Friction Testing of Bridge Decks

After deck surfaces and approach slabs have been textured, the Engineer tests the coefficient of friction of the concrete surfaces under California Test 342, Method of Test for Surface Skid Resistance with the California Portable Skid Test.

1 - Newly Constructed Bridge Decks

Coefficient of friction testing should be performed on each deck. The test must be performed at a location which is representative of that portion of the deck surface exhibiting the lowest coefficient of friction. Once the representative area has been tested and shown to meet the specifications, more tests will not be required unless, in the opinion of the Structure Representative, the test results are not representative of the bridge deck skid resistance.

2 - Scheduling Skid Testing

To meet the 25-day allowance in the Contract Specifications for coefficient of friction testing and to ensure that there are no delays to the contract, the tests will have to be scheduled as soon as possible.

Coefficient of friction testing can be arranged by contacting the appropriate staff listed on the instruction tab of the Request for Portable Skid Test Form, thru Materials Engineering and Testing Services. Instructions for viewing the Skid Testing group’s schedule are also included in the instructions.

Structure Construction personnel witnessing the skid test must verify that the skid test machine has a valid calibration under California Test 114, Method of Test for Calibration of California Portable Skid Tester.