



Standard Practice for Sampling Freshly Mixed Controlled Low-Strength Material¹

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1. Scope

1.1 This practice explains the procedure for obtaining a representative sample to test of freshly mixed controlled lowstrength material (CLSM) as delivered to the project site (Note 1). This practice includes sampling from revolving-drum truck mixers and from agitating equipment used to transport central-mixed CLSM.

1.2 The values stated in inch-pound units are to be regarded as standard. The metric equivalents of inch-pound units may be approximate.

NOTE 1—Composite samples are required by this practice unless specifically excepted by procedures governing the tests to be performed, such as tests to determine uniformity of consistency and mixer efficiency. Procedures used to select the specific test batches are not described in this practice. It is recommended that random sampling be used to determine overall specification compliance.

1.3 *This standard does not purport to address all of the safety concerns, if any, associated with its use. It is the responsibility of the user of this standard to establish appropriate safety and health practices and determine the applicability of regulatory limitations prior to use.*

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 ASTM Standards:

D 653 Terminology Relating to Soil, Rock, and Contained Fluids²

D 4832 Test Method for Preparation and Testing of Controlled Low Strength Material Test Cylinders²

PS 28 Test Method for Flow Consistency of Controlled Low Strength Material³

PS 29 Test Method for Unit Weight, Yield and Air Content (Gravimetric) of Controlled Low Strength Material³

3. Terminology

3.1 *Definitions*—Except as follows in 3.2, all definitions are in accordance with Terminology D 653.

3.2 *Definitions of Terms Specific to This Standard:*

3.2.1 *composite sample, n*—a sample that is constructed by

combining equal portions of grab samples taken at two or more regularly spaced intervals during discharge of the middle portion of the batch of CLSM.

3.2.2 *controlled low-strength material (CLSM), n*—a mixture of Portland cement, fly ash, aggregates, water, and possibly chemical admixtures that, as the cement hydrates, forms a soil replacement material. The CLSM is a self compacting, flowable, cementitious material that is primarily used as a backfill or structural fill instead of compacted fill or unsuitable native soil. Depending on the amount of water used in the CLSM mixture, it can be placed as a non-flowable compacted material or as a mortar.

3.2.3 *flow consistency, n*—measured by the average diameter of the spread achieved by removal of the flow cylinder.

4. Significance and Use

4.1 This practice shall be used to provide a representative sample of the material for the purpose of testing various properties. The procedures used in sampling shall include the use of every precaution that will assist in obtaining samples that are truly representative of the nature and condition of the CLSM.

5. Sampling

5.1 *Size of Sample*—The sample of CLSM for compressive strength testing shall be a minimum of 0.5 ft³ (14 L). For other tests, the composite size shall be large enough to perform the test and to ensure a representative sample of the batch was taken.

6. Procedure

6.1 *Sampling from Revolving-Drum Truck Mixers or Agitators*—Sample the CLSM at two or more regularly spaced intervals during discharge of the middle portion of the batch. These grab samples shall be obtained within the time limit specified in 6.2 and composited into one sample for test purposes. In any case do not obtain samples until after all water has been added to the mixer; also do not obtain samples from the very first or last portions of the batch discharge. Sample by repeatedly passing a receptacle through the entire discharge stream or by completely diverting the discharge into a sample container. Regulate the rate of discharge of the batch by the rate of revolution of the drum and not by the size of the gate opening.

NOTE 2—Sampling normally should be performed on the CLSM as

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² *Annual Book of ASTM Standards*, Vol 04.08.

³ *Annual Book of ASTM Standards*, Vol 04.09.

delivered from the truck to the job site excavation.

6.2 The elapsed time between obtaining the first and final portions of the composite sample shall be as short as possible and in no instance shall it exceed 2 min.

6.3 Transport the composite samples to the place where fresh CLSM tests are to be performed or where test specimens are to be molded. The composite sample shall be combined and remixed with a shovel or scoop the minimum amount necessary to ensure uniformity and compliance with the minimum time limits specified in 6.4.

6.4 Start tests for flow consistency (Test Method PS 28), unit weight, and air content (Test Method PS 29) within 5 min

after obtaining the final portion of the composite sample. Complete these tests as expeditiously as possible. Start molding specimens for strength tests (Test Method D 4832) within 10 min after obtaining the final portion of the composite sample. Keep the elapsed time between obtaining and using the sample as short as possible and protect the sample from the sun, wind, and other sources of rapid evaporation, and from contamination.

7. Keywords

7.1 air content; CLSM; composites; flow consistency; quality control; sampling; unit weight

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