Enhanced sign for safer moving operations

Improving safety for motorists and workers was the motivation behind the enhanced sign. The standard orange “road work ahead” sign was enhanced with a six-inch fluorescent yellow green background. Hanging this sign on the back of a truck makes moving operations more visible.

The Iowa DOT maintenance crew in Sidney developed the sign, and the Iowa DOT’s Employee Safety and Health Team suggested improvements to it.

See assembly instructions below. Materials include:

- A 48” x 48” plywood sign (options: Road Work Ahead, One Lane Road Ahead, Right/Left Lane Closed Ahead)
- A 60” x 60” sheet of aluminum with a 34” x 34” center cut-out
- Fluorescent yellow green sheeting for a 6” border
- Two hangers/brackets
- Four each: lock washers, nuts, flat washers, and 3/8” x 2” bolts

The materials cost approximately $150 for the background only, $250 including the work zone sign.

For more information, contact Jeff McQueen, Sidney maintenance shop, 712-374-2515, or Barb Mallon, Employee Safety and Health Team, 515-239-1594.

Editor’s note: The “enhanced sign” is one of several winning innovations from the Better Mousetrap competition at the Iowa Maintenance Training Expo in 2002. In each issue of Technology News we're highlighting one of the winners. For information about other winning “mousetraps,” see CTRE’s website: www.ctre.iastate.edu (“Popular Links”).

The fluorescent yellow green background makes this orange sign stand out when hanging on an orange truck. (Note: For demonstration purposes only, the sign in this photo was hung on the side of a truck.)

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