



U.S. Department
of Transportation

**Federal Highway
Administration**

Memorandum

6300 Georgetown Pike
McLean, Virginia 22101

Subject: **ACTION**: LTPP Directive M-30
Performance of Core Examination of AC
Cores by Regional Support Services Contractors

Date: May 10, 2016

From: Jack Springer
Long Term Pavement Performance Team

Reply to
Attn of: HRDI-30

To: Mr. Gabe Cimini, PM - LTPP North Atlantic Regional Contract
Mr. Gabe Cimini, PM - LTPP North Central Regional Contract
Mr. James Sassin, PM - LTPP Southern Regional Contract
Mr. Kevin Senn, PM - LTPP Western Regional Contract

Attached is Long Term Pavement Performance (LTPP) Program Directive M-30, Performance of Core Examination of AC Cores by Regional Support Services Contractors. This directive instructs LTPP Regional Support Contractors (RSC) to perform LTPP Test Designation AC01/LTPP Protocol P01 "Test Method for Visual Examination and Thickness of Asphaltic Concrete Cores" on all asphaltic concrete (AC) cores obtained from LTPP test sections. Please ensure that all personnel involved with the process are aware of this new directive.

Should you have any questions concerning this directive, please do not hesitate to contact me on (202) 493-3144 or jack.springer@fhwa.dot.gov.

Attachment

FHWA:HRDI-30:JSpringer:JHarris:493-3144:05/10/16

File: M:\LTPP Directives\Distress\M-30

cc:

Jonathon Groeger (TSSC)

Jane Jiang

Directive Binder

Official File

LONG TERM PAVEMENT PERFORMANCE PROGRAM DIRECTIVE



For the Technical Direction of the LTPP Program



Program Area: Materials Directive Number: M-30

Date: May 10, 2016 Supersedes:

Subject: **Performance of Core Examination of AC Cores by Regional Support Services Contractors**

This directive instructs LTPP Regional Support Contractors (RSC) to perform LTPP Test Designation AC01/LTPP Protocol P01 “Test Method for Visual Examination and Thickness of Asphaltic Concrete Cores” on all asphaltic concrete (AC) cores obtained from LTPP test sections.

The following guidelines shall be followed to perform these measurements.

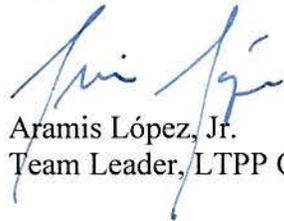
- The measurements shall be performed in accordance to LTPP Protocol P01, as supplemented with the directions contained in this directive.
- RSCs shall verify in writing to FHWA that they possess and will use the P01 required apparatus⁷ for core thickness measurement.
- All measurements contained in protocol P01 shall be performed including core thickness, visual exam, and layer thickness determination.
- The interface between layers in an AC core shall be marked with an easy to see indelible ink that will survive shipment to the testing laboratory.
- Layer numbers shall be marked on the cores, with an easy to see indelible ink, for testable AC layers.
- Digital photographs shall be taken of each core including those determined not suitable for thickness determination or laboratory tests. The photograph shall include a legible label that contains at least the following essential LTPP database codes including STATE_CODE, SHRP_ID, LOC_NO, TEST_NO, and date.
- All digital core photographs shall have a scale graduated to at least 1/16 of an inch aligned adjacent to the vertical axis of each core so that reported layer thickness’s can be examined from the image. Preferred practice is to record images after the layers in each core have been marked.
- Digital photographs shall be loaded into the Ancillary Information Management System, into the same directory where the images of the scanned MAT\TST paper data forms are stored, using the following file name convention.

- File_Name = TST+" "+STATE_CODE+SHRP_ID+" "LOC_NO+" "+#.JPG
- Where # starts with 1 and is incremented by 1 for each additional picture of core samples from the same LOC_NO on each test section.
- Digital photographs shall have a minimum resolution of 300 DPI and contain a minimum of 256k color.
- The RSC Project Manager or Quality Assurance Manager shall physically sign each paper data form resulting from this test method indicating that they have reviewed and approve the measurements performed by someone other than themselves.
- RSC shall include a formal process within their quality management plans on performance and management of this procedure, including documentation of calibration checks on the caliper apparatus.

Questions pertaining to this directive shall be submitted to the current FHWA staff member with responsibility for LTPP materials testing with a copy to the current Technical Support Services Contractor.

Prepared by: TSSC

Approved by:



Aramis López, Jr.
Team Leader, LTPP Operations