Washington State
Department of Transportation

WSDOT Test Method T 720

Method of Test for Thickness Measurement for Hot Mix Asphalt (HMA) Cores

1. Scope

a. This procedure is used to determine the thickness of the lifts in a Hot Mix Asphalt core.

2. Apparatus

a. Protection goggles, safety shield, or safety glasses.

b. Hatchet.

c. Striking tool such as a hammer, sledge, or maul suitable for striking the hatchet to separate the lifts.

d. Tape, rule, calipers, or a measuring device suitable for measuring core lifts to 0.01 LF (3 mm).

e. Hard stable surface, such as a cement concrete table, on which to place core for striking.

f. Hard rubber pad.

3. Procedure

a. Measure the total thickness of the core as received to 0.01 LF (3 mm).

b. Carefully remove all crushed surfacing top course, old pavement, prelevel, and prime coat from the core with the hatchet and striking tool.

c. Measure the total thickness of the remaining core to 0.01 LF (3 mm).

d. Split off the individual pavement lifts by placing core on the hard rubber pad, on the hard stable surface. Place the hatchet on the lift line and striking with the striking tool at several points around the core. Care must be taken in order to get a clean split of the core at the lift line and not damage the core.

Note: Lift lines are often more visible by rolling the core on a flat surface. Chilling the cores may aid in splitting lifts.

e. Each lift shall be measured from a plane surface to a plane surface. Two or more measurements shall be taken around the lift and the average shall be reported to 0.01 LF (3 mm) for each lift in the core.

Note: The top lift is designated as lift number one. Each subsequent lift shall be designated as lifts 2, 3, 4, etc.

4. Report

Report the results of the thickness measurements in the Materials Testing System (MATS)