

WHAT ARE THE CALTRANS

CONSTRUCTION STANDARDS?

The Division of Engineering Services, Office Engineer develops and maintains standards for contract documents. They include:

1. *2010 Standard Specifications*
2. Standard special provisions (SSPs)
3. *Standard Plans*
4. Standard bid items
5. Notice to bidders
6. *Bid book*

To find these standards go to:

<http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/esc/oe/standards.php>

The 2010 standards must be used on all projects with schedule ready to list (RTL) dates after September 30, 2012.



Construction on the Eastern Span Replacement of the San Francisco - Oakland Bay Bridge

SCOPE OF THE 2010 STANDARDS PROJECT

The scope of work for developing the 2010 edition of the standards includes the following:

1. Incorporating 2006 amendments into the *2010 Standard Specifications*
2. Incorporating many of the 2006 SSPs into the *2010 Standard Specifications*
3. Improving style and format by following the *Style Guide for the 2010 Specifications* including plain language
4. Incorporating the 2006 new and revised standard plans into the *2010 Standard Plans*

Use of plain language is mandated by Presidential Executive Order and California Government Code. It is recommended by the American Bar Association. For an example of plain language see sections 1-9 in the amendments to the *2006 Standard Specifications*.

Edmund G. Brown Jr.

Governor, State of California

Traci Stevens

*Acting Under Secretary
of the Business, Transportation and Housing Agency*

Malcolm Dougherty

Acting Director of the California Department of Transportation



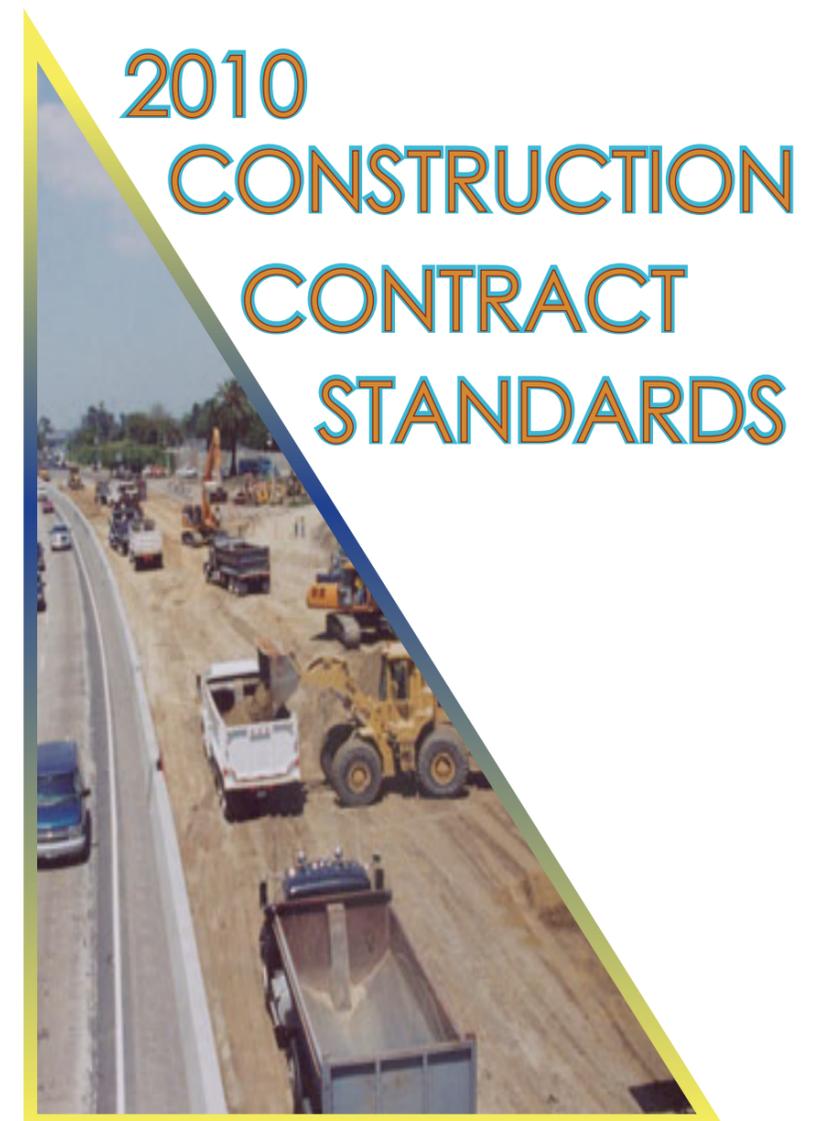
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Attention: Daniel Tumati
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Construction Project on Interstate 80 in Nevada County



Quick Guide

December 2011



Caltrans improves mobility across California

WHAT'S NEW IN THE 2010 STANDARDS?

Standard Specifications

Most of the 2010 section numbers are the same as the 2006 section numbers. A few new sections have been created for the 2010 edition. Many of the 2006 Standards special provisions have been moved into the *2010 Standard Specifications*. The book size will be 8.5 x 11 inches.

The governing ranking of Contract parts in descending order is:

1. Standards special provisions
2. Project plans
3. Revised standard specifications
4. Standard specifications
5. Revised standard plans
6. Standard plans*
7. Supplemental project information

*For the 2006 standards, the standard plans ranked above the standard specifications.

SSPs

The 2010 Standards special provisions numbering matches the *2010 Standard Specifications* numbering. With this improvement, an Standards special provisions shows the exact location of the modification to the *2010 Standard Specifications*.

Standard Plans

All of the 2006 new and revised standard plan sheets are included in the 2010 edition.

Standard Bid Items

For the 2010 standards, payment is based on the bid item list. The item numbering matches the section numbering in the *2010 Standard Specifications*, and the exceptions are explained in the specifications.

Notice to Bidders and Special Provisions Book

The 2010 Special Provision Books are numbered the same as the *2010 Standard Specifications*. For example, specifications for piling are under section 49 in both the special provisions book and the *2010 Standard Specifications*.

Bid Book

No major differences exist between the 2010 and the 2006 editions.



Monterey Bike Trail

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q. *2010 How are the 2010s better for me?*

A. For specification engineers, it is easier to assemble the special provisions because there are fewer Standards special provisions and the Standards special provisions numbers match the section numbers in the *2010 Standard Specifications*.

For contractors and resident engineers, this means shorter special provisions with numbering that matches the standard specifications. For everybody, the specification language is more direct and clear.

Q. *Are there technical content changes from the 2006 standards to the 2010 Standards?*

A. The technical content of the 2010 standards parallels that of the 2006 standards.

Q. *Do the bid item numbers correlate to the specifications?*

A. Not always. The bid items set forth the construction specifications that apply. The first two digits of a bid item corresponds to the specification section with the same two digits unless shown otherwise in the table titled "Bid Items and Applicable Sections" in the special provisions. See section 1-1.01 in the *2010 Standard Specifications*.

Q. *What happened to all the long and detailed measurement and payment sections in the 2006 standards?*

A. Payment is specified in section 9 and not repeated throughout the contract. Payment is based on the item of work and the unit of measure shown in the bid item list. Payment includes the work described in the contract for that bid item. See section 9 in the *2010 Standard Specifications*.

Q. *Do the bid item descriptions exactly match a section title?*

A. No. General reference to bid items are included in a section, but not necessarily in a title. Sizes and type are typically not included in the specifications. For example, the specifications in section 72-2, "Rock Slope Protection" apply to the standard bid item 721022 ROCK SLOPE PROTECTION (IT, METHOD B).

Q. *Are there new bid item codes?*

A. Yes. New sections may have new bid item codes.

Q. *Will there be "amendments" to the 2010 Standard Specifications?*

A. Yes. For the 2010s, they will be published as revised standard specifications (RSS).

Q. *Are there still Standards special provisions ?*

A. Yes, however there are fewer 2010 SSPs. Many of the 2006 SSPs have been moved into the *2010 Standard Specifications*.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q. *Most specification sections start with a general section. How does this work with the rest of the sections?*

A. The general section applies to all other sections at the same and lower levels. For example, section 53-1, "General," in the *2010 Standard Specifications* applies to sections 53-2 and 53-3. Similarly, section 53-2.01 applies to sections 53-2.02, 53-2.03, and 53-2.04.

Q. *Why is "authorized" used?*

A. "Authorized" means "authorized in writing by the Engineer." See section 1-1.01 in the *2010 Standard Specifications*. For additional information, see the *Style Guide for the 2010 Specifications*, section 6, mandatory expressions.

Q. *What happened to all the "as shown on the plans and as specified in the special provisions" clauses?*

A. Where a location is not specified with the words "described," "shown," or "specified," interpret:

1. "Shown" as "shown on the plans."
2. "Specified" as specified in the specifications.
3. "Described" as "described in the Contract." "Described" means "shown, specified, or both."

See section 1-1.01 in the *2010 Standard Specifications*.

Q. *Do we still have prequalified lists?*

A. Yes, for the 2010s they are called the Authorized Material Lists and the Authorized Material Source Lists.

Q. *What happened to "attention is directed to" clauses?*

A. These clauses are not necessary and not used in the 2010 standards.

Q. *There used to be many law citations, but now there are only a few. Why?*

A. Laws are cited in the specifications only when meeting the criteria in the *Style Guide for the 2010 Specifications*, section 12.

Q. *Do we still use the term "State-furnished"?*

A. No. For the 2010s, we use "Department-furnished."

Q. *Where do I find the requirements for working drawings and submittals?*

A. Common submittal requirements and review times are covered in section 5. Any submittal not specified as an informational submittal is an action submittal. Technical sections may include additional submittal requirements. See section 5-1.23 in the *2010 Standard Specifications*.