



1.1 SCOPE, APPROVAL, AND IMPLEMENTATION

1.1.1 GENERAL

This policy addresses the scope, approval, and implementation of Structure Technical Policies (STPs).

STPs have been organized to closely align with the organization of the AASHTO LFRD Bridge Design Specifications.

1.1.2 SCOPE

STPs set design standards and methods of analysis in addition to those specified in the design specification by establishing:

- Exceptions and additions to the design specifications
- Interpretation of the design specifications
- Required limitations of design specifications
- Required method or process for using the design specifications
- Design criteria for an area not addressed in design specifications.

Design specifications include:

- AASHTO LFRD Bridge Design Specifications
- California Amendments to AASHTO LRFD Bridge Design Specifications
- Caltrans Seismic Design Criteria (SDC)
- Caltrans Seismic Design Specifications for Steel Bridges
- AASHTO Standard Specifications for Structural Supports for Highway Signs, Luminaires, and Traffic Signals

1.1.3 APPROVAL AND PUBLICATION DATE

All STPs are approved by the California State Bridge Engineer. The official date of approval and publication is on the last day of the month and year shown in the header of the STP. STPs may be added, updated, or sunset at any time.



1.1.4 IMPLEMENTATION

For projects under development, adoption of STPs is mandatory for all projects without a Type Selection approval. If a project requires a deviation from any of the STPs, a request for approval must be made to the State Bridge Engineer. Directions for obtaining a design exception approval are provided in Structure Policy Directive 1-3.

1.1.5 CONTACTS

For questions or concerns regarding the application of an STP on a specific project, consultants and local agencies should contact the Structure Liaison Engineer. Caltrans staff should contact the appropriate Technical Committee Chair or Technical Specialist.