



On May 30, 2012, John Eberl representing Eberl Iron Works, Inc. of Buffalo, NY was present to assist MaineDOT Highway Maintenance forces in a trial installation of the Nu-Guard guardrail system. The project is located on US Route One at the former northbound rest area in West Bath. The intent of the demo was to replace the existing damaged tangential end treatment with a radius end.



The hydraulic power tools were provided by Hydron Incorporated of Weymouth, MA. Todd Lambert and his crew delivered the tools to the jobsite in this custom-outfitted trailer. Hydron provided information and hands-on instruction in their use. The Stanley power unit (lower right) provides multiple hydraulic flow capabilities from 5 gpm to 8 gpm at pressures up to 2000 psi.



Stanley hydraulic post puller removing end treatment sleeves.



Stanley hydraulic post driver being readied to drive Nu-Guard post.



Driving the first Nu-Guard Grade SP-80 U-Channel post. The posts are 78 inches in length and weigh 5#s per foot.



The existing W-beam connects to the newly driven U-channel post and recycled plastic composite block with a 5/8" x 12" galv.bolt.



The addition of a Terminal End completes the Nu-Guard installation.

Nu-Guard-27 can be used as a "stand-alone" 27" high barrier system, or may be integrated with an existing run of W-beam guardrail with standard posts; as was done here.

Nu-Guard-31 can also be used as a 31 inch rail height system for side slopes and median. When used as a 31" system, the offset block is eliminated.

Tests have shown this system to be crashworthy to NCHRP-350 and MASH criteria. FHWA has accepted this system for roads with design speeds up to 65 mph (Ref. B-162).

With the tools shown here (costing a little over \$11,000), MaineDOT Maintenance forces can perform some of the routine guardrail maintenance procedures that the Department currently has to hire a guardrail contractor to perform. This feature has the potential to save on labor and equipment costs. It also speeds up the restoration of the barrier back into service. Because of the quickness of repairing and installing the Nu-Guard system, it will reduce workers' exposure to moving traffic.

For more information visit the Nu-Guard website at:  
<http://nucorhighway.com/nu-guard.html>

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