


MATERIALS & RESEARCH DIVISION

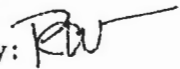
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RESEARCH UPDATE

Number U91-1

G-R-E-A-T HEX-FOAM CRASH CUSHION

REFERENCE: Work Plan 82-R-7 (VT 82-01)

HISTORY: In 1982 a portion of US-7 from Sunderland to Manchester was relocated on new alignment under project FLH-FO19-1(21). The temporary northern terminus VT route 11 in Manchester required a temporary energy absorbing terminal at the end of a concrete barrier pending construction of an interchange bridge and completion of the next segment of the highway.

The G-R-E-A-T HEX-FOAM CRASH CUSHION, was selected to best meet the needs of the site. The system is manufacturer by Energy Absorption Systems Inc. of Chicago, Illinois and distributed by Transpo Industries Inc. of New Rochelle, New York. The system was installed on October 21 and 22, 1982 at an in place cost of \$19,800. No significant problems were encountered.

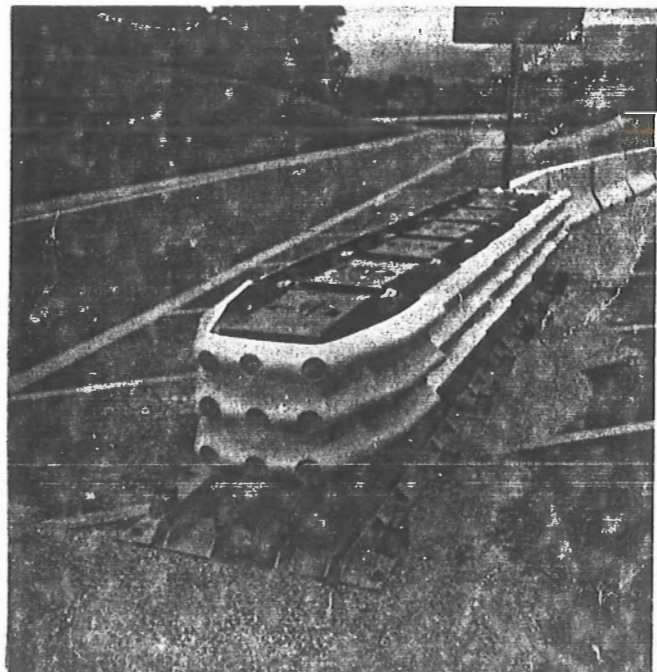
The crash cushion was impacted on an unknown date in 1983. Damage to the impacting vehicle was not assessed. The vehicle was driven or towed away and the operator did not report the accident.

The system repair required installation of a new nose cone and cartridges by District 1 maintenance forces. The cost of the repair is unavailable. There were no further impacts reported.

STATUS: The opening of the next northerly segment of the highway and removal of the concrete barrier necessitated dismantling the G-R-E-A-T system as well. The unit was stored for future use.

CONCLUSION: The G-R-E-A-T HEX-FOAM CRASH CUSHION performed as intended during approximately eight years of service. Although there was only one impact, the fact that the accident was not reported implies that there were probably no significant personal injuries and that vehicle damage was light.

The product is recommended for future use.



G-R-E-A-T System installed