



*Florida Department of Transportation*

RON DESANTIS  
GOVERNOR

605 Suwannee Street  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0450

JARED W. PERDUE, P.E.  
SECRETARY

August 4, 2024

Cathy Kendall  
Director, Office of Technical Services  
Federal Highway Administration  
3500 Financial Plaza, Suite 400  
Tallahassee, Florida 32312

Re: State Specifications Office  
Section: 400  
Proposed Specification: **4000707 Concrete Structures**

Dear Ms. Kendall:

We are submitting, for your approval, two copies of the above referenced Supplemental Specification.

The changes are proposed by David Cerlanek to replace the term “slurry” with a more appropriate descriptor for residue generated during concrete sawing, grinding, grooving, and hydro-blasting to be more in line with industry terminology and practice.

Please review and transmit your comments, if any, within two weeks (10 business days). Comments should be sent via email [daniel.strickland@dot.state.fl.us](mailto:daniel.strickland@dot.state.fl.us).

If you have any questions relating to this specification change, please call me at (850) 414-4130.

Sincerely,

Signature on File

Daniel Strickland, P.E.  
State Specifications Engineer

DS/jb

Attachment

cc: Florida Transportation Builders' Assoc.  
State Construction Engineer

**CONCRETE STRUCTURES**  
**(REV 9-4-24)**

SUBARTICLE 400-7.7 is deleted and the following substituted:

**400-7.7 Placing Concrete by Pumping:** In general, use concrete pumping equipment that is suitable in kind and adequate in capacity for the work proposed. Use a pump discharge line that has a minimum diameter of 4 inches. Use a pump and discharge lines that are constructed so that no aluminum surfaces are in contact with the concrete being pumped. Operate the pump to produce a continuous stream of concrete, without air pockets. When using cement slurry or similar material to lubricate the discharge line when pumping begins, collect such material at the point of discharge. Dispose of the collected ~~materials~~ ~~slurry~~ in areas provided by the Contractor. Control the pump discharge locations so that the placement locations of the various LOTs of concrete represented by strength test cylinders can be identified in the event the test cylinders indicate deficient strength. When concrete is placed by pumping, take all test samples of concrete at the end of the discharge line, except in accordance with the provisions of Section 346.

ARTICLE 400-14 is deleted and the following substituted:

**400-14 Removal of Forms.**

Use the table below as the criterion for minimum time or compressive strength required before removal of forms or supports.

When using the time period criterion, include in the time period all days except days in which the temperature falls below 40°F.

Use the specified 28-day minimum compressive strength value as stated in 346-3.1 for each Class of Concrete utilized.

Table 400-2		
Location of Concrete Placement	Minimum Time for Form Removal for any Strength Concrete*	Minimum (%) of 28-day Compressive Strength for Form Removal
(1) Deck slabs, top slabs of culverts and bottom of caps, forms under sidewalks, and safety curb overhangs extending more than 2 feet		
(a) Class II Bridge Deck	7 days**	75**
(b) Class II (Other than Bridge Deck)	7 days	75
(c) Class III	7 days	70
(d) Class IV	7 days	60
(e) Class V	7 days	50
(2) Walls, piers, columns, sides of beams and other vertical surfaces	24 hours***	50***
(3) Front face form of curbs	6 hours	70

Table 400-2		
Location of Concrete Placement	Minimum Time for Form Removal for any Strength Concrete*	Minimum (%) of 28-day Compressive Strength for Form Removal
* For mass concrete, remove forms in accordance with Section 346. ** <a href="#">Reference 400-16.4</a> *** Do not place additional load on the section until 70% of the specified 28-day concrete strength is attained. Also, refer to 400-7.4. <u>(Exposure to salt or brackish water is prohibited for 7 days).</u>		

When using the percent of required strength, cast test cylinders for each mix for compressive strength determination, develop a curing concrete strength versus time curve (S/T Curve) or a strength-maturity curve. Either curve may be used in lieu of multiple test cylinders to determine when the percent of required strength has been met.

Prior to use, obtain the Engineer's approval of the S/T Curve and its supporting data. An approved testing laboratory may be used to provide this information with approval of the Engineer. Plot S/T Curves using at least three different elapsed times that begin once test cylinders are cast; however, one of the elapsed times must be prior to the Contractor's intended form removal. Each elapsed time plotted must have a corresponding compressive strength computed by averaging the compressive strength of two test cylinders.

Cure such test cylinders as nearly as practical in the same manner as the concrete in the corresponding structural component, and test them in accordance with ASTM C39 and ASTM C31. Perform cylinder casting, curing, and testing at no expense to the Department and under the observation of the Engineer. When the S/T curve indicates a compressive strength equal to or greater than the percentage of specified strength shown in the table above for form removal, the Contractor may remove the forms. When the ambient air temperature falls 15°F or more below the ambient air temperature that existed during development of a S/T Curve, use a S/T Curve that corresponds to the lower temperature and that is developed in accordance with this section.

Prior to using the strength-maturity method, obtain the Engineer's approval of the strength-maturity curve and its supporting data. Estimate the strength development of concrete using the strength-maturity method in accordance with ASTM C1074. An approved testing laboratory may be used to provide this information with approval of the Engineer. Develop the strength-maturity curves at no expense to the Department.

Do not remove forms at any time without the consent of the Engineer. Even when the Engineer provides consent to remove the forms, the Contractor is responsible for the work.

SUBARTICLE 400-15.2.5.5 is deleted and the following substituted:

**400-15.2.5.5 Smoothness Evaluation and Concrete Surface Planing, Long Bridges (including approach slabs):** Prior to planing, provide a smoothness evaluation of the completed bridge deck and exposed concrete surfaces of approach slabs by a computerized California-type profilograph in accordance with the criteria herein and FM 5-558. Furnish this evaluation through an independent provider approved by the Engineer, using equipment calibrated by the Engineer. All bridge deck and concrete approach slab surfaces within 2 feet of gutter lines are subject to this smoothness evaluation.

Prior to initial profilograph testing, complete work on the bridge deck and approach slabs. Thoroughly clean and clear the bridge deck and approach slab areas to be evaluated for smoothness of all obstructions and provide the smoothness evaluation. Ensure that no radio transmissions or other activities that might disrupt the automated profilograph equipment are allowed during the evaluation.

Average the Profile Index Value for the bridge deck, including the exposed concrete surfaces of the approach slabs, for the left and right wheel path of each lane. The maximum allowable Profile Index Value for acceptable smoothness is 10 inches per mile utilizing the 0.2 inch blanking band. Apply these criteria to a minimum of 100 feet of each lane. Additionally, correct individual bumps or depressions exceeding a cutoff height of 0.3 inch from a chord of 25 feet (see ASTM E1274) on the profilograph trace. Ensure that the surface meets a 1/4 inch in 10 feet straightedge check made transversely across the deck and approach slabs if determined necessary by the Engineer. Provide additional profilograph testing as necessary following longitudinal planing and any other actions taken to improve smoothness, until a profile meeting the acceptance criteria is obtained.

Regardless of whether expansion joints are installed before or after deck planing is complete, plane off the concrete deck surface to a minimum depth of 1/4 inch and also meet or exceed the profilograph smoothness criteria. Longitudinally plane the entire bridge deck and exposed concrete surfaces of the approach slabs using a self-propelled planing machine with gang mounted diamond saw cutting blades specifically designed for such work. Use the profilograph generated smoothness data, to establish the optimum planing machine settings. Plane the deck surface to within 2 feet of the gutter line so that there is a smooth transition, without vertical faces or sudden surface discontinuities, from the fully planed surface to the unplaned surface. Use a machine with a minimum wheel base length of 15 feet, constructed and operated in such manner that it does not cause strain or damage to deck or approach slab surfaces, excessive ravels, aggregate fractures or spalling. The equipment shall be approved by the Engineer. Perform longitudinal planing parallel to the roadway centerline, and provide a consistent, textured surface. Clean the surface of all Concrete Grinding Residue (CGR) slurry/debris generated during this work concurrently with operation of the machine.

After the deck has been planed the minimum 1/4 inch, reevaluate the surface smoothness using the profilograph testing described above. Perform cycles of planing and profilograph retesting as necessary until the deck and exposed concrete surfaces of approach slabs are in compliance with the smoothness criteria but do not exceed the maximum concrete removal depth of 1/2 inch.

SUBARTICLE 400-16.4 is deleted and the following substituted:

**400-16.4 Bridge Decks and Approach Slabs:** Cure bridge decks and approach slabs for a duration of seven days. Apply a membrane curing compound to the top surface in accordance with 400-16.2 using a compressor driven sprayer. In general, apply curing compound when the surface is damp and after all pooled water has evaporated. For Short bridges, begin applying curing compound immediately after the initially placed concrete has been floated, straightedged, textured and a damp surface condition exists and continue applying compound as concrete placement progresses with as little interruption as possible until the entire top surface has been coated with compound. For Long bridges, begin applying curing compound to the initially placed concrete as soon as a damp surface condition exists and continue applying compound as

concrete placement progresses with as little interruption as possible until the entire top surface has been coated with compound. For all bridges, the elapsed time between the initial placement of deck or approach slab concrete and the completed application of curing compound must not exceed 120 minutes. The 120 minute limit may be extended by the Engineer if project specific factors (cool temperatures, high humidity, retarding admixtures, etc.) prolong wet surface conditions.

Prior to the first deck or approach slab placement, submit to the Engineer the method that will be used to periodically measure the rate of application of curing compound in, gallons per square foot as the concrete placement progresses. Prior to the placement of each deck or approach slab, submit to the Engineer the anticipated quantity of curing compound in gallons along with the corresponding square feet of concrete to be covered to meet the coverage rate in 400-16.2. Compute the actual quantity of curing compound applied at the conclusion of each concrete placement and submit the quantity to the Engineer. Apply the curing compound from a work platform.

Place curing blankets on all exposed surfaces which are not formed as soon as possible with minimal effect on the surface texture. Place the curing blankets with sufficient overlapping seams to form an effective moisture seal. Before using curing blankets, mend tears, splits, or other damage that would make them unsuitable. Discard curing blankets that are not repairable. Wet all curing blankets immediately after satisfactorily placing them and maintain them in a saturated condition throughout the seven-day curing period. Supply sufficient quantity of water meeting the requirements of Section 923 at the job site for wetting the blankets.

Where a bridge deck or approach slab is to be subjected to walking, wheeling or other approved construction traffic within the seven-day curing period, protect the curing blankets and the concrete surface from damage by placing wooden sheeting, plywood or other approved protective material in the travel areas.

When the ends of the curing blankets are rolled back to permit screeding of adjacent concrete, keep the exposed surfaces wet throughout the period of exposure.

~~Bridge deck bottom and side forms may be removed after 72 hours upon compliance with 400-14. Approach slab side forms may be removed after 72 hours. Apply membrane curing compound to all surfaces stripped of forms within one hour of loosening. Apply curing compound according to 400-16.2.~~

SUBARTICLE 400-17.4 is deleted and the following substituted:

**400-17.4 Alternate Procedure:** As an alternative to the time delay periods set forth in 400-17.1, ~~400-17.2~~, and 400-17.3, test cylinders may be prepared and tested by the Contractor in accordance with 346-5 and a determination made using one of the following methods:

1. When the cylinder test results indicate the minimum 28 day compressive strength shown in the Plans, concrete bridge decks, approach slabs, and culverts may be opened to traffic or the superstructure and beams may be placed on caps.

2. Submit signed and sealed calculations, prepared by a Specialty Engineer, demonstrating that the concrete caps can safely support the weight of the girders for the current concrete strength to the Engineer for approval.

In any event, comply with the curing provisions of 400-16.

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2. Submit signed and sealed calculations, prepared by a Specialty Engineer, demonstrating that the concrete caps can safely support the weight of the girders for the current concrete strength to the Engineer for approval.

In any event, comply with the curing provisions of 400-16.