

# WACA/WSDOT Meeting Minutes for Wednesday, September 7, 2011

**Attendees:**

|                          |                                   |                           |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Mike Polodna, WSDOT      | Tom Weist, Oldcastle              | Neil Guptill, CalPortland |
| Tamson Omph, CalPortland | Kevin Wolf, CalPortland           | Rob Shogren, Lafarge-NA   |
| Kurt Williams, WSDOT     | Steve Ford, Miles Sand and Gravel | John Harris, Lafarge      |
| Eric Clark, Corliss      | Robert Raynes, Cemex              | Bruce Chattin, WACA       |

**Location:** *WSDOT HQ Mats Lab, Main Conf Room*

**Next WACA Meeting Date:**

*Wednesday, December 7, 2011, at WACA's Office in Des Moines, 9:30 AM – 12:00 Noon*

**Future WACA Meetings Dates:**

*Wednesday, March 7, 2012 at WSDOT HQ Mats Lab, Main Conf Room, 9:30 AM – 12:00 Noon*

*Wednesday, June 6, 2011, at WACA's Office in Des Moines, 9:30 AM – 12:00 Noon*

**Meeting Minutes are available at:**

**<http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/Business/MaterialsLab/WACAMinutes.htm>**

**Issue: Performance Specifications for Concrete Mix Designs - Mark Gaines**

Develop performance specification parameters for concrete.

*9/7/11 Mark Gaines was not in attendance today and the issue was tabled.*

***Action Plan: Continue to give updates to WACA at quarterly meetings.***

**Issue: Degradation for concrete Aggregate/Base Course – Kurt Williams**

A research study is on-going to test the effect of using aggregate with low degradation values in concrete mixes.

*9/7/11 –Mike Polodna reported that a draft report is due by the end of September.*

***Action Plan: Continue to give updates at quarterly meetings.***

**Issue: Water for Concrete - Bob Raynes**

*WSDOT Standard Specification 9-25.1 Water for Concrete requires that in order to use recycled water the lab that tests their water must meet R-18. No one is currently using recycled water because of the R-18 requirement.*

*9/7/11 – Bob reviewed the February 9, 2011 letter and proposed specification. Kevin Wolf reviewed the chemical testing requirements. Some tests are conducted every 3 months to 1 year*

*by independent labs. Control tests are conducted daily in-house. Bruce Chattin suggested that WACA provide chemical and physical test data to WSDOT. WSDOT will consider the proposed specification.*

**Action Plan:** *Continue the discussion at the next meeting.*

**Issue: Standard Specification 9-23.8 Waterproofing –Jason Brewer**

*Are changes needed to this specification? Should WSDOT be specifying ASTM C 1585 instead of ASTM C 642?*

*9/7/11 - Jason was not in attendance today. Mike passed out the proposed specification and asked for email comments.*

**Action Plan:** *Review specification proposed by WACA at the next meeting.*

**Issue: Aggregate Source Approvals for Sources to be Blended with Others –Dick Boss**

*An Aggregate Source Approval is required for each pit. Since WSDOT is now sampling and testing only processed material instead of pit run or blended material, source owners have issues supplying samples of processed, non-blended aggregates.*

*9/7/11 – Dick was not in attendance and the issue was tabled.*

**Action Plan:** *Discuss at next meeting.*

**Issue: NMS of Coarse Aggregate for 4000P – Neil Guptill and Dick Boss**

*Neil and Dick pointed out that the NMS of coarse aggregate changed from 1/2” to 3/8” in the 2010 Specification. Kurt will refer this issue to Mark Gaines.*

*9/7/11 – Mark Gaines was not in attendance today and the issue was tabled.*

*6/8/11 – Kurt pointed out that the specification was changed because the industry wanted the 3/8” aggregate in the 4000P mix. The mix is working well for WSDOT and WSDOT is willing to pay the extra cost to get a mix that works. Mark Gaines stated that the smaller aggregate helps prevent voids in the shafts and that he would consider allowing 1/2” or 3/8” aggregate for the 4000P mix.*

**Action Plan:** *Continue the discussion at the next meeting.*

**Issue: Trial Batches for Concrete Overlay Mixes in WSDOT 6-09.3(3)B & C – Craig Matteson**

*Discussion on prescriptive mixes in 6-09.3(3)B and C. Both these mixes are prescription designs right down to the coarse & fine aggregate ratios, cement contents and W/C ratios. Are we required to run a trial batch for 5- 28 day compressive results, as there is no compressive strength specified?*

9/7/11 –Rob Shogren provided 2 slag-modified overlay mix designs that were used recently. Kurt will check with the Bridge Design Office to determine what properties they would like to specify in a new overlay mix.

**Action Plan:** Continue the discussion at the next meeting.

### **New Item: Fraudulent Central Contractor Registration System (CCR) Letters – Kurt**

9/7/11 –Kurt presented the following letter from FHWA to contractors warning about fraudulent letters asking for confidential information. Bruce Chattin will add this to the WACA newsletter.

**From:** Smith, Willie (FHWA)

**Sent:** Friday, June 25, 2010 1:22 PM

**To:** FHWA-#ALLUNITS-OfficialMailbox

**Cc:** Andotra, Michelle; Hardiman-Tobin, Gloria (FHWA); Prosperi, Patricia (FHWA); HAAMALLFEDS; Stone, Ella (FHWA)

**Subject:** Fraudulent Central Contractor Registration System (CCR) Letters

Good afternoon,

During the 2005 timeframe, I informed agency stakeholders of a scam in which DOT contractors and potential contractors were receiving fraudulent letters purporting to be issued by DOT. These fraudulent letters requested that the recipient confirm or update their registration in the Central Contractor Registration System (CCR) and provide other business related information via a fax number. Responding to this request would entail providing sensitive financial and account information.

This scam has re-surfaced recently and fraudulent letters on counterfeit DOT letterhead are again being sent to DOT contractors and potential contractors. An example of one of the more recent fraudulent letters is attached. If vendors with whom you or your State partners do business receive this type of letter, inform them **NOT** to complete the requested CCR worksheet or provide any information to the fax number cited in the letter. The CCR is a legitimate government system; however, to register, contractors should go directly through the CCR website and never through a third party. There is no requirement to send information directly to any Federal agency.

The DOT Office of Inspector General (DOT IG) is being kept informed of these incidents of fraudulent letters and is working to halt them. The DOT IG has posted a web-based alert on this matter which may be accessed at: <http://www.oig.dot.gov/fraud-alert>. We have also been disseminating information about this type of fraudulent activity as broadly as we can. Notices are placed on the Central Contractor Registry (<https://www.bpn.gov/ccrsearch/Search.aspx>), the DOT homepage ([http://www.dot.gov/ost/m60/fraudulent\\_letters.htm](http://www.dot.gov/ost/m60/fraudulent_letters.htm)), and orally noted at small business procurement conferences around the country.

Please distribute this message to your procurement staff and also to the staff who have contact with contractors doing business with the FHWA.

R/wHs

Willie H. Smith  
Director, Office of Acquisition Management  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
Federal Highway Administration

**New Issue: Qualification of Concrete Suppliers and the NRMCA – Kurt**

*Colin Lobo of the NRMCA has contacted WSDOT regarding WSDOT Standard Specification 6-02.3(4)A Qualification of Concrete Suppliers, and the use of the NRMCA Plant Certification checklist by people other than those working through the NRMCA. WSDOT proposes deleting options 2 and 3 of the specification and allowing certification only through the NRMCA.*

*9/7/11 – Kurt stated that WSDOT needs to stop utilizing the NRMCA checklist in independent certifications of concrete suppliers as outlined in number 2 below. He proposed eliminating options 2 and 3 and going solely with the NRMCA certification. Bruce Chattin stated that he had also discussed the subject with Colin Lobo. The group discussed using the old WSDOT concrete batch plant checklist with a PE stamp with a 6 month approval period for plants that need to be certified for an occasional WSDOT project. Kurt will write a proposed specification and look into reinstating the WSDOT concrete batch plant checklist.*

**6-02.3(4)A Qualification of Concrete Suppliers**

Batch Plant Prequalification may be obtained through one of the following methods:

**1.** Certification by the National Ready Mix Concrete Association (NRMCA).

Information concerning NRMCA certification may be obtained from the NRMCA at 900 Spring Street, Silver Springs, MD 20910 or online at [www.nrmca.org](http://www.nrmca.org). The NRMCA certification shall be good for a 2-year period.

When this method of certification is used the following documentation shall be submitted to the Project Engineer.

a. A copy of the current NRMCA Certificate of Conformance, the concrete mix design(s) (WSDOT Form 350-040), along with copies of the truck list, batch plant scale certification, admixture dispensing certification, and volumetric water batching devices (including water meters) verification.

**2.** Independent evaluation certified by a Professional Engineer using NRMCA checklist. The Professional Engineer shall be licensed under [title 18 RCW](#), state of Washington, qualified in civil engineering. The independent certification using the NRMCA checklist shall be good for a 2-year period. When this method of certification is used the following documentation shall be submitted to the Engineer.

a. A copy of the Professional Engineer's stamped and sealed NRMCA Verification of Inspection and Application for Certificate page from the NRMCA checklist, the concrete mix design(s) (WSDOT Form 350-040), along with copies of the truck list, batch plant scale certification, admixture dispensing certification, and volumetric water batching devices (including water meters) verification.

**3.** Inspection conducted by the Plant Manager, defined as the person directly responsible for the daily plant operation, using the NRMCA Plant Certification checklist. The Plant Manager certification shall be done prior to the start of a project, and every 6-months throughout the life of the project, and meet the following requirements:

a. The Agreement to Regularly Check Scales and Volumetric Batching Dispensers page in the NRMCA Plant Certification checklist shall be signed by the Plant Manager and notarized.

b. The signed and notarized Agreement to Regularly Check Scales and Volumetric Batching Dispensers page and a copy of the NRMCA Plant Certification checklist cover page showing the plant designation, address

and Company operating plant shall all be submitted to the Project Engineer with the concrete mix design (WSDOT Form 350-040), along with copies of the truck list, batch plant scale certification, admixture dispensing certification, and volumetric water batching devices (including water meters) verification.

c. The NRMCA Plant Certification checklists shall be maintained by the Plant Manager and are subject to review at any time by the Contracting Agency.

d. Volumetric water batching devices (including water meters) shall be verified every 90-days.

***Action Plan: Review the proposed specification at the next meeting. Complete in time for the April 2012 amendment package.***

**New Issue: Acceptance of Pumped Concrete – Bruce**

*9-7-11 – Bruce led a discussion on issues involved with acceptance testing of pumped concrete. It is well known that pumping can change the air content of the concrete. WSDOT requires that sampling be conducted from the end of the delivery system, after the concrete is pumped, and leaves it to the contractor to determine how to get it there within the required specification.*

*Points discussed included coordination between the supplier, contractor, pump operator, and inspectors; requiring certified pump operators; ACPA style concrete pumping education developed and provided by WACA; existing video by Professor Hover; WSDOT requiring training and certification; WSDOT to continue to sample from the end of the pump.*

***Action Plan: Continue the discussion at the next meeting.***

## **9-25 WATER**

### **9-25.1 Water for Concrete**

Water for concrete, grout, and mortar shall be clear, apparently clean, and suitable for human consumption (potable). If the water contains substances that cause discoloration, unusual smell or taste, or other suspicious content, the Engineer may require the Contractor to provide test results documenting that the water meets the physical test requirements and chemical limits described in ASTM C1602 for non-potable water.

Water from mixer washout operations may be used in concrete provided it meets or exceeds the requirements of ASTM C1602 as well as the following additional requirements:

1. Concrete with water from mixer washout operations shall not be used in bridge roadway deck slabs, flat slab bridge superstructures, modified concrete overlays, or prestressed concrete.
2. Shall be free of coloring agents.

Agency reviews of the laboratory facility, testing equipment, personnel, and all qualification, calibration, and verification records will be conducted at the Contracting Agency's discretion.

### **9-25.2 Water for Plants**

Water for plants shall not contain dissolved or suspended matter which will be harmful to the plant material on which it is to be used.



The Chemical Company

## Specification Language for Permeability-Reducing Admixture for WSDOT

### A. Permeability-Reducing Admixture for Concrete Exposed to Hydrostatic Conditions (PRAH)

1. Shall satisfy the following requirements, when used at the manufacturer's recommended dosage:
  - a. Reduction in water penetration: Not less than 40 percent relative to an **identical untreated concrete mixture with the same mixture proportions**, when tested in accordance with DIN 1048, CRD C 48 or BS EN 12390-8, with modifications as stated below:

Specimen thickness may be reduced to 2 in., if the maximum size of aggregate used in the test specimens is 3/4 in. When the maximum size of aggregate exceeds 3/4 in., the test specimen thickness shall be a minimum of 3 times the maximum size of aggregate.

*(Reason: The CRD C 48-92 test method specifies the use of 6-inch thick concrete specimens. The test measures the flow of water **through** this concrete specimen after **steady-state** conditions have been achieved. When good quality, low permeability concretes (with a w/cm below 0.45, as recommended in ACI 212.3R-10 for concrete with permeability-reducing admixtures) are evaluated, steady-state flow through the specimens is either not achieved or it takes a significantly long time to achieve such a condition. Therefore, when two identical concretes, one with and the other without a permeability-reducing admixture, are evaluated using this test, it becomes difficult to use steady-state flow conditions as a basis for comparison.*

*DIN 1048 and BS EN 12390-8 tests compare the depth of penetration of water into the samples. These tests specify the measurement of depth of penetration of water through the sample of concrete after subjecting it to a hydrostatic pressure of 75 psi. The depth of penetration is measured after breaking open the sample at the end of the test. This test provides a relative comparison of samples made with even high-performance concretes, both with and without a permeability-reducing admixture)*

- b. The admixture shall not affect the setting time, strength or durability properties of concrete.
2. Dosage shall be as recommended by the manufacturer.

### Permeability-Reducing Admixture for Concrete Exposed to Non-hydrostatic Conditions (PRAN)

1. Shall satisfy the following requirements, when used at the manufacturer's recommended dosage:
  - a. Reduction in capillary absorption: Not less than 40 percent relative to a companion untreated concrete mixture, when tested in accordance with ASTM C 1585.
  - b. The admixture shall not affect the setting time, strength or durability properties of concrete.
2. Dosage shall be as recommended by the manufacturer.

3. Admixtures under this category shall not be used for concrete subjected to hydrostatic pressure.

## REFERENCES

**\*\* NOTE TO SPECIFIER \*\*** Delete references from the list below that are not actually required by the text of the edited section; add others as required. Standards listed here shall be the most current ones.

American Concrete Institute (ACI):

ACI 212.3R-10 Report on Chemical Admixtures for Concrete

ASTM International (ASTM):

ASTM C 1585 - Standard Test Method for Measurement of Rate of Absorption of Water by Hydraulic-Cement Concretes

British Standards Institution (BSI):

BS EN 12390-8-2009 Testing hardened concrete. Depth of penetration of water under pressure.

DIN (Deutsches Institut Fur Normung, Germany):

DIN 1048 Part 5 "Testing Concrete – Testing of hardened concrete (specimens prepared in mould)"

US Army Corps of Engineers

CRD C48-92 "Standard Test Method for Water Permeability of Concrete"

## CONCRETE MIX CALCULATION

DATE:

FOR:

MIX:

7" Slump

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|               | SSD WT.<br>----- | VOLUME<br>----- | BATCH WT.<br>----- |
|---------------|------------------|-----------------|--------------------|
| MaxCem        | 400              | 2.07            | 400                |
| Fly Ash       | 0                | 0.00            | 0                  |
| Silca Fume    | 0                | 0.00            | 0                  |
| Slag          | 400              | 2.23            | 400                |
| SAND****      | <b>1182</b>      | 7.15            | 1217               |
| 1 3/8         | 0                | 0.00            | 0                  |
| 3/4           | 1377             | 8.20            | 1372               |
| 3/8           | 243              | 1.45            | 242                |
| WATER         | 33.0             | 4.41            | 29.6               |
| AIR%          | 5.5%             | 1.49            | 5.5%               |
| AIROZ/100     | 0.50             |                 | 4.0                |
| WROZ/100      | 8.00             | ---             | 64                 |
| SWR/100       | 10.00            | ---             | 80                 |
| ReoCrete 222+ | 0.00             | ---             | 0                  |

| Revised Mix for Moisture |        |
|--------------------------|--------|
| CUBIC FEET               |        |
| 1.00                     |        |
| 14.81                    | pounds |
| 0.00                     |        |
| 0.00                     | pounds |
| 14.81                    | pounds |
| 45.06                    | pounds |
| 0.00                     | pounds |
| 50.83                    |        |
| 8.98                     | pounds |
| 9.16                     | pounds |
|                          |        |
| 4.37                     | mL     |
| 69.84                    | mL     |
| 87.30                    | mL     |
| 0.00                     | ml     |

|          |      |      |        |       |
|----------|------|------|--------|-------|
| TOTAL WT | ---- | 3877 | VOLUME | 27.00 |
|----------|------|------|--------|-------|

|           |     |         |       |
|-----------|-----|---------|-------|
| c/a ratio | 58% |         |       |
| % MORTAR  | 62% | PASS #8 | 90.0% |

## CONCRETE MIX CALCULATION

DATE:

FOR:

MIX:        *Slag Cement Overlay*

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|             | SSD WT.     | VOLUME | BATCH WT. |
|-------------|-------------|--------|-----------|
|             | -----       | -----  | -----     |
| Type IS(30) | 890         | 4.53   | 890       |
| Fly Ash     | 0           | 0.00   | 0         |
| Silca Fume  | 0           | 0.00   | 0         |
| Slag        | 0           | 0.00   | 0         |
| SAND****    | <b>1054</b> | 6.30   | 1076      |
| Course Agg  | 1718        | 10.27  | 1703      |
| Other Rock  | 0           | 0.00   | 0         |
| Other Rock  | 0           | 0.00   | 0         |
| WATER       | 32.0        | 4.28   | 31.2      |
| AIR%        | 6.0%        | 1.62   | 6.0%      |
| AIROZ/100   | 1.25        |        | 11.1      |
| WROZ/100    | 0.00        | ---    | 0         |
| SWR/100     | 8.00        | ---    | 71        |
|             | ----        | VOLUME |           |
| TOTAL WT    | 3928        | 27.00  |           |

| Trial Batch Information |        |
|-------------------------|--------|
| CUBIC FEET              |        |
| 2.00                    |        |
| 65.68                   | pounds |
| 0.00                    |        |
| 0.00                    | pounds |
| 0.00                    | pounds |
| 79.42                   | pounds |
| 125.66                  | pounds |
| 0.00                    | pounds |
| 19.20                   | pounds |
| 24.28                   | mL     |
| 0.00                    | mL     |
| 155.40                  | mL     |

c/a ratio                    62%  
 % MORTAR                57%    PASS #8                80.0%

**This concrete mix design is only a suggested starting point, based upon materials meeting ASTM requirements. LAFARGE CORPORATION MAKES NO WARRANTY OR REPRESENTATION IN ANY MANNER WITH RESPECT TO THIS MIX DESIGN AND WILL ACCEPT NO LIABILITY FOR ITS USE.**



**U.S. Department of Transportation  
Procurement Office**

**400 Seventh St., S.W.  
Washington, DC 20590  
www.dot.gov**

Aug 3, 2011

**BASNIGHT CONSTRUCTION CO INC  
317 Agona St  
Manteo  
NC 27954**

Dear Sirs,

Our records show that you are currently registered as a prospective contractor for procurements issued by the U.S. Department of Transportation. However after reviewing your record we have noticed that you have not submitted your financial information release form.

Your financial institution's privacy policy may not allow it to release your financial information even to the government institutions without your consent; therefore we must have such form on file before we can move on with any procurement decisions.

In August 2011, the procurement plan for the first semester of 2012 will be finalized. To be eligible for procurements with the U.S. Department of Transportation, you must submit the above-mentioned form to us by fax at 202-449-1364.

Please make sure that your fax is preceded by a cover page so we may correctly identify your company.

Sincerely yours,

Robert Mendez  
Senior Procurement Officer

**Authorization to release financial information**

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Bank name: \_\_\_\_\_

Branch phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Branch fax: \_\_\_\_\_

Bank contact: \_\_\_\_\_

Operating account number(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Tax ID: \_\_\_\_\_

By signing below, I authorize the Department of Transportation to contact our financial institution regarding the status of our accounts and to conduct a background check according to the federal law.

Signing officer 1

Signing officer 2

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Print name \_\_\_\_\_

Print name \_\_\_\_\_

**NOTE: IF MORE THAN ONE SIGNATURE IS REQUIRED ON THE ACCOUNT, PLEASE MAKE SURE THAT BOTH OF THE AUTHORIZED SIGNERS/HOLDERS SIGNED THE FORM**

**FORMS FAXED WITHOUT A COVER PAGE WILL NOT BE PROCESSED**

## FRAUDULENT LETTERS

### Attention all DOT current or potential contractors and all contracting personnel

There has been another round of **fraudulent** letters issued to U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) contractors and potential contractors purporting to be issued by DOT. These fraudulent letters request that current or potential contractors register by submitting their company's financial information on a release form entitled, "Authorization to release financial information". Please be aware that DOT does not require any financial information to be submitted in order to be eligible for procurement.

Following is a list of fraudulent letters which have been faxed out to current or potential contractors:

- December 29, 2005, signed by "Frank M. Orell"
- February 8, 2006, signed by "Randy Cohen"
- April 27, 2006, signed by "Dan Jacobs"
- July 28, 2006, signed by "Dan Jacobs"
- November 8, 2006, signed by "Lisa Johnson"
- February 26, 2007, signed by "Lisa Johnson"
- March 26, 2007, signed by "Jason Scarlett"
- May 10, 2007, signed by "Jason Scarlett"
- July 11, 12, and 20, 2007, signed by "George Mason"
- August 27 and 28, 2007, signed by "Julie P. Wenzel"
- September 10, 2007, signed by "Julie P. Wenzel"
- October 12, 2007, signed by "Julie P. Wenzel"
- October 21, 2007, signed by "Julie P. Wenzel"
- January 28, 2008, signed by "Julie P. Weynel"
- February 7, March 3, March 31, 2008, signed by "Bradley K. Wash"
- April 1, 2008, signed by "Bradley K. Wash"
- April 28, 2008, signed by "Bradley K. Wash"

- June 3, 2008, signed by "Robert Dal"
- June 4, 2008, signed by "James Buchanan"
- September 5, 2008, signed by "David Jacobson"
- October 20, 2008, signed by "Jennifer Donaldson"
- December 8, 2008, signed by "Jennifer Stewart"
- December 19, 2008, signed by "Jeffrey Steinberg"
- January 27, 2009, signed by "John Steinberg"
- February 17, 2009, signed by "Joshua Greenberg"
- April 1, 2009, signed by "Jason Wallace"
- April 20, 2010, signed by "Julie P. Wenzel"
- August 23, 2010, signed by "Julie P. Wenzel"
- August 25, 2010, signed by "Julie P. Wenzel"
- January 19, 2011 signed by "Julie P. Wenzel"
- January 19, 2011 signed by "Julie P. Wenzel"
- February 3, 2011 signed by "Julie P. Weynel"
- February 7, 2011, signed by "David Hoffman"<sup>NEW!</sup>

All letters were signed as the **Senior Procurement Officer**.

Please **DO NOT** complete the release form which is attached to the letter and **DO NOT** release any information to the facsimile number cited in the letter. [Click here](#) for an example of the latest letters being sent out to contracting personnel.

The point of contact concerning these fraudulent letters is the Department of Transportation Office of the Inspector General Hotline at 1-800-424-9071.