

Title:	Steel Sourcing for MTO Structures and Guide Rail
Division:	Transportation Infrastructure Management (TIM)
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Implementation

This memorandum is effective as of the date of issue.

Background

This policy is aimed at further encouraging the use of steel manufactured within Canada, demonstrated with a mill test certificate from a Canadian mill ("Canadian Steel") in transportation infrastructure projects. This action is intended to increase opportunities for Canadian suppliers and fabricators, support the development of local capacity, and contribute to a more stable and reliable domestic supply chain.

In parallel, the Ministry of Transportation (MTO) continues to offer an incentive through Special Provision 199S60, which provides a payment when Canadian Steel is used for designated products. Together, these measures reflect MTO's broader objective of promoting Canadian industry participation in public infrastructure delivery.

Policy

1. For structural steel design, designers shall specify steel products that can be supplied within Canada. The design strategies in Table 1 of this document shall be applied in design.

Table 1 - Canadian Production of Structural Steel Products and Recommended Design Approach

Category	Production in Canada	Design Strategy
Structural Plate	Available in G40.20/G40.21 Grade 350 W, WT, A, and AT with some limitations on plate thickness and length	For plates that are thicker than 110 mm, wider than 3.55 m, or longer than 25.4 m, inquire with Algoma Steel Inc. or a fabricator.
Angles	Angles available in sizes up to L203x203, at any thickness	Do not use angles larger than L203x203. Where possible, use L102xL102x9.5 and L127x127x9.5.
Channels	Available up to C310	Do not use channels deeper than C310. Where small quantities are needed, design with an angle or plate where possible.
W and WT sections	Not available	Do not use W sections nor WT sections in designs. Instead, design with angles, channels, or built-up sections fabricated from plate.
Hollow structural steel and Tubes	Seamless HSS is available and made to order from coil, in any grade and size up to HSS 356x15.9 or HSS 305x305x15.9 in lengths of up to 30 m, provided there is minimum of 40 tonnes (may consist of a few section sizes of the same thickness). Tube in any diameter can be manufactured as spiral welded pipe.	For piles and casing, specify ASTM A252 Class 3. When needed in superstructure, specify HSS to CSA G40.20/G40.21 Grade 350W, Class C. Avoid weathering steel HSS.
HP Sections	Not available	Specify welded built-up sections with equivalent section properties per MTOD 3000.160 or use an alternative pile type. On the drawings, refer to H piles with the note "WELDED HP310x110 PER MTOD 3000.160".
Sheet Piles	Some cold-formed steel sheet pile available. Sheet piles with rolled interlocks not available.	For permanent structures, specify L, S, Z, EZ, XZ, DZ, JZ, SCZ, SKZ, SKL or SKS sheet pile profiles. Avoid NZ, PZ, and PS hot-rolled sheet pile.
Other rolled sections	Not standard production	Do not use

2. The Special Provisions (“SPs”) below shall be included in all contracts. Applied together with SSP 199S60, Incentive for Supply of Canadian Steel, the SPs give preference to materials that support domestic supply chain development with structural steel supplied from Canadian sources.
 - a. SP 109S59, November 2025; AMENDMENT TO OPSS 906, JULY 2025
 - b. SP 109S63, November 2025; AMENDMENT TO OPSS 903, APRIL 2025
 - c. SP 109S64, November 2025; AMENDMENT TO OPSS 908, JULY 2025
3. Structural plate steel corrugated products shall utilize Canadian Steel; preference is given to materials that support domestic supply chain development. Where standard specifications (SPs) do not capture this requirement, a non-standard SP shall be added to the contract.
4. SP 906F04, Fabrication of Structural Steel, shall be included in contracts to ensure structural steel bridges are fabricated in Canada, by a fabricator certified by the Canadian Institute for Steel Construction.

Approved By

Signature

Laura Donaldson
Manager, Structures Office

Signature

Jenn Meleschuk
Manager, Contract Management Office

Signature

Bruce Cane
Director, Standards and Contracts Branch

Signature

Alain Beaulieu
Chief Engineer, TIMD

Signature

Eric Doidge
ADM, TIMD