

Memorandum

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a California Way of Life.*

To: DEPUTY DISTRICT DIRECTORS, Construction
DEPUTY DIVISION CHIEF, Structure Construction
CONSTRUCTION MANAGERS
SENIOR CONSTRUCTION ENGINEERS
RESIDENT ENGINEERS

Date: September 30, 2022

File: Division of Construction
CPD 22-10



From: RAMON HOPKINS, Chief
Division of Construction

Subject: **REVISED GUIDANCE FOR SAMPLING AND REDUCTION TEST METHODS**

This directive supersedes CPD 20-26, "Sampling and Reduction Test Methods," and requires resident engineers to issue a no-cost change order, when requested by the contractor, to implement revised California Tests related to sampling and sample size reduction of hot mix asphalt on projects that have a Notice to Bidders dated before August 12, 2022.

California Test (CT) 125, "Methods of Test for Sampling Highway Materials and Products Used in the Roadway Pavement Structure Sections," and CT 306, "Method of Test for Reducing Samples of Asphalt Mixtures to Testing Size," were revised and published on August 12, 2022. Section 1-1.05, "References," of the *2018 Standard Specifications* states, "Where the version of a referenced document is not specified, use the most recent version in effect on the date of the Notice to Bidders." Therefore, a change order is required to implement the updated and new California Test methods on projects with Notice to Bidders dated before August 12, 2022.

CT 125 and CT 306 were first published on December 19, 2019 to address the variability issues experienced during field sampling and splitting of asphalt mixtures and with rubberized asphalt mixtures during the reduction of field samples to testing size. Since these test methods were published, Materials Engineering and Testing Services has received comments from both Caltrans materials labs and the construction industry regarding CT 306. As a result, an ad hoc working group was formed to address these comments and recommended reevaluating CT 125 and CT 306. As a short-term solution, CT 125 and CT 306 were revised and published on August 12, 2022, to conduct sample reduction of all asphalt mixtures in accordance with AASHTO R 47-19, "Reducing Samples of Asphalt Mixtures to Testing Size."

Attached to this directive are revised California Test 125 and 306, a sample change order memorandum, and sample change order. This directive serves as a delegation of authority from the Division of Construction for change order approval, except when the

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change order language is altered. Risk-Based Involvement projects are subject to Federal Highway Administration oversight requirements; consult the Federal Highway Administration transportation engineer for change order concurrence.

If you have questions or comments regarding this directive, please contact Raguparan Thangavelautham, Division of Construction, at Raguparan.Thangavelautham@dot.ca.gov or (916) 764-8496.

Attachments:

1. Revised California Test 125 (August 12, 2022)
2. Revised California Test 306 (August 12, 2022)
3. Sample Form CEM-4903, "Change Order Memorandum"
4. Sample Form CEM-4900, "Change Order"