COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

PROPRIETARY ITEM – FINDING IN THE PUBLIC INTEREST (FIPI)

INSTRUCTIONS:
A specific patented or proprietary material, specification, or process shall not be required on a contract except as permitted in Section 8.16 of the Project Development Manual (PDM). Use this form to obtain approval of the use of a proprietary feature on a project or group of projects.

PROPRIETARY ITEM OR PROCESS:

Name of proprietary item or process:	Manufacturer name, address & phone No.:
Diamond Grade DG3 Reflective Sheeting Series 4000	3M Company 3M Corporate Headquarters 3M Center St. Paul, MN 55144-1000

NEED FOR PROPRIETARY ITEM:

Check only one	LOCATION
☐ Project Specific	Provide Project No., Project Code, and Location:
☐ Corridor Specific	Provide Corridor Description:
☐ Region-wide	Identify CDOT Region:
☒ Statewide	

For a corridor, region-wide, or statewide request, a finding in the public interest will have a term of: (Check only one)

☒ 3 Years (maximum allowable)	Specify dates of term: April 1, 2008 – March 31, 2011 mjr
☐ Other (specify term)	Specify dates of term:

CDOT FORM 1381

MAR 26 2008

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that it is in the public interest to specify the above named proprietary item or process for the following reasons: (Check all that apply)

- ☐ It is essential for synchronization.
- ☒ No equally suitable alternative exists.
- ☐ It will be used for research or experimental purposes on short sections of road. (Such use must be processed through the Research Branch of DTD. Attach documentation from DTD.)

JUSTIFICATION (required). Justification consists of information that documents the reasons marked above for use of the proprietary item or process. For research or experimentation include a work plan that describes how the research or experimental feature will be used and evaluated. Attach additional pages and documentation as necessary.

The Diamond Grade Reflective Sheeting Series 4000 (DG3) creates the highest visibility of signs at night. Currently, 3M is the only manufacturer of the DG3 to have complied with CDOT submittal requirements; therefore, it is on CDOT Approval Products List. The DG3 incorporates "full cube" technology for optimal performance of sign retroreflectivity. Its optimal elements are 100% efficient, returning almost 60% of available light - nearly double that of traditional prismatic sign sheeting products. This sheeting product has been proposed to ASTM as a Type XI sheeting and is designed as a replacement for all types of reflective sign sheetings in use today. It performs at all sight distances and where signs are positioned in disadvantages locations such as overhead installations.

CDOT is submitting a state-wide "Finding in the Public Interest" to allow 3M DG3 to appear on CDOT plans where adding or replacing overhead signs on roadways or ramps exist. Please consider this form by the CDOT Safety and Traffic Engineering Branch that no similar alternatives exist for the DG3 sign sheeting. We find that the public's interest would be best served by specifying the 3M DG3 until other equivalent components are available. We request your approval in this finding as required by 23 CFR 635.411.

APPLICANT SIGNATURE

Name	Title (CDOT Project Engineer, Branch Manager, or Program Engineer as appropriate; see flowchart in section 8.16 of the PDM):	Signature
KC Matthews	Resident Engineer	K.C. Matthews

APPROVAL SIGNATURES

Signature		Date
	CDOT Resident Engineer (Required on project specific or corridor FIPIs)	
Signature	CDOT Research Engineer(Required for research and experimentation FIPIs)	Date 3-23-08
Signature Marcee Allen	FHWA Operations Engineer(Required for all region-wide and statewide FIPIs and FHWA oversight project level FIPIs)	Date 3-26-08
Signature	Other (specify)	Date

COPIES OF APPROVED FORM TO (as appropriate):

CDOT Project Engineer: Ken Nakao	CDOT Resident Engineer: K.C. Matthews
CDOT Program Engineer: [redacted] Gabriela Vidal	CDOT Research Engineer: Jake Kononov
Standards and Specifications Engineer (all, with draft of any required specification change): Larry Brinck	FHWA Operations Engineer: Marcee Allen