



Florida Department of Transportation

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April 20, 2009

This Memo Has Expired

MATERIALS BULLETIN NO. 07-09

DCE MEMORANDUM NO. 07-09

(FHWA Approved: 4/20/09)

**TO: DISTRICT MATERIALS RESEARCH ENGINEERS
DISTRICT CONSTRUCTION ENGINEERS**

FROM: Thomas O. Malerk, P.E., Director, Office of Materials
David A. Sadler, P.E., Director, Office of Construction

COPIES: Bob Burleson (FTBA), Jim Warren (ACAF), Chris Richter (FHWA), Jim Musselman

SUBJECT: NEW REQUIREMENTS FOR THE SUPERPAVE GYRATORY COMPACTOR

Recent changes to AASHTO T 312-08, Preparing and Determining the Density of Hot Mix Asphalt (HMA) Specimens by Means of the Superpave Gyratory Compactor, require the angle of gyration of the Superpave gyratory compactor be set using a device internal to the gyratory mold instead of the previously specified external measurement method. This change has been made to standardize the actual angle of compaction for all brands of compactors, which will help reduce variability in density measurements between compactors.

An internal angle measuring device must be used to set the angle of compaction for all compactors. Additionally, setting the angle of compaction for some models of compactors will require the services of a manufacturer's representative or a consultant company specializing in this service. Because of these constraints, it will not be possible to transition from external angle measurement to internal angle measurement in a short time period. Therefore, the date by which all compactors must be changed from external angle calibration to internal angle calibration is December 31, 2009.

Should issues arise between the Department and a Contractor, which can be directly attributable to the situation where one party has transitioned to internal angle and the other party has not, then the issue shall be resolved by the Engineer. Assistance from State Materials Office staff will be available, as needed.

This memorandum serves as a blanket approval to change from AASHTO T 312-04 to AASHTO T 312-08 and process a no-cost specification change for on-going projects, which should be attached to the Work Order or Supplemental Agreement accomplishing this task.

For any questions concerning this matter, please contact Greg Sholar, (352) 955-2920 or Pat Upshaw, (352) 955-2906 at the State Materials Office.

TM/DS/gs