**SECTION 656 - INSTALLATION OF BRIDGE BEARINGS**

## This section cross-references Section 610, which must be included in the specification.

Section 656 sets out the requirements for the installation of bridge bearings and pads.

Section 656 requires the work to be carried out in accordance with Austroads Technical Specification ATS 5570 Installation of Bridge Bearings (Edition 1.0, dated March 2023), except for the amendments as described in this Section 656.

Amendments are denoted as follows:

* ‘replace’ means a requirement that is mandatory which replaces the ATS requirement.
* ‘add’ means a requirement that is mandatory which applies in addition to the ATS requirement, which is also mandatory.
* ‘remove’ means an ATS requirement that does not apply.

The numerical clause numbering in Section 656 aligns with that used in ATS 5570.

Any reference made to ‘Principal’ in the ATS must be taken to mean ‘Superintendent’.

Austroads Technical Specifications (ATS) are available at <https://austroads.com.au/publications.>

**1 Scope**

1. Add the following Clause:

1.3 The design, construction and installation of bearings must also comply with the requirements in BTN 024 - Bearings.

**2 Referenced Documents**

1. Add the following references:

Department of Transport and Planning

BTN 024 - Bearings

Standard Section 610 – Structural Concrete

**6 Construction of Plinths and Bearing Pads**

1. Replace Clause 6.3 with:

Unless specified otherwise in the Contract documents, plinths with a height less than 200 mm must be constructed using either:

a) concrete complying with Section 610 and with a maximum nominal aggregate size of 14 mm; or

b) cementitious mortar or grout complying with Clause 5.7 or Clause 5.9.

Plinths with a height greater than 200mm must be constructed with concrete complying with Section 610.

**7 Installation of Bearings**

1. Add the following sub-heading and clauses below Clause 7.19

**Additional Requirements - Other**

7.20 Bearing restraints must not be directly connected to the bearing, nor must they prevent or interfere with a bearing’s normal functioning. The installation of bearing restraints must be such that future removal and replacement of the bearings is permissible.

7.21 When bearings are not in plane with the bottom of the flange of the beam above, machined tapper plates or other spacing devices must be installed. Site measurements are to be taken to ensure plates are manufactured and installed to match the geometrical and strength requirements of the design. Geometric heights must be adjusted to achieve level interface surfaces, within the limits of the design requirements.