



## Florida Department of Transportation

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**\*\* EXPIRED \*\***

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**\*\*REVISED\*\***

**MATERIALS BULLETIN NO. 03-07**

**DCE MEMORANDUM NO. 03-07**

**(FHWA Approved: 8-20-2007)**

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

**FROM:** Thomas O. Malerk, P.E., Director, Office of Materials  
Brian A. Blanchard, P.E., Director, Office of Construction

**COPIES:** Bob Burleson, Jim Warren, Jim Musselman, Greg Williams (FHWA)

**SUBJECT: MODIFIED INDEPENDENT VERIFICATION PROCEDURE FOR  
ASPHALT**

This memorandum is issued to allow the immediate use on current projects of the modified Independent Verification procedure for asphalt that will appear in the 334 specification for projects let beginning in July 2007. Delete the current wording of 334-5.7 Independent Verification Testing in the 2007 Standard Specifications for Road and Bridge Construction and substitute the following:

### **334-5.7 Independent Verification Testing:**

**334-5.7.1 Plant:** Take samples as directed by the Engineer for Independent Verification testing. Obtain enough material for three complete sets of tests (two samples for Independent Verification testing by the Engineer and one sample for optional testing by the Contractor). If agreed upon by both the Engineer and the Contractor, only one sample for Independent Verification testing by the Engineer may be obtained. Independent Verification samples will be reheated at the target roadway compaction temperature for 1 1/2 hours +/- 5 minutes, reduced to the appropriate testing size, and conditioned and tested as described in 334-5.1.1. The Contractor's split sample, if tested immediately after sampling, shall be reduced to the appropriate testing size, and conditioned and tested as described in 334-5.1.1. If the Contractor's sample is not tested immediately after sampling, then the sample shall be reheated at the target roadway compaction temperature for 1 1/2 hours +/- 5 minutes, reduced to the appropriate testing size, and conditioned and tested as described in 334-5.1.1. The Contractor's test results shall be provided to the Engineer within one working day from the time the sample was obtained.

**MATERIALS BULLETIN NO. 03-07**

**DCE MEMORANDUM NO. 03-07**

Page 2

If any of the Independent Verification test results, excluding the percent passing the No. 8 sieve, do not meet the requirements of Table 334-4, then a comparison of the Independent Verification test results and the Contractor's test results, if available, will be made. If a comparison of the Independent Verification test results and the Contractor's test results meets the precision values of Table 334-5 for the material properties in question, or if the Contractor's test results are not available, then the Independent Verification test results are considered verified and the Contractor shall cease production of the asphalt mixture until the problem is adequately resolved (to the satisfaction of the Engineer), unless it can be demonstrated to the satisfaction of the Engineer that the problem can immediately be (or already has been) resolved. Address any material represented by the failing test results in accordance with 334-5.9.5.

If a comparison of the Independent Verification test results and the Contractor's test results does not meet the precision values of Table 334-5 for the material properties in question, then the second Independent Verification sample shall be tested by the Engineer for the material properties in question. If a comparison between the first and second Independent Verification test results does not meet the precision values of Table 334-5 for the material properties in question, then the first Independent Verification test results are considered unverified for the material properties in question and no action shall be taken.

If a comparison between the first and second Independent Verification test results meets the precision values of Table 334-5 for the material properties in question, then the first Independent Verification sample is considered verified and the Contractor shall cease production of the asphalt mixture until the problem is adequately resolved (to the satisfaction of the Engineer), unless it can be demonstrated to the satisfaction of the Engineer that the problem can immediately be (or already has been) resolved. Address any material represented by the failing test results in accordance with 334-5.9.5.

The Engineer has the option to use the Independent Verification sample for comparison testing as specified in 334-6.

**334-5.7.2 Roadway:** Obtain five roadway cores as directed by the Engineer for Independent Verification testing. These independent cores will be obtained from the same LOTs and sublots as the Independent Verification Plant samples, or as directed by the Engineer. The density of these cores will be obtained as described in 334-5.1.1. If the average of the results for the subplot does not meet the requirements of Table 334-4 for density, cease production of the asphalt mixture until the problem is adequately resolved (to the satisfaction of the Engineer), unless it can be demonstrated to the satisfaction of the Engineer that the problem can immediately be (or already has been) resolved. Address any material represented by the failing test results in accordance with 334-5.9.5.

For projects utilizing the 2004 Standard Specifications for Road and Bridge Construction, delete the current wording of 334-4.6 Independent Sample Verification Testing (for plant testing) and 334-5.4 Independent Sample Verification Testing (for roadway testing) and substitute the following:

**MATERIALS BULLETIN NO. 03-07**

**DCE MEMORANDUM NO. 03-07**

Page 3

**334-4.6 Independent Sample Verification Testing:** Take samples as directed by the Engineer for Independent Verification testing. Obtain enough material for three complete sets of tests (two samples for Independent Verification testing by the Engineer and one sample for optional testing by the Contractor). If agreed upon by both the Engineer and the Contractor, only one sample for Independent Verification testing by the Engineer may be obtained. Independent Verification samples will be reheated at the target roadway compaction temperature for 1 1/2 hours +/- 5 minutes, reduced to the appropriate testing size, and conditioned and tested as described in 334-4.1. The Contractor's split sample, if tested immediately after sampling, shall be reduced to the appropriate testing size, and conditioned and tested as described in 334-4.1. If the Contractor's sample is not tested immediately after sampling, then the sample shall be reheated at the target roadway compaction temperature for 1 1/2 hours +/- 5 minutes, reduced to the appropriate testing size, and conditioned and tested as described in 334-4.1. The Contractor's test results shall be provided to the Engineer within one working day from the time the sample was obtained.

If any of the Independent Verification test results, excluding the percent passing the No. 8 sieve, do not meet the requirements of Table 334-5, then a comparison of the Independent Verification test results and the Contractor's test results, if available, will be made. If a comparison of the Independent Verification test results and the Contractor's test results meets the precision values of Table 334-4 for the material properties in question, or if the Contractor's test results are not available, then the Independent Verification test results are considered verified and the Contractor shall cease production of the asphalt mixture until the problem is adequately resolved (to the satisfaction of the Engineer), unless it can be demonstrated to the satisfaction of the Engineer that the problem can immediately be (or already has been) resolved. Address any material represented by the failing test results in accordance with 334-9.4.

If a comparison of the Independent Verification test results and the Contractor's test results does not meet the precision values of Table 334-4 for the material properties in question, then the second Independent Verification sample shall be tested by the Engineer for the material properties in question. If a comparison between the first and second Independent Verification test results does not meet the precision values of Table 334-4 for the material properties in question, then the first Independent Verification test results are considered unverified for the material properties in question and no action shall be taken.

If a comparison between the first and second Independent Verification test results meets the precision values of Table 334-4 for the material properties in question, then the first Independent Verification sample is considered verified and the Contractor shall cease production of the asphalt mixture until the problem is adequately resolved (to the satisfaction of the Engineer), unless it can be demonstrated to the satisfaction of the Engineer that the problem can immediately be (or already has been) resolved. Address any material represented by the failing test results in accordance with 334 9.4.

The Engineer has the option to use the Independent Verification sample for comparison testing as specified in 334-4.7.

**MATERIALS BULLETIN NO. 03-07**

**DCE MEMORANDUM NO. 03-07**

Page 4

**334-5.4 Independent Sample Verification Testing:** Obtain five roadway cores as directed by the Engineer for Independent Verification testing. These independent cores will be obtained from the same LOTs and sublots as the Independent Verification Plant samples, or as directed by the Engineer. The density of these cores will be obtained as described in 334-5.1. If the average of the results for the subplot does not meet the requirements of Table 334-5 for density, cease production of the asphalt mixture until the problem is adequately resolved (to the satisfaction of the Engineer), unless it can be demonstrated to the satisfaction of the Engineer that the problem can immediately be (or already has been) resolved. Address any material represented by the failing test results in accordance with 334-9.4.

The exclusion of the percent passing the No. 8 sieve for the Independent Verification testing described above in 334-5.7.1 and 334-4.6 does not apply for FC-5 mixtures.

This memorandum serves as a blanket approval to process a no-cost specification change for on-going projects and should be attached to the Field Supplemental Agreement/Work Order or Supplemental Agreement accomplishing this task.

For any questions concerning this matter, please contact Greg Sholar, (352) 955-2920, or Jim Musselman, (352) 955-2905, at the State Materials Office.

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