taken before beginning work. To avoid accidents or injury, shoulder work signs and channelizing devices should be erected to warn of maintenance, reconstruction, or utility operations. Following are safety guidelines for temporary traffic control where work is done on roadway shoulders:

Shoulder Work with Minor Encroachment:

- *All lanes* should be a minimum of 10 feet (3 m) in width as measured to the near face of the channelizing devices.
- **For short-term use** on low-volume, low-speed roadways with vehicular traffic that does not include longer and wider heavy commercial vehicles, a minimum lane width of 9 feet (2.7 m) may be used.
- **Where** the opposite shoulder is suitable for carrying vehicular traffic and of adequate width, lanes may be shifted by use of closely spaced channelizing devices, provided that the minimum lane width of 10 feet (3 m) is maintained.
- **Additional** advance warning may be appropriate, such as a **ROAD NARROWS** sign.
- **Temporary** traffic barriers (cones, drums, barricades, etc.) may be used along the work space.



Work on the Shoulder with No Encroachment:

- **When** paved shoulders having a width of 8 feet (2.4 m) or more are closed, at least one advance warning sign is required to be used. In addition, channelizing devices should be used to close the shoulder in advance, to delineate the beginning of the work space and direct motor vehicle traffic to remain within the traveled way.
- **When** paved shoulders having a width of 8 feet (2.4 m) or more are closed on freeways and expressways, road users should be warned about potential disabled vehicles that cannot get off the traveled way. An initial general warning sign (such as **ROAD WORK AHEAD**) should be used, followed by a **RIGHT** or **LEFT SHOULDER CLOSED** sign.
- **Where** the end of the shoulder closure extends beyond the distance which can be perceived by road users, a supplementary plaque bearing the message **NEXT X FEET** (m) or **MILES** (km) should be placed below the **SHOULDER CLOSED** sign.
- **On multi-lane**, divided highways, signs advising of shoulder work or the condition of the shoulder should be placed only on the side of the affected shoulder.
- **When** an improved shoulder is closed on a high-speed roadway, it should be treated as a closure of a portion of the road system.
- **Road users** should be given ample advance warning that shoulders are closed, for use as refuge areas, throughout a specified length of the approaching work zone. The sign(s) should read **SHOULDER CLOSED** with distances indicated. The work space on the shoulder should be closed off by a taper or by channelizing devices.
- **When** the shoulder is not occupied, but work has adversely affected its condition, the **LOW SHOULDER** or **SOFT SHOULDER** sign should be used, as appropriate.
- **Where** the condition extends over a distance in excess of 1 mile (1.6 km), the sign should be repeated at 1 mile (1.6 km) intervals. In addition, a supplementary plaque bearing the message **NEXT X MILES** (km) may be used.
- **Temporary** traffic barriers may be needed to inhibit encroachment of errant vehicles into the work space, and to protect workers.
- **When** used for shoulder work, arrow panels should operate only in the caution mode.



Shoulder Closure on Freeway:

- **Shoulder closed signs** should be used on limited-access highways where there is no opportunity for disabled vehicles to pull off the roadway.
- **If drivers cannot see** a pull-off area beyond the closed shoulder, information regarding the length of the shoulder closure should be provided in feet or miles (meters or kilometers), as appropriate.

Conclusion: When working on the shoulder of the road or highway, conditions are hazardous due to poor visibility, the speed of on-coming traffic, weather conditions, and poor signage placement. Always remember to place the **SHOULDER WORK** sign in advance of the activity area. Follow these Temporary Traffic Control safety guidelines for safe shoulder work.

Work Site Review

Work-Site Hazards and Safety Suggestions: _____

Personnel Safety Violations: _____

Employee Signatures:

(My signature attests and verifies my understanding of and agreement to comply with, all company safety policies and regulations, and that I have not suffered, experienced, or sustained any recent job-related injury or illness.)

Foreman/Supervisor's Signature: _____

These guidelines do not supercede local, state, or federal regulations and must not be construed as a substitute for, or legal interpretation of, any OSHA regulations.