



LONG TERM PAVEMENT PERFORMANCE PROGRAM DIRECTIVE



For the Technical Direction of the LTPP Program

Program Area: IMS **Directive Number:** I-54
Date: August 4, 1998 **Supersedes:** I-3
Subject: *EXPERIMENT_SECTION* Change Requests

This directive contains a revised IMS Form 1 that from this directive's issuance date shall be used to request test section status changes in the *EXPERIMENT_SECTION* table. Completed copies of this form along with supporting information shall be submitted to the FHWA Pavement Performance Division with a copy to the Long-Term Pavement Performance (LTPP) Technical Support Service Contractor (TSSC).

All changes to test section status information in the *EXPERIMENT_SECTION* table contained in the LTPP Information Management System (IMS) shall be requested using the attached IMS Form 1. Changes shall not be made until after receipt of an approved form.

The following instructions shall be followed for completion of the form.

State Code

State code is the number used to identify state or Canadian province in which the pavement section is located. The codes presented in Table A.1 of the LTPP Data Collection Guide shall be used.

SHRP ID

The SHRP ID is the four digit identification number assigned to the test section by the LTPP program. This number is used to facilitate database referencing and field identification.

If the requested change is addition of a new test section, the Regional Coordination Office Contractor (RCOC) should enter the proposed SHRP ID for the new section following current LTPP test section numbering policies. The RCOC should query the IMS to check that the

combination of proposed SHRP ID and STATE_CODE are unique.

Date

Enter date the form was submitted.

1. Region

Enter number code as shown on the form corresponding to the LTPP region in which the test section is located.

2. Add Section

Provide responses only if a new section is being added to the IMS. All procedures required for approval of a new test section shall be followed prior to submission of this form. The approved nominations forms for the test section should be submitted with this form. Enter a Y to indicate yes or N to indicate no that the approved nomination form is attached to the form.

Enter the assign date for the new test section. The assign date for a new test section is the date that the test section was accepted into the LTPP program. This date is used as part of the quality control checks on monitoring data. All pavement monitoring data must have been collected after the assign date.

The proposed new test section identification numbers, STATE_CODE and SHRP_ID, should be indicated in the spaces located on the top-right portion of the form. The proposed test section identification number shall follow LTPP test section numbering conventions and be unique in the IMS.

3. *EXPERIMENT_SECTION* Record Change

Test section status changes are made by addition or alteration of *EXPERIMENT_SECTION* records.

An explanation should be provided for any requested change. Brief explanations can be recorded under comments in item 5 of the form, or if more room is needed, can be submitted on extra sheets attached to the form.

To indicate changes to existing records in *EXPERIMENT_SECTION*, the current field values shall be entered under the column labeled "Record to Change". The CONSTRUCTION_NO of the matching record in the IMS must always be indicated for any requested *EXPERIMENT_SECTION* change. (The CONSTRUCTION_NO plus STATE_CODE and SHRP_ID indicated at the top of the form, create the combination of key fields which uniquely define a record in *EXPERIMENT_SECTION*.) It is the preferred practice to always indicate the current values for all fields in the record to be changed under the "Record to Change" column.

Entries under the “Proposed Change” column should be made only for those fields proposed to be changed; fields in which no changes are proposed should be left blank.

The following definitions shall be followed for the proposed changes:

CONSTRUCTION_NO	Event number used to relate changes in pavement structure with other time dependent data elements. This field is set to 1 when a test section is initially accepted into LTPP and is incremented with each construction related change to the pavement layer structure.
CN_ASSIGN_DATE	The assignment date for the beginning of a construction event. It is equal to acceptance date when a test section is first accepted in LTPP program, i.e. CONSTRUCTION_NO = 1. It corresponds to the construction activity start date when the pavement layer structure is modified by maintenance or rehabilitation. CN_ASSIGN_DATE is used by the IMS software to assign construction numbers (CN) to records contained in other tables. When a construction event occurs which causes an increment in CONSTRUCTION_NO, CN_ASSIGN_DATE(CN) must be less than or occur before CN_ASSIGN_DATE(CN+1).
GPS_SPS	Code indicating if the section is either assigned to the General Pavement Studies - (G) or Specific Pavement Studies - (S).
EXPERIMENT_NO	Code indicating which LTPP experiment the pavement section is assigned. This two digit code consists of a number followed by an optional suffix letter. The suffix is used for some experiments to indicate a subcategory of test sections.
STATUS	Code indicating the current monitoring status of a section. A null value indicates the test section has been approved and has an active monitoring status. A value of O indicates that the test section has been placed out of study and no future monitoring measurements will be made. This field should only be set to O when a test section goes out of study. At that time the STATUS field in all records in EXPERIMENT_SECTION with matching STATE_CODE and SHRP_ID should be set to O. A value of R indicates a rejected test section which, due to some fatal flaw, is being removed from the LTPP program and all data entries in the IMS deleted. <i>(Instructions on removing records from EXPERIMENT_SECTION with STATUS=R will be issued under a separate directive.)</i>
ASSIGN_DATE	Date when a test section was assigned to the LTPP experiment. The experiment designation for a test section is the combination of

EXPERIMENT_NO and GPS_SPS fields in the record. When a section is first accepted into LTPP, ASSIGN_DATE is the acceptance date. ASSIGN_DATE must precede any LTPP monitoring measurements performed on the test section. When a test section changes experiments due to rehabilitation, ASSIGN_DATE is the construction start date and should equal the CN_ASSIGN_DATE, i.e. $ASSIGN_DATE(CN+1) = CN_ASSIGN_DATE(CN+1)$ if $EXPERIMENT_NO(CN) <> EXPERIMENT_NO(CN+1)$.

DEASSIGN_DATE	Date when a test section changed to another experiment or was placed in out of study status in the LTPP program (STATUS=O). This field should be null until a rehabilitation construction event occurs which causes a change in EXPERIMENT_NO, or the test section goes out of test. When a test section changes experiments due to rehabilitation, the DEASSIGN_DATE for the previous CN should equal the CN_ASSIGN_DATE for the next CN, i.e. $DEASSIGN_DATE(CN) = CN_ASSIGN_DATE(CN+1)$, if $EXPERIMENT_NO(CN) <> EXPERIMENT_NO(CN+1)$. If a maintenance related construction event occurs which does not result in an experiment change, the DEASSIGN_DATE for the previous CN should equal the DEASSIGN_DATE for the next CN, i.e. $DEASSIGN_DATE(CN) = DEASSIGN_DATE(CN+1)$ (even if NULL), if $EXPERIMENT_NO(CN) = EXPERIMENT_NO(CN+1)$.
SEAS_ID	State specific Seasonal Monitoring Program (SMP) identification code indicating that SMP measurements were made for the corresponding construction number. SEAS_ID is set to A for the first SMP site installed in a state, B for the second site, etc. This field shall only be populated for construction numbers in which SMP data were collected. When a construction event occurs on a SMP test section that results in termination of its participation in the SMP, or if SMP monitoring was previously terminated prior to occurrence of a new construction event, SEAS_ID shall be set to null in the EXPERIMENT_SECTION record corresponding to the new CN for which no SMP data are available.
SUPPLEMENTAL	This field is set to S if the test section is a highway agency supplemental section on SPS project sites.

Note that **EXPERIMENT_SECTION** also contains various record status fields. The entries in these fields are populated by the IMS software. Manual changes to these fields should not be made.

4. Other Changes

If changes concerning the test section status, other than those noted above, are proposed, provide an explanation under comments in item 5 and enter a Y in the space indicating that the supporting documentation is attached to the form. An explanation and documentation are required for all other changes.

5. Comments

This space is provided for entry of comments or explanations from the requestor on the nature of the requested changes. Additional sheets should be attached to the form if more room is needed or the change requires additional documentation.

6. Approval Status

The approval status of the requested changes is indicated with a check mark in the boxes provided under this item.

7. Approval Comments

This portion of the form is reserved for comments from the approval authority on actions to be taken to implement the approved changes, explanations of any modifications to the proposed changes, or reason why the proposed changes were not approved.

Prepared by: TSSC

Approved by:

Monte Symons
LTPP Operations, Team Leader

LTPP Test Section Status IMS Form 1 Test Section Status Change Request	State Code [___] SHRP ID [_____] Date (dd/mmm/yyyy) [___ / ___ / ___]
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1. Region (1 - North Atlantic; 2 - North Central; 3 - Southern; 4 - West[ern])

2. Add section
 Nominations forms attached (Y / N) [___]
 Assign date (dd/mmm/yyyy) [___ / ___ / ___]

3. EXPERIMENT_SECTION record changes (provide explanation under comments)

	Record to be Changed	Proposed Changes
CONSTRUCTION_NO	[___] Ø	[___]
CN_ASSIGN_DATE [___ / ___ / ___]	[___]	[___]
GPS_SPS	[___]	[___]
EXPERIMENT_NO	[___]	[___]
STATUS	[___]	[___]
ASSIGN_DATE [___ / ___ / ___]	[___]	[___]
DEASSIGN_DATE [___ / ___ / ___]	[___]	[___]
SEAS_ID	[___]	[___]
SUPPLEMENTAL	[___]	[___]

Ø Must always specify CONSTRUCTION_NO of record to be changed

4. Other change documentation attached? (Y / N) [___]

5. Comments _____

6. Approved as submitted Approved changes noted under approval comments Not Approved

7. Approval comments _____

Requestor _____ Organization _____
 Approved by _____ Organization _____
 Approval date _____