

1050511 INDUSTRY REVIEW COMMENTS

Jennifer Taylor

COMMENT:

The only comment I have is more of a question and is as follows. In the case of Durastress, QC inspectors all have. PCI- 1 & 2 and the 450 spec cert. Plus ACI level 1 & CTQP Concrete Field Inspector Level 1. They will be doing all of the inspection for the pole bed department (Incidental Precast). Will these Certs serve for doing inspection for the pole department?

Mike Bergin

COMMENTS:

1. 105-5.11, the word "Pipe" should be after Fiber Reinforced Concrete
2. 105-5.11.1.4.1,The ACI, Strength Testing Technician should be adequate to perform compressive strength testing on cylinders. The Lab Level I would be needed if the technician planned to go on to be a certified Lab Level II technician.

Doug Holdener
Rinker Materials

COMMENTS:

105-5.11.1 Apparent Interchangeable Use of Terms “Personnel” and “Inspector”

The title of this paragraph refers to “personnel.” However, the sub-paragraphs within this section refer to “inspectors.” According to Section 1 (Definitions and Terms), “Inspectors” are agents of the “Engineer,” which in turn is defined as “State Construction Engineer.” It is our understanding that these QC training requirements apply to plant personnel, and FDOT inspectors are also expected to participate in the training at the State’s expense. Please verify the intended audience of the proposed specification.

105-5.11.1.1 Training Requirements for Flexible Pipe Quality Control Inspectors

Why is the requirement for flexible pipe QC inspectors only 8 hours, while the requirement for rigid pipe (concrete) inspectors is longer (12 hours)? That the concrete industry requirement exceeds the flexible industry by 50 percent seems inequitable.

We are concerned that greater depth of QC and inspection will be imposed on rigid pipe, while many important aspects of flexible pipe manufacturing and testing will get less attention than necessary. By requiring the lower training requirement, is the Department implying that (a) their inspectors do not need as much knowledge about flexible pipe production, (b) not as much QC is needed for flexible pipe, and (c) there are fewer variables in the manufacturing that affect the quality of the final product?

105-5.11.1.4.1 Additional Requirements for Testing Personnel and Batch Plant Operator

Why does the Department find it necessary to have requirements for testing staff and oversight of batching operations at concrete product facilities *yet have no parallel requirement for plastics or other flexible product facilities?*

The batching of concrete for concrete pipe production is akin to the blending of HDPE resins and other additives for extrusion and molding operations at an HDPE facility. Is it the Department's position that there are no variables in these HDPE production processes that affect finished product quality?

If flexible pipe "batch operator" QC training is not required, then what level of quality control is there for such operations as material distribution, extrusion rates, temperature and cooling rates, pressure, and other processes?

Closing

We appreciate the opportunity to participate in this industry review. Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions or comments.

May 12, 2006

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Re: Comments on Proposed Specifications Change

1050511 – Contractor Quality Control General Requirements

Dear Mr. Brautigam:

Per the above-referenced proposed specification change, we have the following comments and questions. We appreciate the opportunity to coordinate with the Department on this matter.