

Specifications and Electronic Reference Library Overview

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Items to be covered

- What are Specifications?
- What is the Electronic Reference Library?
- Demonstration
- Availability of manuals?
- Where to go for help?
- Technology?

What are specifications?

□ Article 1101.03, Definitions: Specifications

- The general term comprising all the written documents, provisions, and requirements to which may be added or adopted Supplemental Specifications, Developmental Specifications, or Special Provisions, all of which are necessary for the proper performance of the contract documents.

What are specifications? (continued)

- Legal requirements
- Quality requirements
- How the Engineer measures the work?
- How is the Contractor paid for work?



Tower of Pisa



Leaning Tower of Pisa

You will not get a product of any greater quality than is called for in the SPECIFICATIONS .



Speaking of Quality.....



What are specifications? (continued)

➤ Requirements for:

- Prequalification
- Bidding and Executing a Contract
- Subcontracting work

➤ Legal and Quality requirements for bidding and execution of contract work.

➤ AASHTO 5-part format:

- Description
- Materials
- Construction
- Method of Measurement (MOM)
- Basis of Payment (BOP)

Electric Reference Library (ERL)

- What is the ERL?

- The ERL is a browser based collection of manuals produced by the Iowa DOT which use the Standard Specifications as the basis in a redline and strikeout format.

- Hyperlinked.



What is included in the ERL?

- ❑ Standard Specifications with General Supplemental Specifications (GS) incorporated
- ❑ Supplemental Specifications (SS)
- ❑ Materials Instructional Memorandums (I.M.s)
- ❑ Standard Road Plans
- ❑ Standard Culvert Plans
- ❑ Standard Bridge Plans
- ❑ Sign Truss Standards
- ❑ Construction Manual
- ❑ Flagger Handbook
- ❑ Statewide Urban Design and Specifications (SUDAS)

How often are they revised?

- **General Supplemental Specifications (GS)**
 - Twice each year (April and October lettings)
- **Electronic Reference Library (ERL)**
 - Twice each year (April and October lettings)
- **Certain projects may necessitate modifications to meet specific requirements of the design**
 - **Review all contract documents!**

Demo

- ❑ [Iowa DOT homepage](#)
- ❑ [Specifications](#)
- ❑ [Electronic Reference Library](#)
 - myIowaDOT app
 - ERL web app
- ❑ [Contractor's Corner](#)
- ❑ [Order Forms](#)
- ❑ [Who to Contact](#)

How Can I Obtain These Manuals?

□ Online

➤ <http://www.iowadot.gov/erl/index.html>

□ Download from Website

➤ <http://www.iowadot.gov/erl/download.html>

□ ERL CD Subscription

➤ http://www.iowadot.gov/specifications/erl_cd_order_form.aspx

□ Purchase Hardcopy

➤ <https://forms.iowadot.gov/FormsMgt/External/160001.pdf>

Where to go for help?

□ Pre-letting

➤ Bidder Qualification

- Office of Contracts

➤ Pre-Bid Questions (specific to actual projects)

- Office of Contracts

➤ DBE Program

- Office of Employee Services: Civil Rights Team

□ During Construction

➤ Engineer

□ General Specifications or ERL Questions

➤ Specifications Section

Technology

➤ Web accessibility of documents

- Personal Computer

- Desktop
- Laptop
- CD

- Applications (Apps)

- Tablet -- Smart Phone (either Apple or Android)
- myIowaDOT app
 - ERL web app
 - ERL native app (future ~2015)
- ERL User Survey

Review of items covered

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Questions?

www.dot.state.ia.us/specifications
www.iowadot.gov/erl/index.html

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