

No.RW/NH.33023/31/88-DO.III

Dated, the 15th January, 1996

To

Chief Engineers of all States and Union Territories dealing with Roads

Subject: Use of Sheet Moulding Compound (SMC) Plates for Road Traffic Signs

M/s. Sintex Industries Limited, Kalol, Gujarat have approached this Ministry for introduction of Sheet Moulding Compound (SMC) plates being manufactured by them for road and traffic signs. These plates manufactured by the method of hot processed compression moulding are claimed to have many advantages like light weight thus easy in handling and installation, economised due to low maintenance cost, and free from theft or pilferage on account of zero resale value etc. These plates can be fixed in the same way as mild steel (MS) or Aluminium sign plates on MS angles. The plates are reported to have comparable strength parameters not affected over a temperature range of -65°F to 212°F . The firm claims to supply the complete road and traffic signs as per IRC specifications. This material is reported to be in use in USA and middle east countries. Though this material appears to have promising potential, its merits, suitability, economics and other performance characteristics are required to be examined in Indian conditions before considering for general adoption. For this purpose you may consider using this material on experimental basis, whenever a new sign is to be put up and its performance be monitored. The normal procedure of procurement should be followed.

2. For any further information and details regarding this material i.e. its specification, mode of application, availability, price etc, Mr. K.R. Ananthanarayanan, Marketing Manager, Sintex Industries Limited, Kalol, Gujarat-382721 may be contacted.