

Chapter 23
**SPECIFICATIONS AND SPECIAL
PROVISIONS**

GEOTECHNICAL DESIGN MANUAL

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CHAPTER 23

SPECIFICATIONS AND SPECIAL PROVISIONS

23.1 INTRODUCTION

SCDOT has developed the Standard Specifications for Highway Construction (Standard Specifications) to provide requirements, provisions, and direction for use on construction projects. In addition, SCDOT has developed Supplemental Specifications and Supplemental Technical Specifications (STSs) that modify or supplement the Standard Specifications for Highway Construction. The need occasionally arises where modification to the SCDOT specifications or additional specifications are required. A list of Supplemental Specifications and STSs can be found in Appendix F – Geotechnical Specifications List and are also available on the SCDOT website. The purpose of this Chapter is to provide guidance in preparing Supplemental Specifications, STSs and Special Provisions which are project specific.

23.2 SUPPLEMENTAL SPECIFICATIONS

Supplemental Specifications are corrections or changes to the Standard Specifications that are required from time to time. These corrections or changes are typically added to the Standard Specifications when the Standard Specifications are rewritten. One of critical features of the Supplemental Specifications is that corrections or changes are required on every project not just specific projects and are not anticipated being changed but every 5 years or so. Supplemental Specifications shall indicate which Section or Subsection of the Standard Specification are being modified or deleted and replaced. Supplemental Specifications are approved in writing by the FHWA South Carolina Division Office. However, prior to being forwarded to FHWA for approval, the Director of Engineering Support or designee shall establish a review process both internal and external to SCDOT. The author of the Supplemental Specification shall follow the review process. The available Supplemental Specifications for the current Standard Specifications may be found on the SCDOT website.

23.3 SUPPLEMENTAL TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

Supplemental Technical Specifications (STSs) typically cover new items not covered by the current edition of the Standard Specifications that could be added to the Standard Specifications when the Standard Specifications are rewritten. For new items contact the Letting Preparation Engineer for a Pay Item Number. Include with the request for new Pay Item Number, the anticipated Section of the Standard Specifications where the new item should be placed. In addition, develop and furnish the short and long descriptions as well as the anticipated unit of measure. Once the Pay Item Number has been developed, confirming the Section of the Standard Specification, the new STS should be written. Follow the template format provided in Appendix A as a guide for preparing the STS. All STSs are approved in writing by the FHWA South Carolina Division Office and will become effective either the following January or July lettings. However, prior to being forwarded to FHWA for approval, the Director of Engineering Support or designee shall establish a review process both internal and external to SCDOT. The author of the STS shall follow the review process. The available STSs for the current Standard Specifications may be found on the SCDOT website.

23.4 SPECIAL PROVISIONS

Special provisions are additions or revisions to the SCDOT Standard Specifications for Highway Construction, the SCDOT Supplemental Specifications, and the SCDOT STSs, setting forth conditions and requirements for a special situation on a specific project. Special Provisions are included in the contract documents for that project and are not intended for general use. Any Special Provisions prepared by the GEOR shall be included in the Appendix of either the BGER or RGER as appropriate. Special Provisions supersede all other contract documents. The GEOR prepares the Special Provisions of a geotechnical nature for inclusion in the project documents. Special Provisions prepared by the GEOR shall be sealed by the GEOR as required by SCDOT policy (see Engineering Directive 37, dated 09/04/2007; <http://info2.scdot.org/ED/ED/ED-37.pdf>). See Chapter 9 – Bid Documents of the SCDOT Bridge Design Manual for additional discussion on the guidelines for preparing Special Provisions. In addition, a template format is provided in Appendix A as a guide to preparing the Special Provision. Unless a Pay Item Number was previously established for the item, contact the Letting Preparation Engineer for a new Pay Item Number. Include with the request for new Pay Item Number, the anticipated Section of the Standard Specifications that the Special Provision is modifying. In addition, develop and furnish the short and long descriptions as well as the anticipated unit of measure.