Prequalification of Specified Strength Concrete

When concrete is specified by compressive strength, prequalification of materials, mix proportions, mixing equipment, and procedures proposed for use, will be required prior to placement of such concrete.

Prequalification shall be accomplished by submission of acceptable certified test data or trial batch reports by the Contractor. For each trial batch, the materials, mixing equipment, procedures, mix proportions and size of batch shall be the same as that to be used in the work.

The Specifications list the requirements that must be met in order for certified test data or trial batch test reports to be considered acceptable.

Should the Contractor elect to submit a trial batch report from another Caltrans project, a copy of such a report approved within the past 12 months of the proposed first use of the specified concrete in the project is acceptable, provided the mix is the same in all respects. Should the Contractor elect to submit certified test data, that data must represent the most recent compressive strength tests made within the past 12 months of the first proposed use of the same concrete mix. Strength tests from other Caltrans projects are acceptable as meeting the requirements for certified test data. A copy of Form DS-OS C57, Test Result Summary, listing 20 acceptable test results is sufficient.

The Structure Representative should inform the Contractor if prequalification is required. It should also be suggested to the Contractor that concrete made as a trial batch may be used in a footing or some other location where concrete of a lesser strength is required and that it should be performed at the earliest possible time so as not to delay the work at a future date. If concrete made as a trial is used in the work at locations where concrete of a lesser strength is required, payment shall be based on the type or class of concrete specified at that location.

The acceptance or non-acceptance of the concrete mix based on the results of the trial batch or the certified test data should be confirmed in writing to the Contractor.