

ADVANTAGES OF STANDARDIZED EQUIPMENT SPECIFICATIONS

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The Southeastern Equipment Regional Managers has met for the past eight years. One of the topics on the agenda each year has been to assign a specification for one particular piece of equipment to each of the 12 states. Equipment managers are responsible to research the specification with the other 11 states and compare how their specifications differ. Through this exchange a lot has been learned about why states specify things differently. This exchange has resulted in more uniform specifications. The exchange of this information will continue, and more uniform and improved specifications will be developed. This process has made the meetings very meaningful and each state has gained valuable information from the comparisons.

Alabama DOT has made a good number of changes which have improved the specifications and allowed the purchase of equipment that is better suited for the job, and at a more competitive price in some instances. The ultimate goal is for several states to buy equipment from the same specification and from the same bid. Using this method would give smaller states a great advantage because of the volume of purchasing. Attached is a dated comparison of a motor graders purchased by the different states. If this comparison were made today the specifications would be much closer than what is presented here.

TABLE 1 SOUTHEASTERN STATES EQUIPMENT SPECIFICATION COMPARISON FOR MOTOR GRADER

STATE	MOLDBOARD D LENGTH	TIRES	SCARIFIER	WARRANTY	WEIGHT	TYPE	ENGINE - HP DISPLACEMENT (cu.in.)	TRANSMISSIO N SPEED RANGE (MPH) SHIFT
ALABAMA	12 Ft.	1400 x 24 12 PLY	V Type 5 Tooth	Mfg. Std. Wty. 5 Yr. 5000 Hr. Powertrain & Hyd.	32,000	Articulated	Diesel 6 Cyl 145 hp N/S	4F - 3R N/S Powershift
ARKANSAS	14 Ft.	1400 x 24 12 PLY Brands x,y,z	V Type 9 Tooth	Min 12 Mo. or Vendor Std. Wty.	28,500	Articulated	Diesel water cooled 125 hp	4F - 3R N/S Powershift
FLORIDA	12 Ft.	1400 x 24 12 PLY Radial x,y,z	Option V-9 Tooth	Mfg. Std. Wty.	25,000	Articulated	Diesel 4 cyl 125 hp 359 C.I.	4F - 4R ? Powershift No-converter option
LOUISIANA	12 Ft.	15.5 x 25 8 PLY	V-5 46' Cut	12 Mo./1500 Hrs. Dealer Service Statewide Required	20,000	Standard	Diesel 85 hp N/S	N/S N/S Powershift
MISSISSIPPI	12 Ft.	1400 x 24 10 PLY Radial	N/S	Mfg. Std.	29,500	Articulated	Diesel Water Cooled 135 hp N/S	4F - 3R N/S Powershift
NORTH CAROLINA	13 Ft.	1400 x 24 12 PLY	V-9 46 Inch	12 Mo. or Mfg. Std. if Longer	27,500	Conventional	Mfg. Choice for job performance specified	4F - 2R 3.6 to 8 Powershift
SOUTH CAROLINA	12 Ft.	1400 x 24 12 PLY	V-5	12 Months	26,000	Articulated	Diesel Water cooled 135 hp N/S	4F - 4R N/S Powershift
TENNESSEE	12 Ft.	1400 x 24 12 PLY	V Type 9 Tooth	Engine and Drivertrain: 3 Yrs.- 5000 Hrs.	25,390	Articulated	Diesel 125 & 2200 359 C.I.	5F - 4R 2.2 - 23.9 Powershift
VIRGINIA	12 Ft.	1400 x 24 10 PLY	Rear Mtd. 9	24 Mos. as Covered Under Mfg. Std. Wty.	27,100	Articulated	Diesel 125 hp N/S	4F - 3R N/S Powershift
WEST VIRGINIA	12 Ft.	Mfg. Std.	V-Type	Mfg. Std.	27,100	Articulated	Diesel - Mfg. std. for unit	N/S Max 20 mph Powershift