

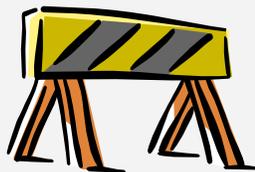
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BJO:CJB

Percent Within Limits Specification for Hot Mix Asphalt (HMA)

This construction advisory serves as a notification to the recent approval of the "SUPERPAVE HOT MIX ASPHALT PERCENT WITHIN LIMITS (PWL)" frequently used special provision, 03SP504 (C). This new version of the specification may be incorporated into existing projects where practical if there is joint agreement between the contractor and the project engineer. If agreement is reached on modifying an existing contract the change should be documented by a work order that is no cost to MDOT and no credit to the contractor.

Specification Changes:

- The "Test Strip Procedure" has been changed to "Initial Production Lot Procedure." This is one of the major changes to the specification and should be reviewed thoroughly.
- The "Small Tonnage Acceptance Criteria" has been changed.
- The "Retest and Appeal Process for Plant Produced Material (Mixture)" has been changed to "Dispute Resolution Process for Plant Produced Material (Mixture)."
- A new section "Dispute Resolution Process for Field Placed Material (Density)" has been added.

- The number of cores allowed for contractor QC testing has been increased to 15 per lot.
- Language has been added noting that if more than 50 percent of the cores in a lot are disqualified production shall stop. Production will not be allowed to continue until the engineer has confirmed that the paving operation is meeting the contract application rate.
- Outlier language for core density has been added.
- Significant digits within the tables have been corrected.
- Language has been added noting that the QC testing used for dispute resolution must be conducted in the same manner as the QA testing. Additionally a signed statement certifying that the QC test results are true and accurate must accompany the request for Dispute Resolution.
- Language has been added noting that if HMA Quality Initiative is not included in the contract as a pay item there will be no payment for this item of work.
- The allowable subplot size has been changed.

Regarding outlier investigation, the special provision notes items should be reviewed as

part of the outlier investigation. To assist in possible investigations, inspectors should note on their Inspector Daily Report that the cores were inspected after coring and were acceptable for transport and testing. The same type of documentation should be made by the receiving laboratory as "The cores were received undamaged." Additionally, a field review of the core location may occur to see if there is any apparent reason that the core would not be representative of the surrounding mat area. If it is determined that the original core is not representative of the area, then another core may be taken and tested for informational purposes. These test results should be evaluated and considered in the outlier determination.

Project personnel are also reminded that the Materials Source Guide states, "Some materials may be visually inspected by MDOT personnel for acceptance or rejection, up to maximum VI quantities as indicated for that material, per item, per project." For HMA, the Maximum VI quantity is 500 tons per project per mix type.