

1.3.5 OPERATIONAL IMPORTANCE

The minimum η_I factor shall be 1.0 corresponding to “typical bridges”.

A η_I factor of 1.05 corresponding to “critical or essential bridges” shall be considered when the criteria below apply. If the criteria below apply, consult your Group Leader.

- If the structure is on a route that services an emergency facility (hospital, firestation, etc.) or a major transportation facility and the detour for the emergency facility is greater than one mile, the structure should be classified as “critical or essential”.
- If the structure carries utilities (water, gas, and power) and these utilities would be considered essential in the case of a natural disaster or emergency, the structure should be considered “critical or essential”.

All bridges that are classified as “Critical” under section 3.10.5 shall be considered “Critical or Essential” under section 1.3.5 for η_I purposes.

Additional References [..\03 Load and Load Factors\3.10.5 Importance Categories.doc](#)

Revisions:

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| April 2008 | Changed reference to 3.10.3 to 3.10.5 to agree with the 2008 Interims and deleted ADT & Detour Length Table.
Added minimum value. |
| Oct 2015 | Reformatted article.
Revised “important” to “critical or essential” to comply with the Code Article. |