

TECHNICAL ADVISORY 1-09

To: All Division Engineers

From: Larry Lockett
Materials and Tests Engineer

Re: Inspection Guidelines for Testing Total Air Content of Freshly Mixed Concrete

Due to recent issues with air content, please ensure that all ALDOT inspectors are aware of Technical Advisory 2-06 that became effective September 12, 2006. This Technical Advisory is still in effect and should be followed by ALDOT inspectors, as well as consultants hired by the Department.

As stated in Technical Advisory 2-06, a load of concrete with total air content below 2.5 percent will not be rejected until after calibration of the pressure meter and a second test is run on the same load to confirm the low result. Should the second test confirm a low result, the contractor may be allowed to add the necessary amount of air at the project site, provided the following conditions are met:

- Discharge of the concrete shall be completed before the drum has revolved 300 revolutions after the introduction of the mixing water to the cement and aggregates or the introduction of the cement to the aggregates.
- Requirements set forth in ALDOT 170, *Method of Controlling Concrete Operations for Structural Portland Cement Concrete* are met. Specific attention is given to the time of placement limitations set forth in Section 12 and are as follows:

TEMPERATURE OF CONCRETE	MIX WITHOUT RETARDER	MIX WITH RETARDER
LESS THAN 85 °F {30 °C}	1 HOUR	1 HOUR AND 45 MINUTES
85 °F {30 °C} OR MORE	45 MINUTES	1 HOUR AND 15 MINUTES

It is requested that this information be made available to the personnel that will enforce these specifications and to emphasize its importance.

LL/sg

cc: Mr. Mike Harper
Mr. Terry McDuffie
Division Construction Engineers
Division Materials Engineers
File