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Reheating Asphalt Rubber Binder Samples Taken in the Field

When asphalt rubber binder is sampled in the field and transported to a laboratory for testing care shall be taken to assure that the sample is not overheated. Samples for viscosity testing shall be sampled in one gallon friction top metal cans. At no time shall the asphalt rubber binder be raised to a temperature above 400 °F and the asphalt rubber binder shall not be maintained at a temperature above 375 °F for more than two hours prior to testing. The original field sample shall not be reheated more than twice for additional testing (if required).

When the asphalt rubber binder sample is brought into the laboratory it shall be placed in an oven that is capable of heating the sample to a temperature of 375 °F +/- 3 °F. If the sample is at room temperature it shall be placed in the oven for 3 hours. (If the sample is closer to the field temperature it shall be placed in the oven for 60 minutes.) The sample shall then be removed from the oven and the binder shall be thoroughly stirred to ensure the sample is homogenous and the temperature shall be checked with a calibrated thermocouple or calibrated glass thermometer. This process shall be repeated every 20 minutes until the sample is at the required temperature (See Note 1). If the sample is above the required temperature it shall be stirred intermittently until it falls to the required temperature. Once the asphalt rubber binder has reached the required temperature it shall be stirred and the viscosity test shall be performed per ASTM D7741. After the viscosity test the sample shall then be split into the required sample containers for the various tests (See Note 1).

Note 1: At no time shall the asphalt rubber binder samples be raised to a temperature above 400 F and the samples shall not be maintained at a temperature above 375 F for more two hours.