



## Sampling and Testing Paint

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The following sampling procedures are to be followed in order to be assured that all paint, which is to be applied to permanent portions of the work, complies with the Contract Specifications.

After the Contractor places an order for paint with a manufacturer, the manufacturer must notify the Transportation Laboratory of his intent to manufacture and package the paint. Transportation Laboratory personnel will then visit the manufacturing facility and take samples of the batch of paint. Depending on the manufacturer, and the type of paint, it may either be sampled before or after packaging. In either case the paint is identified by the manufacturer's batch number and the date of manufacture. At the time of sampling, the State Inspector assigns a State lot number to the batch, which then becomes a part of the identification.

When the testing is completed, the Transportation Laboratory notifies the manufacturer of the test results. If it is confirmed that the batch meets specifications, the manufacturer can then package and label the paint, or just label it if the paint had been packaged prior to taking the sample. The labeling should be in accordance with Section 91-1.03 of the Standard Specifications which states that "All containers of paint shall be labeled showing the exact title of the paint specification, State specification number, manufacturer's name, date of manufacture, State lot number, and manufacturer's batch number". In addition to this, the State Inspector will place white inspection tags or stickers on some of the containers when he releases the paint to the jobsite.

These inspection release tags may or may not have the same State lot number as shown on the manufacturer's label. The lot number on the release tag should be checked against the Report of Inspection (R-29) which the Inspector should forward to the jobsite within a day or two of releasing the paint.

When the paint is delivered to the jobsite, the Structure Representative is to randomly select one container of each batch and ship it to the Sacramento Transportation Laboratory in its original unopened condition. Sample identification form DCR-TL-101 is to be filled in and sent in with the sample. No paint is to be applied to the structure until the paint in this random sample has been tested by the Transportation Laboratory, and a test report has been issued confirming that the paint complies with the Contract Specifications. The test report is normally mailed to the jobsite; however, results of the testing may be obtained by phone if necessary. The sample should show his telephone number on the sample identification form if he wishes to be notified of the test results by phone. Results can generally be obtained from the Transportation Laboratory within three to ten days after the Laboratory has received the sample.

One quart of paint is used in the paint testing procedure. The remainder of the paint in the container will be returned to the Contractor for use. The sample identification card should give the address to which the unused paint is to be returned. The unused paint cannot be returned to a P.O. Box Number.

The Standard Specifications permit the use of other than steel containers provided that the containers shall comply with the U.S. Department of Transportation or the Interstate Commerce Commission regulations.