Construction Advisory

CA 2008-08
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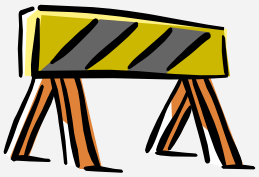
Index: Pavement

Questions regarding this Construction Advisory should be directed to:

Tom Hynes, Pavement Evaluation Engineer, at 517-322-5711 or hynest@michigan.gov



BJO:TH

New Ride Quality Specification

FUSP 502P, Special Provision for Pavement Ride Quality, was modified in February 2008. The primary changes were the conversion from Ride Quality Index (RQI) to International Roughness Index (IRI), and eliminating the use of California Profilographs. These changes are in alignment with specifications and equipment technologies implemented in many other states.

The 2008 construction season will include projects with either the old (RQI) or the new (IRI) ride special provisions. If a project includes the old (RQI) special provisions, the project office and contractor may agree to substitute the new (IRI) special provision in lien of the old (RQI) special provision via a no-cost work order. If a no-cost consensus cannot be reached between the project office and the contractor, it is equally acceptable to continue measuring ride quality using the old (RQI) special provision protocol. However, if a project includes the new (IRI) special provision, the project office should not entertain any contractor proposals to revert back to the old (RQI) special provision.

If the contractor and project engineer agree to incorporate the new special provision, document the change by work order with no cost to MDOT, no credit to the contractor, and no extension of time to the project. Attach the work order to the contract modification.

Both special provisions require acceptance runs to be made by certified MDOT personal, or certified consultants under contract with MDOT. Acceptance runs can be made with MDOT equipment, or by utilizing a contractor supplied certified profiler. For longitudinal tined concrete pavement, it is currently preferred to perform acceptance runs using a contractor supplied certified profiler. If a contractor supplied profiler is used, it must be currently certified for use on MDOT projects, and its operation must be verified before each use at an MDOT established validation site. The Construction and Technology Division can assist with equipment and operator certification, equipment training, supplying ride measurement equipment, or performing acceptance measurements. In addition, ride quality plans should continue to be sent to the Construction and Technology Division for concurrent review.

Contact Tom Hynes at 517-322-5711 (hynest@michigan.gov) or Dave Weber at 517-322-6935 (weberd@michigan.gov) for further information on pavement ride quality, or to coordinate any of the above services.