

5480500 RETAINING WALL SYSTEMS
COMMENTS FROM INTERNAL/INDUSTRY REVIEW

Ken Morgan
407-264-3335

Comments: (5-25-12)

548-9.6.1 should be edited to reflect the options added in 548-9.4.1.

Response: We will revise section 548-9.6.1 to address this comment. Change Made.

John Mauthner, P.E.
(850) 414-4334

Comments: (5-25-12) *I had a chance to review the proposed Specification revision 5480500 and found a conflict with either the specification or the verbiage we included for our revised Developmental Index 410. You and I reviewed this issue in great detail prior to our revision of Index 410, Note 4. For the Design Standards, Revised Developmental Index 410, Note 4 reads as follows: "4. When the barrier is installed adjacent to the pavement, the top 12" of the subgrade shall be compacted to at least 98% of the maximum density determined by FM 1-T 180, Method D."*

The revised specification reads as follows:

"548-9.2 General Requirements: Determine the QC density to be 100% of the maximum density in accordance with FM 1 T-180.

My conflicts are as follows:

- "100% of the maximum density" or "98% of the maximum density,"
 - "in accordance with" or "determined by"
 - "FM 1 T-180." Or "FM 1-T 180, Method D."

Since this is a Soils issue, my preference is for you to address any conflicts with the revised specification. My main concern is consistency between and among the specifications and our Design Standards. With that said, however, if I need to revise our Note 4, then I need you to provide that verbiage as well. Call me if you have additional concerns or questions.

Response: Article 548-9.2 does not talk about acceptability, but defines the Proctor method that should be used to determine the target density in the field. We will reword it to make it clear and avoid the conflict with the Design Standard. Change Made.

Henry D. Smith, P.E.
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Comments: (5-29-12) In reviewing the proposed specification I find Section 548-9.2 is not consistent with Section 548-9.4.

548-9.2 Maximum Density Determination: Determine the QC density to be 100% of the maximum density in accordance with FM 1 T-180.

548-9.4 Acceptance Criteria: Obtain a minimum density of 90% of the maximum dry density

as determined by FM 1 T-180 within 3 feet behind the wall face and obtain a minimum density of 95% of the maximum dry density as determined by FM 1 T-180 from beyond 3 feet behind the wall face.

I believe the intention is to require 95% of the maximum dry density as determined by FM 1 T-180 or 100% of the maximum dry density as determined by AASHTO T-99. Thank you,

Response: See previous response regarding 548-9.2.

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Daniel Henriques

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Comment: (6-12-12) Was it the Department's intent to remove the specific pH requirements for MSE walls using non-metallic soil reinforcements?

There has always been one requirement for metallic soil reinforcements (pH=5-9) and one for non-metallic (pH=3-10).

I don't see the two different requirements in the latest revision. Was this overlooked or intentional? If it was intentional, what is the justification for not allowing a broader pH range for non-metallic soil reinforcement that are not affected by a pH range of 3-10?

Response: The change in pH was intentional and requested by the State Materials Office a couple of years ago to protect the concrete from degradation. The pH requirements are not part of these changes and are being discussed separately. No changes made at this time.
