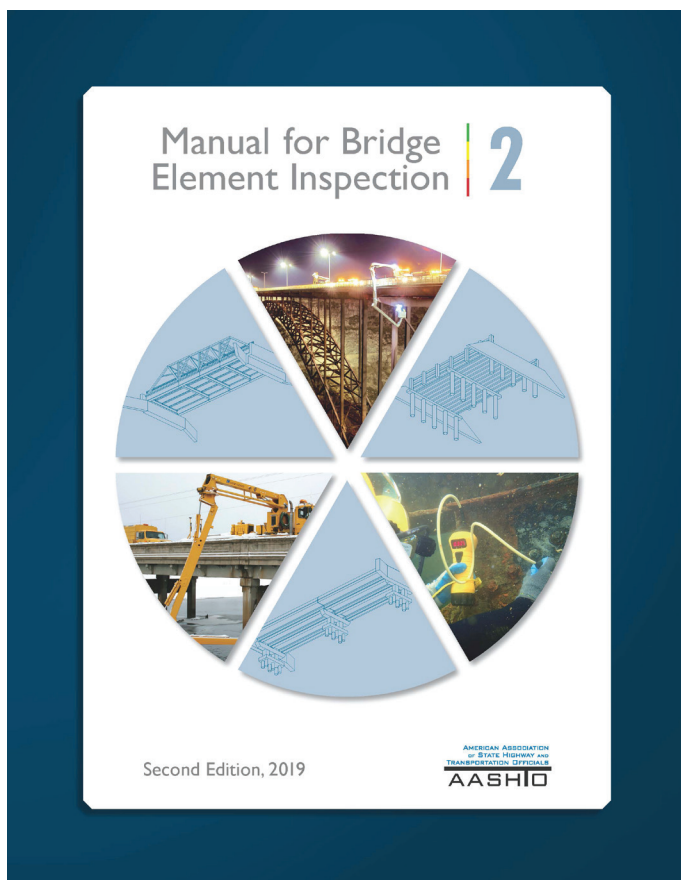


Manual for Bridge Element Inspection | 2



The *Manual for Bridge Element Inspection* (MBEI) is a reference for standardized element definitions, element quantity calculations, condition state definitions, element feasible actions, and inspection conventions. Its goal is to capture the condition of bridges in a simple, effective way that can be standardized nationwide, while providing enough flexibility to be adapted by both large and small agencies.

Developed by the AASHTO Committee on Bridges and Structures, this second edition, which supersedes the first edition published in 2013, was developed as a result of NCHRP 12-104, Guidelines to Improve the Quality of Element-Level Bridge Inspection. It incorporates suggested changes by numerous inspecting agencies, consultant inspection firms, and training instructors, and attempts to cover the majority of bridge elements found on highway bridges in the United States.

The manual is available in paperback and as a PDF Download. It is also available in a set that includes both the paperback and PDF Download versions at a discounted rate.

MANUAL FOR BRIDGE ELEMENT INSPECTION, 2ND EDITION

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Manual for Bridge Element Inspection

2nd Edition

Summary of Key Revisions

The second edition of the *Manual for Bridge Element Inspection*, published in 2019, includes a number of key revisions from the previous first edition, published in 2013.

The following summarizes the key revisions made in this edition:

The most significant revisions to the second edition of the *Manual for Bridge Element Inspection* were made in Section 3, Detailed Element Descriptions. Specific revisions to this section include the following:

- The section has been reorganized to list elements by material, including consolidation, to reduce redundancy;
- A single, comprehensive listing of all elements documenting the element description, quantity calculation, unit of measure, and classification was developed and included, organized by material;
- Within each material, components and subcomponents are identified (such as deck, railing, superstructure, substructure, joints, etc.);
- Visual guide sections were added to defect tables for Concrete, Prestressed Concrete, Steel, Joints, and Bearings;
- Crack pattern and crack width measurement guides have been added;
- The concrete and prestressed concrete commentary regarding crack widths were stated in a table to improve readability;
- Spatial estimating guides were added to provide assistance to an Inspector for estimating areas (ft²) and length (ft) of damage; and
- The “Condition State” header was removed from the tables and replaced with CS 1, CS 2, CS 3, and CS 4 nomenclature in the tables showing defects and defect descriptions; however, the defect descriptions themselves were not changed.