

NEWS FROM

BARRIER SYSTEMS INC

Contact: John Cates
Ph.: (847) 677-6032
Fax: (847) 677-6034
E-mail: catespr@aol.com

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE (12/1/01)

BARRIER SYSTEMS INC. ANNOUNCES MAJOR EXPANSION OF PRODUCT LINE WITH TAU-II™ FAMILY OF CRASH CUSHIONS

Rio Vista, Calif. – In response to the need for highway crash cushions that are easier to install and less expensive to maintain, Barrier Systems Inc. has introduced the new TAU-II™ family of fully redirective, non-gating crash cushions.

The TAU-II System is ideally suited for narrow hazards such as the ends of rigid barriers, tollbooths, utility poles, bridge supports and other similar locations. As a non-gating device it reduces the potential for penetration of an errant vehicle into a lane of oncoming traffic or other hazards beyond the crash cushion. When hit head-on, a redirective, non-gating crash cushion is designed to collapse and absorb the energy of an impact, bringing the vehicle to a safe stop; when hit at an angle, it redirects the vehicle in a controlled fashion in the direction of traffic.

The TAU-II System has been designed with the customer in mind. Key advantages include low maintenance costs, ease of installation, several foundation options, and an open



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BARRIER SYSTEMS ANNOUNCES TAU-II CRASH CUSHION...add one

architecture that reduces the build-up of road debris. All TAU-II Test Levels 2 and 3 system components are interchangeable, reducing inventory requirements. The system is available with a variety of transitional hardware, permitting installation at the end of conventional longitudinal highway barrier or at single-point hazards. It is also available in lengths and with capacities from 30 mph to over 65 mph. The system has been fully tested and is approved to the requirements of NCHRP 350, Test Levels 2 and 3.

According to Owen Denman, BSI President, "The TAU-II may be the most cost effective crash cushion on the road today. It installs fast and easy, with only 21 foundation anchor points, significantly less than other systems. When hit, the modular components are designed for easy replacement, with a high percentage of reusable parts. Wherever possible, parts have been made interchangeable, so inventories can be reduced to a minimum."

At the heart of the system is a series of high molecular weight polyethylene energy absorbing cartridges. Each replaceable cartridge rests in its own bay of telescoping steel. A highly reusable nose section further reduces replacement costs. The system's overall width is 0.9 meters (2.9 feet) and its height is approximately 0.8 meters (2.8 feet). In the Test Level 3 configuration, the TAU-II System uses eight bays and is approximately eighty meters (26 feet) long. In the Test Level 2 configuration, the system is made up of four bays and has a total length of approximately 4.3 meters (14 feet).

For information about the new TAU-II System, and other products from Barrier Systems Inc., contact BSI Customer Service at 180 River Road, Rio Vista, CA 94571-1208, Telephone (888) 800-3691 or FAX (707) 374-6801.