

To: All HQ Directors: Operations, Planning & Major Projects  
All Regional Directors  
All District Highway Managers  
Manager, Provincial Sign Shop

**Subject:** **New Standards for Sign Fonts (Clearview Type Fonts ) and Update to Sheeting reflectivity standards on Guide and Custom Signs (ASTM Type 9/3 and ASTM Type 9/9)**

**Purpose:**

This Technical Circular documents recent updates to new **Font** standards used on all classes of MoT signs (Regulatory, Warning, Information, Guide, etc.) and reflective **Sheeting** standards used on guide and custom signs.

**Background:**

The **Clearview** font family will be the Ministry of Transportation's (MoT) new standard for text lettering on signs. The **Clearview Type Font System** was developed to increase the legibility and recognition of road signs. The new typeface created by Clearview Fonts "opens" the shape of individual letters without changing the actual letter height or width. This change provides a typical 20% improvement in legibility and recognition for road users without the need for larger signs and larger structures. Clearview Fonts will only be used on those Ministry signs utilizing (as a minimum) ASTM Type 9 sheeting material.

**ASTM Type 9/3 and Type 9/9** will now be used on all guide and custom signs. ASTM Type 3 and ASTM Type 9 sheeting are sheeting standards similar in performance to 3M's High Intensity and Diamond Grade sheeting once used exclusively by the Ministry. The higher retro-reflectivity standard will improve night legibility on both shoulder and overhead signs. Another benefit of improved sheeting quality is greater durability against the long term effects of weathering.

**Scope and Application:**

The most up-to-date MoT sign records that indicate which signs (Regulatory, Warning, Information, Guide, etc.) will be upgraded to the **Clearview** font family can be found at the following MoT website;

[http://www.th.gov.bc.ca/publications/eng\\_publications/geometsigns.htm](http://www.th.gov.bc.ca/publications/eng_publications/geometsigns.htm)

For all **OVERHEAD** Guide Signs, the new reflectivity level is **ASTM Type 9/9**. For all **SHOULDER-MOUNTED** Guide Signs, the new reflectivity level is **ASTM Type 9/3**. As such, text and graphics will now be cut from **ASTM Type 9** sheeting.

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