



# ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

1409 Coliseum Boulevard, Montgomery, Alabama 36130-3050



March 23, 2006

Bob Riley  
Governor

Joe McInnes  
Transportation Director

## TECHNICAL ADVISORY 1-06

To: All Division Engineers

From: Larry Lockett *Larry Lockett*  
Materials and Tests Engineer

Re: Sampling and Initial Curing of Concrete Cylinders

This memo is being generated because there have been several inquiries from Division Construction and Materials Engineers regarding the specifications that deal with sampling of freshly mixed concrete and the use of pick-up trucks to transport the sample.

As per AASHTO T 23 and AASHTO T 141, the elapsed time between obtaining the first and final portion of the composite sample shall not exceed fifteen minutes. The preparation of compressive strength cylinders is to begin within fifteen minutes from obtaining the composite sample. Subarticle 501.02(d) of the specifications requires the contractor to provide at least one curing box with a minimum capacity of 22 concrete cylinders for initial curing. This controlled curing environment is required for each ALDOT project; however, in some instances it is allowable to use the same curing box for multiple small projects within a one mile radius.

Regardless of the curing box arrangement it is the contractor's responsibility to deliver the concrete for sampling as close as possible to the location where slump, air, and temperature tests are performed and compressive cylinders are prepared and initially cured. The concrete is to be transported on approved ready mix trucks only. The use of any other type of vehicle to transport freshly mixed concrete samples may cause rapid evaporation or segregation of the sample, therefore it is not allowed.

LL/sr/mas

cc: Mr. Mike Harper  
Mr. Terry McDuffie  
Division Construction Engineers  
Division Materials Engineers  
File