AASHTO/FHWA this past October in its annual meeting voted and approved a new resolution PR-12-19 stating that MASH 2016 Category II devices may be used as needed and that the states may continue to use NCHRP Report-350 approved devices. This is a result of administrative and testing issues. Please read the attached AASHTO Resolution for more details.

As a result of the latest AASHTO resolution, states’ DOTs are currently re-evaluating their implementation policies of MASH 2016. 2 states have extended NCHRP–350 devices for 5 and 10 years and one state DOT is using NCHRP-350 devices indefinitely. Eastern Metal Signs and Safety’s strategy moving forward is threefold:

1. We will continue to manufacture our NCHRP-350 sign stands for as long as the state DOTs

will allow the use of these devices and for those road projects that do not require MASH 2016 devices.

1. We will manufacture and stock ample NCHRP-350 sign stands prior to December 31, 2019 for those states that adhere to the original MASH 2016 sunset dates but need to continue use of the NCHRP-350 devices for a period of time.
2. We will continue testing and manufacturing our sign stands for MASH 2016 compliancy for those DOTs and companies that requests them.

Type II Category device manufacturers have argued that there have been zero reported injuries or fatalities due to a crash involving these devices. This reason and several more reasons have most sign stand manufacturers opposed to MASH 2016 compliancy for existing devices.

Eastern Metal Signs and Safety stands behind the latest AASHTO Resolution. We stand behind our NCHRP-350 devices and their safety records. We also fully support MASH 2016 requirements for NEW Category II devices moving forward. We will continue to manufacture select sign stands that are currently under test to comply with MASH 2016 requirements. These tests will add costs to our sign stands.

Please contact me with regards to our current sign stands, future sign stands, or MASH 2016 in general. We thank you for your past business and look forward to working with you well into the future with all of our American made products.